Rumsfeld cancels leadership day appearance

By John Baeten
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has decided to cancel his upcoming trip to UWSP, due to a busy schedule.

Rumsfeld was scheduled to be the keynote speaker at Melvin Laird Youth Leadership Day, following in the footsteps of former Defense Secretary Henry Kissinger and Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

According to John Cooper, public affairs specialist for the U.S. Department of Defense, "Rumsfeld" is engaged in finishing up the conflict in Iraq, and that's taking up a lot of time.

UWSP students are still barred from the exclusive event targeted at high school students.

The Laird Youth Leadership Day has sparked a large sense of discontent throughout the UWSP campus, including the upcoming week-long teach-in entitled, "The Globalization of Dissent," sponsored by Concerned Citizens of Stevens Point and Progressive Action Organization.

The teach-in will touch on subjects such as corporate media control, the divide between the elite and the masses, American war-time propaganda and self-defense classes.

According to the Globalization of Dissent website, "The Teach-in will outline a number of underlying causes of some of the major problems facing our world today and attempt to present them as interrelated and relevant to the lives of every person no matter where they live or what they do."

Students are still planning on protesting the event, even without the presence of Rumsfeld.

According to a primary organizer for the event, "The protest will still go on. The event is about leadership and who our current leaders are and the values they represent. We disagree with these values and these leaders agendas including Melvin Laird and the absentee Rumsfeld."

Cooper states, "Rumsfeld doesn't care if people are protesting."

According to Ryan Drumm, UWSP student and a UWSP Energy Working Group, which features 50 representatives from the oil industry and other industries.

See Rumsfeld cancels, page 4
World’s largest trivia contest survives another year

By Sara Stein
NEWS REPORTER

The world's largest trivia contest returned to Stevens Point last weekend, marking its 34th year at 90FM. More than 11,800 people registered to participate in this 54-hour event, which started April 11 at 6 p.m. and ran until midnight on April 13.

"The contest is a large undertaking," said Trivia Coordinator Jim Oliva, "but with the help of the executive staff of 90FM, it is a group effort.

Due to the organizational involved in planning Trivia 34: Survivor Trivia, chaos during the contest was kept at a minimum. According to Station Manager Rachel Hildebrand, however, problems could still occur, as they have occasionally in the past, over Trivia Weekend.

"Often, it involves someone not being on time or not showing up for a commitment," said Hildebrand, "then there is scramble to fill that empty spot.

"At 2:30 in the morning, it makes it more difficult to find people who are willing to help out."

Despite any complications, Trivia 34 proved to be as successful as contests in the previous years. Eighteen phones were set up in the studio, giving all 459 teams the opportunity to call in their answers in a matter of minutes. Even after the final answers were recorded on Sunday night, one question still remained: who had won this year's contest? Which team had become the ultimate "Survivor" of Trivia 34?

The answer to that question is "Network: Eye of the Spider," a team that played from the home of Ron Heck and ended up scoring 8785 points. "Tin Man" came in second with 8545 points, "Weapons-Grade CNOF 54" with 8075 points, and "Knights of Neek" with 7790 points. For a complete list of teams and their scores, visit http://momsfamilies.com/trivia/trivia34score.htm.

Obey speech continued from page 1

tries and no renewable energy experts.

"This is not going to get fixed without someone new in the White House," said Obey. "I don't know who's going to win the Democratic primary, but in my opinion, any of those candidates would be a much stronger defender of the public interest than the fellow in the White House now."

Obey concluded his address by stressing that combating the Bush administration's environmental policy will remain difficult during the next two years, as dissenting members of Congress will continue to remain in the majority at least until the next election.

Prof. Bryan Brophy-Baerrmann of the political science department stated that opposition to the Clean Skies Initiative has centered mainly on the proposed shift from measuring emissions on the local level to the regional level, which de-emphasizes the high concentrations of pollutants emitted in major industrial areas.

The Clean Skies Initiative would restructure the provisions of the Clean Air Act to measure the average level of emissions generated in a given region, as opposed to monitoring the emissions in a larger number of local sites across the nation.

Opponents of the Clean Skies Initiative have also been critical of the proposal's move toward a market-based system of regulations that would permit polluters to have a greater voice in policy implementation.

"Groups opposed to the Bush plan believe that all of the major changes to the Clean Air Act would weaken clean air standards," said Brophy-Baerrmann.

"They believe in thinking about public health at the local level and keeping all communities safe, as opposed to aggregating measures which can lead to significant local variations in exposure to unhealthy air. Moreover, they believe in using health and technology standards to guide clean air goals, not the issue of individual polluter costs of compliance."

JFC to UW System: cut bureaucracy

System administration to absorb cuts originally designated for instruction

By Andrew Blosser
NEWS EDITOR

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) enforced the need for the UW System to reduce costs associated with its bureaucracy last Wednesday, ordering the System move $361,000 in cuts from instructional support to its administrative overhead.

"The committee voted 11-5 on the issue, sending a strong message that the necessity for structural changes in all state agencies remains certain in the face of the current $3.2 billion state budget deficit."

"When you're $3 billion short, you can't solve the problem without agencies bearing their fair share of the burden, and that's what we've been asking the UW System to do," said JFC committee member Robert Welch, R-Redgranite.

The state budget deficit includes a $454 million shortfall for the fiscal year ending June 30, which state lawmakers and Gov. Jim Doyle have reduced to $283.6 million with the approval of legislation that orders state agencies to reduce expenditures and to return unspent money to the state. The legislation, passed by lawmakers in February, requires the UW System to return $8.2 million to the state at the end of the current fiscal year.

"State officials have expressed the desire to return $3.5 million from academic services, a cost that would bear an impact on advising, curriculum development and audiovisual technology while shifting $2.4 million from system universities' administration budgets. The System's plan also included measures that would have cut $213,900 from UW central headquarters and $314,000 from instructional support.

That proposal was struck down by the JFC, which stressed that the System needs to follow the trend set by other state agencies by cutting administrative budgets, reducing fringe benefits, and leaving vacant jobs unfilled.

The JFC approved the plans of all other agencies except those of the UW System and the Department of Public Instruction, which were denied committee approval based on the majority consensus that administrative bureaucracies could be further reduced.

The committee's decision came as a shock to Linda Wiemer, the UW System's vice-president of university relations, who expressed that extent of the reductions asked for by the JFC will pose problems for the System.

"The UW System was already slated to take a cut in the package we offered them, so we had no warning that we would be taking this cut," said Wiemer. "We frankly don't know at this point how we will get our arms around this.

Welch, who introduced a motion to transfer $19,700 in instructional cuts unto the administration, stated that the System's plan intended to dispense cuts among its campuses while leaving administration expenses largely intact, a plan he felt hurt students more than administrators.

"I wanted to send a message that we are going to monitor how they handle this and make sure this isn't a burden to students," said Welch.

See Administration cuts, page 4

PARKING PERMITS

Parkings Applications

Available at Parking Services and in limited supply at the Resident Hall Desk. Applications may be returned to Parking Services 124 George Stien Building on or before May 1st.

***Parking services will not accept any applications prior to May 1st.

The teams were not the only ones to be congratulated this year, as Hildebrand acknowledged the work of the volunteers. "I have heard many comments so far this year from the people that played that all of this year's DJs were really good and that the contest this year was written very well."

In regards to the past, present and future of 90FM Trivia, Oliva said, "The most important thing is that the contest went off without a hitch. The contest is an important asset of the city of Stevens Point, and the university. This, more than any other time is a joining of the community and the university. It is important to continue to monitor how they handle this and make sure this isn't a burden to students."

As long as the executive and general staff of 90FM continues to support the effort, it will continue to be a success."

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***Parking services will not accept any applications prior to May 1st.
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Faculty Senate meets security camera resolution

By John Baeten
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A new resolution passed by the University Affairs Committee is seeking the installation of security cameras at UWSP.

Entitled, "Security Camera Issues, Policies and Procedures," the resolution was written by UWSP students, faculty and staff in hopes of answering questions regarding the use of security cameras at UWSP. The resolution states, "Security cameras may be installed in situations and places where the security of either equipment or people would be enhanced. Cameras will be limited to uses that do not violate the reasonable expectation of privacy defined by law."

The security cameras will function in three categories; anti-theft and vandalism, personal security and extended responsibility.

Some UWSP students have voiced concerns of possible "big brother" surveillance and personal space invasion by the cameras. However, according to UWSP Provost Virginia Helm, "Big Brother issues arise, I believe, primarily when there is invasion of personal privacy. In public areas, we don't have the same expectations of privacy that we have in personal spaces or spaces used for highly personal activity."

With the implementation of security cameras, a new administrative position on campus, Security Camera Officer, would be created. The Security Camera Officer will be responsible for reviewing images recorded on the cameras after an incident occurs and for basic monitoring of the cameras. The Security Camera Officer is appointed by the provost and also must give a semi-annual report to the University Affairs Committee.

According to Helm, "The decision (to appoint a Security Camera Officer) has not been made because the policy has not yet been officially approved by Faculty Senate. The decision will eventually be made after discussions among appropriate administrators in consultation with faculty." All images captured by the security cameras, in regards to anti-theft, vandalism and personal security, are to be monitored solely by the Security Camera Officer and other persons appointed by the provost. A log will also be used to record all instances when there is access to any recorded material.

According to the resolution, "Unless the camera is being used for criminal surveillance, areas being monitored should have at least two signs indicating that security camera monitoring may be taking place. The wording on the sign should not create a false sense of security to lead someone to believe that the cameras were being monitored live, when in fact they were not. These signs should be at the entrance to the area being monitored and should identify a contact person who can answer questions regarding the cameras."

Security cameras will cost UWSP between $350-850 per camera, and storage of the images accounts for $50 for every 1000 images.

According to Dave Dumke, Director of Information Technology (IT), "The purchase and installation of a camera would be about $2000. Staffing even for only the hours in which a building is unlocked would cost over $23,000. Obviously, this calculation is not exact because building hours fluctuate over time and are open on the weekend but at least it gives us something to compare."

Some members of UWSP have also voiced concern if there really is a security issue on campus.

Dumke states, "According to the Protective Services web size, in 2002 UWSP had 160 burglaries/thefts, 116 vandalism and 11 bodily security incidents reported. These numbers are substantially higher than the previous year. I think these numbers support the use of cameras where appropriate."

According to the Protective Services web site, "Thirty-three of the burglaries/thefts were stolen bicycles, and 106 of the burglaries/thefts were stolen miscellaneous property. Also four of the bodily security incidents were attempted suicides."

The resolution states, "These cameras may help in two ways. First they might discourage a thief, vandal or an attacker. Second, they may help catch the thief, vandal or attacker. The UW's are essentially self insured, meaning that when we experience a loss, we eventually pay for it through higher rates into a statewide fund. This means that, if in fact, crimes were deterred, our insurance costs should go down."

Currently UW schools Oshkosh, Stout, River Falls, Green Bay, Madison and Stevens Point all have cameras of some type in use.

The policy states, "Unless the camera is being used for criminal surveillance, or in extraordinary circumstances, the following places should not be monitored by security cameras; bathrooms, locker rooms offices, residence hall rooms, and classrooms not used as a lab."

All requests for security camera installation should be made to the allusive Security Camera Officer, and installations are subject to federal and state laws. (Editor's note: Faculty Senate voted on the resolution Wednesday, but the result of the vote was not available by press time.)

Infinity Syndicate faces allegations over protest

The Student Involvement and Employment Office (SIEO) along with the Student Government Association will be calling for a state organization conduct review of the Infinity Syndicate in regards to two incidents that occurred on campus last Wednesday. The review is being held in response to a formal complaint received from Career Services.

The SIEO is waging allegations against the Infinity Syndicate as being responsible for the drumming that went on in the CCC during class hours and interruptions during a Disney presentation. The drumming is also being investigated due to a student who wrote a letter of complaint to the chancellor. The conduct review is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 16.

The Infinity Syndicate will be given a chance to defend themselves against having their organization terminated. The group, whose mission statement is "to provide UWSP students, faculty and staff with independent and alternative forms of mass media," claims that they did not sponsor the drumming or the interruptions, but only a demonstration earlier that day in front of the UC.

Ryan Drum, an officer of the Infinity Syndicate, claims that "there was no official sponsorship of the evening protest."

Drum says of the drumming "the march was not organized or endorsed by our group."

He states that the Infinity Syndicate is not linked to any activities that took place on the day in question other than the other organizations facing allegations.

Infinity Syndicate will appear before the Policy and Advising Committee of Student Organizations Wednesday facing allegations over disrupting university events.

TheInfinitySyndicatefacesallegationsoverprotest

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Wausau demonstration illustrates changes in anti-war movement

By David Cohen
News Reporter

A peace rally held in Wausau's downtown park Saturday opposing militarism reflected a recent transition in the anti-war movement.

The peace movement has changed its focus slightly to fit the change in the war's situation.

The major slogan used on signs that was a theme of numerous speakers was "Support our Troops, Bring them Home."

Organizer Dave Kast, a Wausau area math teacher, assessed the turnout to be between 50 to 70 people.

Kast said, "The turnout was smaller than we would have liked, but the people there were happy to be there and enjoyed one another's company very much."

Major topics of presenters also included unity during the apparent ending of the war in Iraq and taking a stance against further military action against Syria or any other nations.

Kast said that peace demonstrations at this time are still necessary, despite current events in Iraq. He says, "We are demonstrating for peace in general and not just the current war. We are opposing militarism, so that after Iraq we are not at war with Syria, North Korea, Iran or anywhere else."

Kast also feels that events like these need to be more constant. "The peace movement tends to be too reactive instead of proactive," he says, "The only times many people are conscious of peace is when something bad happens. We need to keep the momentum going so that we are ready at all times, and we can try to prevent the bad things from happening."

"Everywhere I go, I'm told to do the liberal dance."

"-Counter-protester - before they do."

Other presenters included Professor Eric Yonke, UWSP's Peace Studies coordinator, poet J.D. Whitney and numerous veterans and musicians. Sarah Rudolph, UW-Marathon County professor of communication and theater, did a presentation along with members of her theater group on "The Language of War."

The presentation explored and analyzed how words being used affect people's perceptions in slogans such as "Support our Troops" and slogans that invoke the name of God. The event concluded with music by local band Bright Apocalypse, who offered a percentage of their CD sales to any peace organization in need of funds.

There was a group of about 15 counter-demonstrators who marched through several times displaying American flags and "Support our Troops" signs though they did not exchange words with the demonstrators.

The most vocal counter-demonstrator was a man with a duck call who drove around the gathering repeatedly trying to drown out the speakers with a cackling duck call. He parked several times to get closer. He first got out of the car and walked closer to the gathering while cackling on the duck call.

When several people turned to look at him, however, he immediately ran back to his car and drove away. When he returned later, he was approached by demonstrators who he told "I'm threatened by you liberals who control the media and don't allow for other voices to be heard. You're everywhere. Everywhere I go, I'm told to 'do the liberal dance.'"

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Administration cuts from page 2

Welch. "I think that message was received." The committee's new expectations dictate System administration will have to absorb an additional $300,000 beyond what was initially anticipated, leaving some students and faculty to wonder whether the administration could meet the committee's demands.

"This is an enormous cut because we only have two months left in the current fiscal year," said Weinman. "That's the equivalent of a $3 million annual cut."

Wiener also defended the System against arguments that its budget last Friday. "This issue has become highly politicized, and now the final decision rests with JFC."

"As far as the students are concerned, there's nothing more to be done," said Kamke, who met with Republican leadership about the budget last Friday. "This issue has become highly politicized, and now the final decision rests with JFC."

Ketchum-Ciftci says that the article does not mean that the IS will have the opportunity to prove this point during the conduct review.

Allegations from page 3

course of action taken.

Ketchum-Ciftci says that the link between the Infinity Syndicate and the incidents in question are from an informant who claims to have heard 15 IS members talking about protesting the Disney event in the future. "I have evidence that the IS had spoken against corporate powers in front of the University Relations, College of Professional Studies, College of Natural Resources, Residential Living, College of Fine Arts and Communication, College of Letters and Science, Student Government Association, Provost Vice Chancellor Virginia Helm, department of English and Multicultural Affairs.

Rumsfeld as the keynote speaker, but the exact person is still unknown.

The Globalization of Dissent teach-in urges people to "Act like it's a globe, not a nation," and Secretary of Defense of the Infinity Syndicate, "It was never really about Rumsfeld; this is bigger than Rumsfeld. Taking Rumsfeld out of the picture wouldn't solve anything. The problem is in the system itself, and Rumsfeld is just a pawn in the system."

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Whatever...the world according to Steve

Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia Trivia

By Steve Seamandel

It sat numbly in front of my computer on the eve of the final night of Trivia 34: Survivor. The 53rd hour is upon us.

This was my first year of serious Trivia competition. After reluctantly housing a Trivia team at my abode, I discovered that Trivia is not just a game: it’s an obsession.

At 6:00 p.m. on Friday, we phoned in the first answer for our team, Little Lebowski Urban Achievers. I was confident; teammates had told me that the first answer every year was “Robert Redford,” but we would have known the answer anyway. And so the madness began.

After a few of the Urban Achievers were camped out in front of the glowing computer screen for the younger hours of the competition. However, by close to midnight, the team’s momentum was in full swing, making answer after answer. Trivia seemed to be the only thing going on in the world, no homework, exams or quizzes seemed to matter.

We heard tons of throwback tunes that kept us going, and by Devo sure gave me a second wind late Friday night. We munched taco dip, enjoyed beers and gorged the candy that I was literally pelting in front of my house during the parade.

By Saturday, the Achievers had begun writing each question down, marking the correct ones and then calculating how many points we’d won after each round. It was a definite step up in commitment, but it paid off. For once, we could tell how many points we were obtaining with each answer.

Our goal was to finish in the top 299 teams. Although the crowd, and by crowd I mean Devo sure gave me a second wind late Friday night. We munched taco dip, enjoyed beers and gorged the candy that I was literally pelting in front of my house during the parade.

I learned lots about Trivia: how to play, strategies and things that really tick you off. Like pop-up ads. The internet.

from your tool bar. And the phone calls. Who calls during Trivia? Of course, if you’re not playing Trivia, this question is much more easily answered.

I also wonder about the progression of strategy and scoring totals since the inception of the Internet and wonderful search engine Google. There was even a team named “Google Search Engine” or something like that. (I’d look it up, but my eyes are way too tired to weed through 457 teams right now.

It’s the 53rd hour, cut me a break.)

Throughout the entire weekend, there were only two negative aspects of Trivia that frustrated me. For starters, the DJ’s never announced the name or artist of the song just played, and similar­ly, whenever Oz would disqualify a question, unless you were writing them down, you’d have no way to reference which question was being ousted.

To remedy this, I’m seeing an online database of old questions and a “what’s playing now” box, I’m no online buff so I can’t say how easy this would be, but I thought it was quite the stellar idea.

While sneaking around at The Pointer this weekend, I was lucky enough to be pseudo­enveloped in Trivia, since the kind folks at 90FM reside next door to our beloved Camp Pointer. I’m truly amazed by the amount of planning, organiza­tion and dedication that went on in our normally quiet wing of the Communications building this past weekend.

If anything, Trivia has given me another week­end to look forward to for next year. Congrats to 90FM for another successful year of the world’s largest Trivia competition.

No matter how much you might hate Trivia, it’ll catch up to you sometime. It’s just plain fun, especially if you’re into the whole “answering of discreet questions” thing. Unless you’re the one cleaning up, of course.

Ah, what’s the deal at hand here? You think I have an idea? Well, I might. Let’s start simple. You got people, and you’ve got cars. Actually, no. First you’ve got people, then the people want cars. O.K., there’s a solution, but the fact remains, you’ve got people, and you’ve got cars. O.K., there’s a solution, but the fact remains, you’ve got people, and you’ve got cars. Actually, no. First you’ve got people, then the people want cars.

What’s the real issue at hand here: You think I have an idea? Well, I might. Let’s start simple. You got people, and you’ve got cars. Actually, no. First you’ve got people, then the people want cars.

Generally speaking, traffic at this point in the day in Szeged is at its best, light. And I’m not speaking metaphorically when I say that also at this time the cats camped out in front of our dorms and dorms of dormancy. But bring some campin’ wouldn’t hurt.

The night slipped on in a haze of hoo-ha, cats stalked tram tracks, we received the telegram from Halifax, folded our sails, and doves cooed dirges in the gaps of window cracks. At some point it became April 2: midterms tomorrow. Testing the morning hush, the public piles in for the transport.

In all honesty, if there’s five things we learn during our stay in Hungary, we may eventually forget more than half of them. As for the present, I could tell you that I’ve yet to discover the gridlock, but the difference between a sip and a gulp can only be measured through time. Hungarian style of kitten-cats and mowing down.

It’s springtime in Szeged. Bushes bursting for leaves. -Philip Cox, USWP student
Support your troops: Iraq’s freedom depends on them

As the war advances in Iraq, I would like to take a few moments to extend my gratitude to the troops and to all who support their cause.

For nearly a month now, many people have fought and died, in hopes that Iraqi civilians may be released from the oppression caused by Saddam Hussein’s regime. I find it unfortunate that some people do not recognize this as the underlying reason for the war, that they would rather accuse our government of fighting out of its own ambition.

To those who protest the war, I want you to understand that I am not against your opinions, and I do not believe that anyone else is either. The way I see it, nobody wants war, but sometimes it is a necessary and in this case, the lesser evil.

While it is tragic to learn that innocent Iraqi civilians have become casualties of the war, in the long run, we’re probably saving more lives. I have gathered evidence supporting this idea over the past few weeks, by studying various news sources. Due to limited space, I will only be able to give a few examples of the cruelties that Hussein’s regime has administered upon the Iraqi people.

On March 18, I was watching the FOX evening news, when it was reported that people were being dropped into plastic shredders. The very thought of it was sickening. Knowing that any number of those killed could have been innocent, sent to die with no evidence against them, made it even worse.

Another example comes from March 24, in an article that Don Yaeger wrote for Sports Illustrated, which highlighted the various tortures employed by Uday Hussein, the top Olympic official of Iraq. If athletes failed to win, they would be severely punished, if not killed.

Among other horrifying accounts were those of the executions of dissidents, rapes and how Iraqi forces would take children from their homes, ordering them to fight against us or die. It’s bad enough to know that anyone has to fall victim to these crimes, though hearing that such terror is inflicted upon children is unbearable.

There is no doubt in my mind that the blood of thousands of Iraqis stains Saddam Hussein’s hands. That is why we must fight this war. We must fight to defend the innocent civilians against his dictatorship. We must fight to liberate the country from the grasps of oppression. Above all, we must fight to bring hope to the people of Iraq who have long been living in fear.

We have been blessed with the rights offered to us through the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, those of which countries such as Iraq have not. As I hope to have proven in this article; these rights are needed for our freedom.

The main part of the war is now over, and while the fate of Saddam Hussein is still unknown, his regime has come to an end. Some additional fighting may be required, however, along with humanitarian aid. I appreciate all organizations that contribute to this noble cause and hope that people will continue to offer support until Iraq is ready to thrive on its own.

Just as I fully support the work that our government has been doing, I look forward to the day when peace will come again and when freedom no longer comes with the price of blood. My heart goes out to all who pay such debts, and I hope that all who are fighting overseas will return as soon and safely as possible.

-Sara Stein, UWSP student

CHECK OUT THE POINTER ONLINE!

SAME STORIES, LESS PAPER.

HTTP://WWW.UWSF.EDU/STUORG/POINTER

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LETTERS & OPINION

The Pointless shouldn’t be read by the easily offended

I am writing this letter in response to the recent opinion letter entitled “Pointless staff over the line.” This letter very efficiently covers several highly controversial topics and espouses a number of consistently traditional conservative views in a very irritated and self-righteous manner. I intend to refute those viewpoints and avoid the haughtiness of my own self-righteousness.

The essay makes the curiously ironic statement that you “usually have no problem with any mockery towards any specific subject.” This is clearly not the case. What you probably mean is “I have no problem with any mockery towards any specific subject as long as it does not insult any of my deeply-held personal beliefs.” This is a dangerous attitude as it assures that you will be easily offended.

First of all, if something offends you, don’t read it. As Pointer editor Steve Seamandel stated in his own response to this and similar reactions, “Offensive issues of The Pointless are nothing new, nor will the tradition die in the following years.”

As a UWSP student I have come to expect a certain kind of content from The Pointless and have yet to be disappointed. If you are easily offended by such material, simply avoid it.

Second, I wager there is scarcely an individual that reads The Pointer who is not familiar with the basic tenets of Christianity. The style in which the author explained this faith indicates that he assumes the offending article was written out of ignorance of certain spiritual truths. I can only assume from the style of the original article about Jesus Christ’s appearance at the Encore that the author simply intended to make fun of a firmly-entrenched and widely-accepted institution and to light-heartedly bring attention to some of its more fantastical claims.

There is no subject that is completely above humor and the offending article could have been much more tasteless than it was. Attempting to drill the philosophies of Christianity into your readers portrays you as angry, arrogant, and devoid of compassion for those whom you try to save. People believe what they believe for good reasons and no amount of chiding or prodding will cause anyone to change his mind. It simply creates resentment.

If you want to pray for the salvation of our eternal souls that is your decision, but leave us out of it. Now the political statements. It is of crucial importance not to yield to propaganda and jingoism at such an important juncture in our nation’s history.

Further, you must be living under a rock to the make of events. It is, indeed, more important than ever to show our government how we feel. If we don’t, it will assume everything is perfectly okay and that it is justified in implementing its horrendous policies. Further, you must be living under a rock to the make of events. It is, indeed, more important than ever to show our government how we feel. If we don’t, it will assume everything is perfectly okay and that it is justified in implementing its horrendous policies.

The label is “pro-choice,” not “pro-abortion.” I believe Pro-choice is of crucial importance to present organized, well-reasoned arguments and also to refrain from self-righteous anger and anger. Without these guidelines the essay will only create anger, confusion or resentment.

Aaron Marx, UWSP student

“Bye, have been blessed with the rights offered to us through the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, those of which countries such as Iraq have not.” Yaeger wrote for Sports Illustrated, which highlighted the various tortures employed by Uday Hussein, the top Olympic official of Iraq. If athletes failed to win, they would be severely punished, if not killed.

Among other horrifying accounts were those of the executions of dissidents, rapes and how Iraqi forces would take children from their homes, ordering them to fight against us or die. It’s bad enough to know that anyone has to fall victim to these crimes, though hearing that such terror is inflicted upon children is unbearable.

There is no doubt in my mind that the blood of thousands of Iraqis stains Saddam Hussein’s hands. That is why we must fight this war. We must fight to defend the innocent civilians against his dictatorship. We must fight to liberate the country from the grasps of oppression. Above all, we must fight to bring hope to the people of Iraq who have long been living in fear.

We have been blessed with the rights offered to us through the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, those of which countries such as Iraq have not. As I hope to have proven in this article; these rights are needed for our freedom.

The very thought of it was sickening. Knowing that any number of those killed could have been innocent, sent to die with no evidence against them, made it even worse.

Another example comes from March 24, in an article that Don Yaeger wrote for Sports Illustrated, which highlighted the various tortures employed by Uday Hussein, the top Olympic official of Iraq. If athletes failed to win, they would be severely punished, if not killed.

Among other horrifying accounts were those of the executions of dissidents, rapes and how Iraqi forces would take children from their homes, ordering them to fight against us or die. It’s bad enough to know that anyone has to fall victim to these crimes, though hearing that such terror is inflicted upon children is unbearable.

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We have been blessed with the rights offered to us through the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, those of which countries such as Iraq have not. As I hope to have proven in this article; these rights are needed for the sake of the Iraqi people. For this to be done, Saddam Hussein would have to step down from power. Once it was clear that this would not be accomplished peacefully, our government realized that if we did not go to war, the people of Iraq would continue to face Hussein’s wrath.

The main part of the war is now over, and while the fate of Saddam Hussein is still unknown, his regime has come to an end. Some additional fighting may be required, however, along with humanitarian aid. I appreciate all organizations that contribute to this noble cause and hope that people will continue to offer support until Iraq is ready to thrive on its own.

Just as I fully support the work that our government has been doing, I look forward to the day when peace will come again and when freedom no longer comes with the price of blood. My heart goes out to all who pay such debts, and I hope that all who are fighting overseas will return as soon and safely as possible.

-Sara Stein, UWSP student

CHECK OUT THE POINTER ONLINE!

SAME STORIES, LESS PAPER.

HTTP://WWW.UWSF.EDU/STUORG/POINTER
Biology classes sponsor Nibi water symposium

UWSP students bring in nationally acclaimed environmental speakers to aid in educating audiences on the valuable resource of water

By Nora F. Bates

"All the water there will be, is."
Anonymous

On April 22 in the Laird Room from 9-5, Doug Post's Biology 100 classes will be sponsoring a water symposium. One of the symposium planners, Michael Berg, explained that he and over one hundred of his classmates have been planning this event with the help of administrative assistants Afra Sumeir and Erin Voll.

Because the United Nations has declared 2003 as the year of water, the group has organized a group of 11 speakers to present information throughout the day on issues of water quality and quantity in the world today.

The group's intention is to educate people on the importance of water conservation and the economical, political, scientific, cultural, health and safety issues that face many communities today. If students would like to join in the luncheon at 11:30 a.m. there will be a $10.00 per person fee. Some of the most poignant water facts are: about half of the world's fresh water is polluted, a family of four uses about 200,000 gallons of water annually for both indoor and outdoor uses, and the global consumption of water doubles every 20 years.

On speaker is Arlene Kanno, a leading member of Concerned Citizens of Newport (CCN). This environmental group from Adams County has successfully fought Ferrier's entry into Wisconsin. Kanno and her husband, Hiroshi, have attended a number of international conferences related to water issues, and have gained a broad understanding of the global perspective on this issue.

Melissa Scanlan, founder and executive director of Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA), is another speaker at the event. A Madison-based environmental law center, MEA provides legal and technical assistance to communities working for environmental justice. Additionally, Scanlan is the author of numerous incisive reports addressing topics such as Wisconsin's public trust doctrine and the non-enforcement of Wisconsin's water pollution laws.

The names of the other speakers are:
- Ken Fish, Menominee Nation; Ed Garvey, Garvey and Stoddard Law Firm; Jonathan Gilbert, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission; Jennifer Hill-Kelly, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin; George Kraft, UWSP Professor of Water Resources; Michael Nelson, Associate professor of philosophy and Natural Resources; Sue Nichols, Bad River Band of Ojibwa and Jackson Utter, Navajo Nation.

If you would like more information about the event you can visit http://biology.uwsp.edu/faculty/Post/nibi.

Students compete to become the first "Point Star"

By Nora F. Bates

On April 3 and April 10 a combination of about 24 contestants auditioned for the chance to be the first ever "Point Star." Twelve of those contestants have been chosen to go on to round two of the competition. On April 24 at 8 p.m., those contestants will sing a different style of song than the kind they sang the time before. Only five of them will go on to the final round on Friday April 25.

The competition, scheduled to be held in the Encore, judges contestants on delivery, stage presence and vocal ability.

A panel of four judges will give each performer a score based on a star system. If the contestant receives 10 points they receive 1 star, if they receive 11-21 points they receive 2 stars and so on.

In the final round contestants will not be able to choose their song. Instead, "a karaoke wheel of death" will select the song for them, meaning that the contestants will spin the wheel and be asked to perform the song that the arrow lands on. The audience will vote for their favorite contestant as they enter the Encore that evening and a combination of the votes and the judges' scores will determine the winner.

The 12 contestants in alphabetical order are; Brenda Ambrosias, Nora F. Bates, Erica Borchardt, Molly Carpiaux, Lindsay Clough, Ryan Cerlach, Jolie Kadima, Andy Lieszner, Nina Pokora, Molly Sullivan, Jessica Trimbell, and Alissa Zimmermann.

Keep your eye on the Ion

Public Relations Student Society of America, (PRESSA), along with Saturn of Wausau, presents Keep your Eye on the Ion Easter Hunt. This event will be held Wednesday, April 16 through Friday, April 18.

Seekers of the Ion will have to hunt it down somewhere on campus, and write down the fact that will be written on the car, and submit your answers to PRESSA@post@uwsp.edu by Monday at 5 p.m. PRESSA will select three winners out of a hat to win fabulous prizes, which include stereo and t-shirts.

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Are you curious about people or events going on around campus?

Have an idea for a great features article?

Email Sdaehl127@uwsp.edu

Features Editor

By Nora F. Bates

On April 24, 25, 26 - 7:30 pm
April 27 - 2:00 pm
Grand Theater, Wausau

directed by Terri Kirschenasser
Tickets: 715.359.3172 or
at any Associated Bank location
311 N. 1st St. - 511 S. 3rd St.
Students - Buy one ticket, get one half off with Student ID

Tickets go to a great tune cooperating the Ion
Sponsored by

www .Wausau Community Theatre.org

Presented by arrangement with Dramatic Play Service on behalf of the University of the South, Sewanee, TN

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Jason Savage
FEATURES REPORTER

Record sales have climbed steadily for the last 50 years, but now face an alarming downward trend. Many accredit this to a declining economy brought on by the events of Sept. 11. As the United States prepares for war, investor confidence is falling.

The aforementioned reasons may be directly related to this, but the problem has deeper roots that have been tunneling their way below the surface since the late 1990s. In January of 1999, a young man named Shawn Fanning left Northeastern University after the first semester of his freshman year to work on Napster software. By June 1, 1999, Napster began the business of allowing people to swap music files. In October and November of the same year, negotiations with major record labels to allow music to be distributed online failed.

After being sued by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) in December of 1999 and again by the heavy metal band Metallica on April 13, 2000, Napster lost a lengthy court battle and by July 11, 2001, was shut down. Since then, several other file sharing websites have sprung up across the vast World Wide Web.

Downloading music files, called MP3s, is fast and easy, not to mention free. The rising costs of CDs, most people would agree that it shouldn't be a crime.

"As tempting as file sharing is, the artists are the ones that suffer the most...If this trend continues, music as we know it may be headed towards extinction." -Brazeau

Brazeau attributes this to several factors. "The economy is part of it," he said. "In this industry, the technology moves so fast. Everyone is getting a CD burner and downloading, or buying one copy and burning it for five of their friends."

"This hasn't affected vinyl record or DVD sales that much yet, although it probably will. New release CD sales are alarming down," he stated.

When asked if the Internet had any positive affect on his business, Brazeau said, "Absolutely, but not locally. I've had my inventory up on the Internet for awhile now and have been selling CDs to people in several countries around the world such as Brazil and Germany. The Internet really has been a double-edged sword."

He said that the only way to bring business back to where it should be would be to have the record companies lower their prices. "Initially, the label's reaction was to raise their prices. It kind of boggled my mind. But now they are starting to realize that CD burners are not going to go away, and they're going to lower their prices on some new releases." Brazeau claims, "the labels have started their own websites now, which are pay sites. You subscribe to them and can get music from the five major labels. They have gone after many of the so-called 'illegal sites' but I don't think that's going to make a difference. They close one and another one opens. The process is very slow moving."

Randy Wagner, owner of Radio Kaos for the last 12 ½ years, also said sales have declined. "First day sales are still good, but I've seen a drop off on second day sales. The economy has definitely had an impact, but it's hard to gauge because of new releases. Certain artists sell well no matter what. Record labels need to lower their prices."

Turning to the internet issue and the burning of CDs, Wagner had this to say: "Burning CDs definitely hurts sales. I believe the Internet is a great tool to discover bands that are not yet in your region and also to sample the quality of new releases. I think it's unethical though to burn and download music. There's definitely a line that can be crossed over with this technology. I would be willing to bet money that, just like other technology, ten years from now this won't be an issue."

Wagner has chosen not to embrace this technology and doesn't have a website. "I prefer face to face customer relations. I am here to please local customers and want them to be happy when they leave my store. If I have what they are looking for, they will return again."

Mom and pop stores are at the mercy of middlemen called "one-stops." These sellers buy cheap from the large wholesaler who only deal with chain stores. The "one-stops" don't pass along the discounts to them because they cannot afford to buy in bulk.

Chain stores such as Best Buy purchase large numbers of CDs, especially new releases, and get a volume discount from the wholesaler. They can afford to sell CDs under cost because they have a large inventory of other expensive items. In the end it is up to the consumer to decide if the mom and pop stores will survive. If the record labels don't drop their prices, these stores may be in serious trouble. Downloading music is a great way to decide if that new release is worth buying. Burning CDs hurts the little guy and keeps artists starving; some who have families of their own to feed. Artists will always say it's about the music, but consumers must understand that musicians give up their day jobs to share their art with the world. Support them and show your appreciation by buying their CDs.

Practicing yoga clears the mind and body

By Scott Vanderwharf
FEATURES REPORTER

Try this yoga position for 30 seconds: lie on your stomach and place your hands (palms down) underneath your chest with your fingers together and pointing inward. Push your hands against the floor and tilt your head backward as you slowly begin to arch your back. It is important to keep your spine curved, your head tilted back and your legs relaxed. Feel a deep yet relaxing stretch as the day's tension floats from your back.

The ancient Indian practice of yoga has existed for over 5,000 years and is slowly filtering into the Western world. Presently, 18 million people are now practicing yoga in the United States. Yoga means union of the mind, body and spirit and is not a religion as many believe.

People practice yoga for a variety of reasons and from this they gain a number of benefits, including increased flexibility, strength and endurance, pain and stress relief, optimal breathing, a clearer mind, an improved self-awareness and mindfulness. Researchers have concluded that yoga can be an effective therapy for various medical conditions. Yoga has been shown to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease by reducing bad cholesterol and blood pressure levels, which are two major predictors of heart disease. Yoga also helps alleviate a variety of disease symptoms. Studies of patients with soft tissue diseases, such as Carpal Tunnel Syndrome or Arthritis, displayed a great sense of pain relief along with increased strength after a yoga intervention program. Respiratory diseases may also be improved by learning yogic breathing, which calms and strengthens the bronchi. The benefits of yoga are innumerable and anyone can participate. Yoga is an inexpensive preventative and curative measure that can significantly improve the quality of your life.

Classes entitled "Basic Yoga" are offered through UWSP's Allens Cardiac Center. This is a six week class introducing basic Kripalu style yoga postures and breathing techniques. The class emphasizes moving with awareness and no experience is necessary.

Classes are held in the Allen Center and are limited to 18 participants per class. If interested in joining a yoga class next fall on campus, call the Cardiac Center at 346-4711 to visit their website at www.uwsp.edu/centers/cardiocenter/Yoga.html.
Organization of the Week: Student Society of Arboriculture

By Sarah Ceranski
FEATURES REPORTER

The Student Society of Arboriculture took part in the Midwest Urban Tree Care Forum in Chicago April 4-6. Thirteen UWSP students from this CNR organization participated in the first event of its kind.

The forum was an opportunity for students from 14 Midwestern universities covering 12 states to be exposed to Chicago's innovative landscaping and cutting edge green technology. UWSP had the largest number of students present among the universities.

Students visited well-known parks and centers including the Chicago Botanic Garden, Grant Park, the Center for Green Technology and Garfield Conservatory and Park.

Tours were led by knowledgeable representatives in each area. The District Forester for the Chicago Park District, Brian Williquette, pointed out the largest known grouping of American elms which are located along the lakefront of downtown Chicago. A forum such as this aimed to encourage students to think about working in urban locations.

UWSP students from this CNR organization participated in the first event of its kind.

SSA students study a sweeping American elm on the Chicago Art Institute grounds.

The Student Society of Arboriculture at UWSP is a branch of a worldwide student organization that broadens urban forestry and arboriculture networking and career opportunities for students. It is one of 17 CNR student organizations, and its advisor is Les Werner, the Urban Forestry Program Coordinator.

The first SSA branch ever was at UW-Stevens Point. Les Werner was the first vice-president. Early on, it was a group of students that visited conferences in Wisconsin the late 1970's and became a full fledged organization around 1981. It has since spread around the globe into an international organization.

SSA members attend conferences, host speakers and prune trees on campus. Their involvement allows them to become more aware of the industry.

Nick Crawford, President of SSA says, "Taking students to the trees and even up into the trees is the goal of our student organization." SSA conducted a kids climb with an elementary school in the inner city of Minneapolis, giving the kids a chance to climb trees for the first time using ropes and kid-sized harnesses.

The organization has also played a major role in the Forestry 395 class. On March 29, Forestry 395 held a weekend Tree Care Techniques class. After learning how to climb and prune trees in front of Old Main, SSA members moved their classroom to Iverson Park where the skills were put to the test with pruning added to the task of climbing.

Any students interested in learning more about working with trees, whether climbing them or otherwise, may contact the Student Society of Arboriculture at arborsoc@uwsp.edu or by calling x4135. The SSA is open to all students; to be a member, you just pay dues like with most other student organizations.

For more information, visit their website at www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/ssa. The group meets on Wednesdays at 6pm in CNR 320 with speakers scheduled for April 23 and 30.

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Easter goodies: Delicious holiday desserts

BIRDS' NESTS
Ingredients:
- 1 (10 oz.) Reese's peanut butter chips
- 1 tablespoon solid shortening
- 1 (5 oz.) can thin chow mein noodles
- 1 bag pastel colored peanut M&Ms

Preparation:
Melt entire bag of chips and 1 tablespoon of shortening slowly in microwave or in double boiler on stove top. If using microwave, heat full power in intervals of 30 seconds at a time and then less as chips begin to melt. You want the chips and shortening to be well blended, creamy and hot. Do not overcook. Immediately pour the can of chow mein noodles. Using a spatula can help.

Avoid crunching coated. Drop by spoonfuls onto wax paper and gently form into the shape of a nest, leaving a hollowed area in the center in which you immediately place three peanut M&Ms for the bird's eggs. Each batch makes approximately 14 nests.

BRAIDED EASTER BREAD
Ingredients:
- 2 pkgs. dry yeast
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1 egg

Preparation:
In a large bowl, dissolve yeast in the warm water. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a saucepan, add the milk and heat until just warm. Pour mixture into the bowl with the yeast. Add sugar, eggs and salt and stir well. Mix in the flour; one cup at a time, until a soft dough is formed. Turn the dough onto a floured surface, adding flour if the dough is too sticky to handle. Knead until it becomes elastic. Place in a lightly oiled bowl, cover and set in a warm, draft-free area until doubled in size (about 1 hour). Punch down the dough. Divide it into three equal parts and roll each piece into a 20-inch-long strand. Lay the strands side by side and gently braid them. To avoid tearing the dough, braid from the middle out to an end, repeat with the other side. Place the woven dough in a wreath shape on a greased cookie sheet, tucking the ends under. Sink the eggs into the dough. Cover and let rise until double in size. Beat 1 egg with 1 teaspoon water and brush the wash over the dough. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 25 minutes or until golden brown.

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Week in Point

Thursday, April 17, 2003
Cardio Center Presents: Gentle Yoga, 1 and II, w/Meureen Heilshen, Allen Center, 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM
UWSP String Chamber Orchestra, FRC Michelson Hall, 7:30 PM
Contemporary Productions Presents: Second City National Touring Company, License to Chill, QC Leib, Room 202, 8:00 PM

Friday, April 18, 2003
The Stargazer Planetarium Show, College Letters and Science Planetarium/ Observatory, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Saturday, April 19, 2003
Cardio Center Presents: Gentle Yoga, Series I and II, Class B, w/Meureen Heilshen, Allen Center, 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Composers Concert, FRC Michelson Hall, 7:30 PM
Faculty Recital: Robert Powers, baritone, FRC Michelson Hall, 7:30 PM
Contemporary Productions Presents: Second City Double Feature, Class w/Aminda Goyette, 7:00 PM

Sunday, April 20, 2003
The Organists at UWFU, Leclerc Recital: Robert Parke, baritone, FRC Michelson Hall, 7:30 PM
UWSP Jazz Lab Band, FRC Michelson Hall, 7:30 PM
Danny Senne, Lecture and Slides, FRC Alumni Room 7:30 PM
Ruggers bring home another trophy

By Connor Agnew
SPORTS REPORTER

The Point men's rugby team won their second trophy in a two week span with another outstanding performance at the Mudfest tournament two weeks ago at UW-Platteville.

Point was missing some key team members due to military drills and personal reasons, but less experienced players contributed big to the Point attack.

In their first game, Point played UW-Whitewater, and despite coming out a little rusty, the Point men managed to score a 7-0 victory, winning a hard fought game 7-0. John O'Keefe accounted for all seven points, scoring a try and adding the 2-point kick.

Point followed up with a stronger performance against UW-Milwaukee, winning 19-7. O'Keefe and Matt Angerhofer each broke long scoring runs against the Panthers. With the win, Point hopes to build on their positive momentum the rest of the season.

Men third at Cardinal Classic Invite

By Tony Bastien
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP men's track team traveled south to the North Central College campus in Naperville, Ill. on Saturday for the Cardinal Classic. They placed third out of ten teams at the event, behind UW-Oshkosh and the host Cardinals.

Team pushes conference record above .500 for first time this season

By Jana Jurkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The women's softball team got into the heart of their Conference play last weekend. The team went 6-3 in their nine games to give them an overall record of 17-10 and a Conference record of 6-5.

The Pointers faced Whitewater in a double header on Wednesday. After a close 2-0 first game, the Pointers dominated the Warhawks in the second game and ended with a 7-0 victory. Senior Jill Van Wychen went 4-for-4 in the second game with two triples.

The Pointers faced Oshkosh in a double header on Wednesday. After a close 2-0 first game, the Pointers dominated the Warhawks in the second game and ended with a 7-0 victory. Senior Jill Van Wychen went 4-for-4 in the second game with two triples.

Van Wychen leads Pointers to solid week

By Jana Jurkovich
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Cardinal Invite from page 10

the meet saying, "The dual meet with Oshkosh wasn’t a real, true indication of what was happening."

The early week success didn’t carry over for the Pointers though as they were beaten by the same Oshkosh team just four days later.

"You know, Oshkosh is really good, you’ve got to remember they were second at NCAA’s. I think they were probably a little better prepared for that meet than probably we were. I don’t think there’s that much difference between our teams, but on that particular day there was,” said Coach Witt.

Many of the events won by the UWSP sprinters on Wednesday were not won on the UWSP sprinters on Saturday. In fact, most runners didn’t compete in the same events as they did earlier.

“We were experimenting a little bit, because really it was the first time that some of those events were contested,” explained Witt.

The lone first place finish in any track event was turned in by the 4X400m relay team.

It was a different story in the field events as the Pointers had a representative on the podium in nearly every event. Ryan Shepard placed in a tie for third in the high jump, and Cody Kronberg won the long jump and was third in the triple jump.

Not surprisingly, Eschenbauch carried his success over from the dual meet winning the hammer throw and in addition, won the shot put.

"Well he’s [Eschenbauch] one of the top three or four guys in the country and so, until he runs into those other two or three guys he goes in with the idea he should win.”

This weekend the Pointers travel back down to Illinois to take part in the Augustana Meet of Champions in Rock Island.

baseball

This year the Pointers topped another impressive record as they set the school record with 19 straight victories after sweeping a doubleheader from Marian College on Wednesday.

The win streak, which breaks the 18-game streak that the 1999 team set, is just another impressive feat for Brian Nelson. Despite coaching in just his fourth season, the former Pointer stands second all time on the UWSP win list and has won either the WIAC regular season or tournament title in his first three years.

"We have done so many things great the past couple weeks with everything, you can’t help but to be impressed,” said Nelson. "This is my first recruiting class that I’ve seen through, and my junior class is good so are the sophomores and freshman. Every class is getting better and better, and it’s a sign of what this team can do in the future."

The Pointers never trailed in the twin bill as they defeated the Sabres 9-3 and 10-4. Junior Ryan Jones showed his prowess at the plate hitting a combined 5-for-6 including a pair of home runs (7, 8) to lead the Pointer bats.

Jones continued his hot hitting from a week ago when he hit .543 in nine conference games. For the week, Jones also had 21 runs scored and 17 RBIs as he was rewarded with National Hitter of the Week honors.

"The first time I heard about it [National Hitter of the Week award] was when it was announced during the game, so it’s a pretty big deal, I guess,” said Jones.

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“We got a great team. It’s amazing; every time we step out on the field something new happens, someone else pick us up, and it’s somebody different everyday. It’s awesome, and I love it and I love playing with these guys."

Junior Josh Blaha (3-0) was the winner of the first game pitching six strong innings, allowing two runs and striking out seven to keep his record perfect.

In the second game, Eric Schledner (4-0) also stayed perfect. Schledner went six innings and allowed four runs, all unearned, while giving up just six hits.

Last weekend the Pointers knocked UW-Superior pitching all over the park as they took four from the Yellowjackets in a pair of home doubleheaders.

The Pointers combined to outscore Superior 60-17 in the four games as four different pitchers earned victories behind the strong Pointer lumber that also produced 56 hits and seven home runs.

Point was scheduled for a rematch with Lakeland College on Thursday but that game has been postponed. Lakeland is the team that defeated Point last year in the sectional final and denied them a World Series bid.

SPORTS STREAKING POINTERS SET SCHOOL MARK WITH 19 STRAIGHT VICTORIES

Team keeps perfect conference record intact with sweep of Marian

By Dan Mirman

LAST YEAR THE POINTER MEN’S BASEBALL TEAM (20-2-1, 11-0) SET THE TEAM RECORD FOR WINS IN A SEASON WITH 37.

This year the Pointers toppled another impressive record as they set the school record with 19 straight victories after sweeping a doubleheader from Marian College on Wednesday.

The win streak, which breaks the 18-game streak that the 1999 team set, is just another impressive feat for Brian Nelson. Despite coaching in just his fourth season, the former Pointer stands second all time on the UWSP win list and has won either the WIAC regular season or tournament title in his first three years.

"We have done so many things great the past couple weeks with everything, you can’t help but to be impressed," said Nelson. "This is my first recruiting class that I’ve seen through, and my junior class is good so are the sophomores and freshman. Every class is getting better and better, and it’s a sign of what this team can do in the future."

The Pointers never trailed in the twin bill as they defeated the Sabres 9-3 and 10-4. Junior Ryan Jones showed his prowess at the plate hitting a combined 5-for-6 including a pair of home runs (7, 8) to lead the Pointer bats.

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COACH WITT

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Team battles elements and long layoff to post victory
By Ellie Juniper
Sports Reporter

Two weeks of canceled meets due to inclement weather didn't halt the progress of the lady Pointers. Geared up and ready to compete, they edged out the Oshkosh women to win meet despite windy conditions in Naperville.

Freshman Kim Klosno held on to win the 400m dash by five hundredths of a second with a time of 1:00.32.

Steady head winds didn't stop the Pointer women from dominating in the triple jump. They produced five of the top eight jumps in their field. Senior Jody Butkowski placed first in the triple jump with a jump of 37'1 1/2", freshman Amy Frey placed second with a jump of 34' 73/4", Lisa Brownie placed third, Jenny Benson seventh and Aubrey Wesely eighth.

Brownie also placed second in the long jump with a leap of 16' 8 3/4".

Coach Hill had remarked that Amy had a "nice series." Amy said she was pleased that she picked up right where she left off from the indoor season.

The 4 x 100m relay consisting of Liz Goergen, Tara Schmitt, Klosno and Butkowski ran away with the race in a time of 49.70.

Tara Schmitt, a recent addition to the outdoor track team, placed second in the 100m with a time of 13.18 and third in the 200m with a time of 26.78.

Tara, who plays soccer in the fall and basketball in the winter, has quickly found a flair for sprinting. "It's very different from any sport I've done. It's very individual."

What is your favorite aspect of track & field?

"Butt" or "Yoda"

There are too many to pick just one - the first time being an All-American, spring break in Greece, running in the Olympic trials, the satisfaction of reaching goals that once seemed impossible."

What will you remember most about participating in track?

"The Scatman" (Wisconsin native) Suzy Favor Hamilton.

What is your favorite aspect of track & field?

"There are not many opportunities for triple jumping or sprinting after college, so I'll train and compete in road races and triathlons.

What is your favorite aspect of track & field?

"The satisfaction of reaching goals that once seemed impossible and those lovely family style restaurants (kudos to Hovaks).

Most embarrassing moment - Without a doubt, my drug testing experience at nationals. I was there for over three hours, provided five samples and was the last to leave.

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

"The Crocodile Hunter," so I can feel what it's like to live without fear or Bill Nye the science guy.

What three CD's are you listening to, any stereo right now?

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What three CD's are you listening to, any stereo right now?

1. Dispatch
2. Enya
3. A mix with my favorite song to dance to, "The Scatman"

What will you remember most about participating in track & field at UWSP? - There are too many to pick just one - the first time being an All-American, spring break in California, the Drake Relays, the shower room chats and sundae Sunday's.

Do you have any parting words for the underclassmen?

- Take the time to enjoy being a collegiate athlete because the years go quickly. If it means a lighter load or a few late papers, so be it.
View from a Pointer: How does the Pointer baseball team do it?

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

The last three and a half seasons the Pointer baseball team has been the class of the WIAC conference. Not surprisingly, the powerhouse staffs of Brian Nelson’s tenure as head coach.

Without close inspection, the coach blends in with everyone else on the team. That’s good news for the opposition. Nelson did set a UWSP record for doubles in a season (24) a few short years ago in ’98.

However, his soft-spoken demeanor renders respect and authority. He hasn’t stumbled a bit after taking the reins of a program that had put together a 29 win season and the first WIAC title since 1967 a year ago.

Nelson has led his teams to 30 plus victories the past two seasons, including 37 wins last year, which set a UWSP athletics record for victories in a single season.

This year he didn’t want to leave any records out so he coached his team up to 19 consecutive victories and counting. Included in this stretch are 11 conference wins and two victories over Division I school Lipscomb. Not a bad start.

Nelson has won a conference title or tournament all three seasons he’s completed and this year, his Pointers are entrenched in the WIAC yet again.

This much success this soon has been impressive, but the reason these accomplishments stand out is the turnover in players.

Every year he has coached the Pointers, Nelson has lost a minimum of two all-conference players from a team a year before.

This year his team lost three all-conference players, four in all this season, in players from a year before. This year he is hoping to have his Pointers in first place in the WIAC yet again.

His first season, Nelson had to replace Luiz Gonzalez’s chewed up bat, a no-brainer; rich snobs can buy crap like this and be happy about it. Also, we now have at least two wins and two victories over Division I a black tie ball (seven Pointers have at least two wins).

At the end of the line, Jared Szews set the UWSP record for saves this season and provides a brilliant closer.

The batting order has lost seven all-conference hitters and continues to provide one of the most lethal power-speed combinations in the WIAC. This year, Nelson, instead of having to replace Tufts, is able to rely on a formidable returning cadre of hitters.

This much success this soon has been impressive, but the reason these accomplishments stand out is the turnover in players.

The rotation also dealt out aces. However, this season Jeff Pieper has taken the role, but in Verbrick’s day before and Troy Biehlmeier the year before that. All of these pitchers were All-WIAC as seniors. It seems every season a new pitcher steps up to fill the role.

Even this year when Pieper has stumbled, the Pointer staff has showed its depth as the bullpen has more options than James Bond at a black tie ball (seven Pointers have at least two wins).

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The dugout strategy has been innovative. In an attempt to throw some more money on the pile he already has, the Pointers have sold in the world of sports: one of the most outrageous items ever attempted to sports-related purchases.

Jose or a leisurely cookout by the pool. For a mere $2500 starting bid (at www.josecanseco.com), you can enjoy a variety of activities with Jose Canseco.

Round-trip limousine service from the local airport is also included, but don’t expect Jose himself to be picking you up.

He is currently under house arrest for the next 15 months, stemming from a little night club brawl he got into a whole back.

Now, if this sounds a little funny to you, it should. Canseco was once the top player in the game, when he was leading the powerhouse Oakland Athletics on the late 80s and early 90s. He was the first man to hit 40 home runs and steal 40 bases in the same season, then an unheard of record. But Jose hasn’t been good in at least eight years, although he has been living up the offers on his discarded organ.

The whereabouts of the liver are unknown at this time.

The power numbers are getting ridiculous now. Two years ago Sam Moliki set the single season mark for homers with 12. Watching Moliki set the mark inspired his teammates Paul Molitor and Ryan Jones to both break it last season with 14 and 15 bombs, respectively.

Of course, Molitor departed upon graduation and supposedly left a gaping hole in the lineup-up, but the hole quickly filled when UW-Oshkosh transfer Joe Wakoski decided to hit over .500 with eight “big flies” through the first 20 games. Jones promptly said his record challenged and has hit three homers in four games to even the homerun count with Wakoski at eight. He also added a National Player of the Week award to his resume, for good measure.

So far this season has proven unbelievable. The record setting win streak, the pitching depth and clutch performances make this team possibly better than last year’s squad that fell one game shy of the College World Series.

The only problem for Nelson will be to make sure he leaves a little space to improve next season. But the way this year’s team looks so far, that problem just might go unfixed.

The Man’s Take: Stupid sports-related purchases

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

I know it isn’t campus-related, but it’s always fun to see what stupid stuff is being hawked on Ebay once in a while. So here is a list of the most outrageous items ever attempted to be sold in the world of sports:

1. A Day With Jose

Former baseball all-star Jose Canseco is back in the news again. In an attempt to throw some more money in the pile he already has, the Pointers have sold in the world of sports: one of the most outrageous items ever attempted to sports-related purchases.

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As soon as the surgery was over, Mantle immediately began receiving offers from the major league teams. At the time, Mantle was over, Mantle immediately began receiving offers from the major league teams. At the time, Mantle was

Ruling: If I wanted A-B-C gum, I could just peel it off the bottom of the desks in the CCG, NO WAY!

3. Mickey Mantle’s Liver

This is a few years old, but I still think it is one of the most outrageous stories yet. Back in 1995, the New York Yankees’ hall-of-famer was rushed to the top of the donor list after his liver gave out from years of alcoholism and gluttony.

The whereabouts of the liver are unknown at any time.

In an ironic twist, the cancer had spread undetected to other parts of Mantle’s body, and within a few months of receiving the new organ, he was dead. He didn’t even have time to drive up the offers on his discarded organ.

The whereabouts of the liver are unknown at this time.

Ruling: How many better things could I find to spend half a million dollars on? This is a no-brainer: NO!

So what can we bring away from this? Well, for one, rich snobs can buy crap like this and be happy about it. Also, we now know that rich athletes will stop at nothing to make themselves richer athletes. It makes me happy that I can go to a Pointer game and cheer a bunch of athletes that play for the love of the game.

GO POINTERS!

Jones named D-III Hitter of the Week

UW-Stevens Point junior Whitewater last Wednesday.

In addition, Jones had four doubles, two stolen bases and Division III baseball Hitter of the Week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association after posting a .543 average last week as the Pointers went 9-0.

Jones, a former Eau Claire North High School standout, was 19-for-35 with 21 runs scored and 17 RBI’s. He also hit five home runs, including two in an 8-7 comeback win over UW-

Women’s Track: at Meet of Champions (Augustana College), Thur., All Day

Men’s Track: at Meet of Champions (Augustana College), Sat., All Day

Baseball: Lakeland (doubleheader), Thurs., 1 p.m.*, at Whitewater (doubleheader), Wed., 1 p.m.

Softball: Lakeland, Tue., 3 p.m.*; Northland, Wed., 3 p.m.*

All home games in BOLD

Game can be heard live on 90FM
**Mr. Winters’ two cents**

Well, how are you folks taking to this Wisconsin weather? It’s as unpredictable as a woman sometimes. Monday was warm, almost too warm for this old bag of bones. Such a sudden heat is likely to give me another damp heart attack. But then again, cold weather ain’t ready to leave us yet neither. The fishing is ready to pick up, but with this weather the South Pacific, I can’t quite tell what the tip. When fishing during these fluctuating times of spring, try to keep to use a dark hook sometimes is on soon, so you rascals better “Go on and Gecccceecccc!”

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**Outdoors Adopt-A-Specie Program**

Human-caused mortality including legal, illegal and accidental causes is high in many populations. The site search for the nonprofit center ended in the heart of the largest wolf population in the lower 48 states: Ely, Minnesota. By 1989, a temporary facility was established, on the edge of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

For six decades, grey wolf research conducted near Ely has informed the world about this dwindling species and has contributed to its repopulation in the Northwoods. The International Wolf Center opened the doors to its $3 million, 17,000-square-foot facility. State funding of $1.2 million and $400,000 in donations from individuals and foundations paid for the expansion of the Visitor Visitor Center in Ely. In 1998, a 3,260-square-foot addition provided a 120-seat wolf-viewing theater and more classroom, storage and laboratory space. The expansion was funded by a 1996 bonding bill of the Minnesota State Legislature.

The Center’s flagship facility features triangular windows designed to represent wolf eyes and ears. The observation windows look into a 1.25-acre wolf enclosure and den site that is home for the resident wolf pack. Three wolves born in April 1993, served as ambassadors for the educational mission of the International Wolf Center. They were joined by two arctic wolves the summer of 2000. The Center’s Ely facility offers a variety of educational programs for adults and families. Afternoon, weekend and week-long visits include howling trips, radio tracking, snowshoe treks, family activities, videos, presentations, fly over wolf center on tours and hikes. Membership in the International Wolf Center has grown to over 8,500 people in 50 states and 38 countries. Membership continues to grow and provides funding for educational programs. Hundreds of thousands of people around the world are touched each year with educational messages about the wolves. By teaching people about this mysterious predator, the International Wolf Center aims to ensure a future wilderness complete with the mournful howl of the wolf. What you can do to preserve wolf population is to adopt a wolf today. For $25.90 you can adopt one of five ambassador wolves and receive an adoption certificate that can be personalized by the purchaser and a framed photo of your chosen wolf, a biography of your wolf and information about the Center’s pack, one issue of International Wolf Magazine, a photo magnet and paw stickers. Please drop donations off the Wildlife Society Office CNR 359A and leave your name, address (home and email) and a telephone number: so you can be reached once the adoption is complete.

For questions and info go to www.wolf.org or email sgran184@uwsp.edu.

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**Earth Week 2003 Schedule of Events**

**Monday, April 21**
- Drop off Environmental Health Act show entries in UC concourse, also t-shirt pick up and raffle tickets on sale.
- Lunchtime sessions: UC 195
- 11:15 a.m. Great Green: Marcy Presentation
- 2:30 p.m. Discussion: Environmental Education
- 4 p.m. Leave No Trace Mini-Course @ Outdoor EdVentures
- Evening Speakers: Laird Room
- 5 p.m. DNR Aquatic Invasive Species
- 6 p.m. Prairie Nursery "How to..."
- 7 p.m. Dr. E. Judlizewicz "Biodiversity and Native Plants of Wisconsin"

**Tuesday, April 22**
- EARTH DAY! Earth Week Expo Booth all day in UC concourse
- All-day, free rentals at Outdoor EdVentures
- Laurel Room
- NIBI: The Spirit of Water presentation all day sponsored by the Biology department
- 5 p.m. Outdoor Cooking presentation @ Outdoor EdVentures
- 7:30 p.m. Bonfire outside of the Allen Center and drumming for Guatemalan school children

**Wednesday, April 23**
- Wednesday, April 23 Environmental Health Act show entry deadline
- Lunchtime Sessions: UC 195
- 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. How to be a healthy Vegetarian
- 11:30-12:30 p.m. Factory farming seminar
- 2:30-4:00 p.m. Should there be organic food offered for school lunches?
- 4:30 p.m. Paddle in Lake Joans with Outdoor EdVentures
- 5 p.m. Take Back the Night Sponsored by GSA & WRC

**Thursday, April 24**
- Paperboard collection 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Lunchtime Sessions: UC 195
- 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. How to be a healthy Vegetarian
- 12:30-1:30 p.m. Got Worms? Composting with worms seminar
- 1:30-2:00 p.m. Tom Brown, speaker on Global Warming
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. Nature Photography
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Self Proclaimed Nickname

**Friday, April 25**
- 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ECOFAIR 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Paperboard collection! 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Outdoor EdVentures tickets on sale. Earth Day t-shirt pick up in UC concourse
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- 2:00-3:00 p.m. Nature Photography
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Self Proclaimed Nickname
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Kick off of Turn Down The Heat Conference Keynote Speaker: Winnona LaDuke
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Performance by AK Black

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**Act Locally.**

**SUMMER IN MAINE**

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| 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Academic | And more |

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**TRIPP LAKE CAMP for Girls:** 1-800-997-4347 www.tripplakecamp.com
Let's go fishing
Ahhh! The sweet smell of fish spawn
By Adam M.T.H. Mella
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

"...my apologies go out to the professors and die-hard students of UWSP, but I have decided that all classes for next week have been cancelled..."

Walleye (Stizostedion vitreum)
While the walleyus have been biting on and off all spring, the big spawning run will really benefit from the recent downpours. Low water levels in the river have been the primary reason for the spawning delay. The rising water temps brought on by the hot weather and spring rains will also help. Walleye usually begin their spawning migration as the water reaches 40 F, and finally begin spawning when the river warms up to the mid 40s to 50 F, which it soon should, or may already have, depending on when you read this.
Expect excellent fishing this weekend, with the best results coming from boaters jigging current breaks, shore fishing below dams and spillways or perhaps wildcard river spots near backwaters or sloughs. Get to your best spots early, as loads of fishermen, pleasant weather and phenomenal fishing action is guaranteed.

Crappie (Pomoxis nigromaculatus)
Crappie had already begun to make their move to the spawning ground earlier this week, however, the biggest of the bunch had still been waiting for that first good rain. With that said, expect pancake jumbo crappie to be cruising the backwaters and lakes this next week in search of good spawning cover. Bridges, fallen trees, or other shallow structure on the waters will be loaded with flesty crappies as the water levels and temperatures rise. Small jigs on slip bobbers suspended over or near these areas can literally fill your bag limit as fast as you can bait your hook this time of year.

Pike (Esox lucius)
As if you needed another reason to skip classes, northern pike are also on the prowl. They are also sensing the return to warmer weather and the thought just makes the want to breed. Shallow flats on the river flowages are prime targets for fishermen in search of these savage beasts. Rock flats, weed flats, backwaters and timber shelves will all be holding spawning pike over the next few weeks. These fish will be feeding aggressively which makes them prime targets of anglers. This is also why game-fish season on inland lakes opens in early May. Esox Magazine recently named the Wisconsin River the second-best fishery in the state behind Green Bay, for musky and pike fishing. It also receives very little pressure. Take advantage of the year-round open season on the Wisconsin River System and you could easily find yourself with a trophy fish.

The only problem I can see in the future is deciding what kind of fish to go after. You see, love from the fishing god is a sure thing. Oh, I almost forgot, my apologies go out to the professors and die-hard students of UWSP, but I have decided that all classes for next week have been cancelled so everyone can just go fishing. Agreed?
Class dismissed.

Is it transcendentalist, Muir-esque or simply nothing at all?
A mind-probing outdoor commentary
Thoughts on the first thunderstorm of spring
By Adam M.T.H. Mella
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR
A mosquito lands on my arm as I crouch next to the streambed where my bobber slowly wiggles. The water below my fishing rock slides gently on the shore and small in minnows dart about in the protection of a shallow cove to my right. I try to catch one in my hand, to no avail. A small breeze touches my hair and tells me to watch the bobber. Tap, tap... and under. A small crappie to be played and thrown back for growing.
Standing up to stretch my legs, I notice tumbling clouds in the west. Dark bellied with a white fluffy hairdo jumping into the stratosphere. Spring peeper frogs begin to cry out in the evening hour and the stream pool smooths itself out. I set myself down on a large boulder, still looking at the contrasting dome. Around me I notice all the nature leaning towards that grandfather cloud, and I gaze as well. Stillness, and the smell of wetness and worms come down in a seamless line. The minnows stay still, and I take a blade of wild grass. I bet it is thirsty. I get goose bumps when the cooler air whooshes over me, announcing the arrival of the storm. The peepers cry louder as the wet smell falls out of the big rolling cloud, and big raindrops the size of acorns dive into the pool and play with their own reflections. I stand again to meet him, and the storm says hello with a meandering lightning bolt in the distant trees and a firm handshake of thunder that shakes my rock. The passing storm moves over me slowly with easy splendor and beautiful power.

OUTDOORS
Page 15 April 17, 2003
UWSP The Pointer
Counting Crows hang around Stevens Point

By Luke Zancanaro
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

The Counting Crows made an appearance at UWSP's Quandt Field House on Tuesday night. The stop was part of their 2003 tour that will carry them through much of the world. The opening band for the Crows was the new and upcoming band Blue Merle. Blue Merle jammed for about 45 minutes bringing the crowd a new breed of music that was a combination of blues, jazz and rock with a slight hint of bluegrass. The band consists of Lucas Reynolds (guitar and lead vocals), Patrick Ross (Fiddle), Beau Stapleton (Mandolin), Jason Oettel (bass) and William Ellis (drums). Their set included "Lucky to Know You," which was easily their best song. The band, although timid and mild at times, seemed to feed off the solos by Patrick Ross and Beau Stapleton. It was amazing that a fiddle and a mandolin could whip the crowd into such a frenzy.

At around 8:30 the Counting Crows took the stage to the screaming pleasure of everyone in the crowd. They opened with "Have You Seen Me Lately" and for almost two hours they played a mixture of songs from their latest album, Hard Candy as well as quite a few from all of their previous albums except Recovering the Satellites. They accomplished all of this without their bass player Matt Malley who was absent due to the illness of his father. In order to fill the bassist position, several band members took turns playing the bass as well as a fill in bassist from Blue Mound, Wis.

The most crowd-pleasing song of the night was the ever-popular "Mr. Jones." Other songs in the set that exhilarated the crowd were "Omaha," "American Girls," and "Big Yellow Taxi," a cover of Joni Mitchell song. After a short break the band came on stage for an encore accompanied by Blue Merle. They played a very exciting and interesting combination of "Rain King" and "Raining in Baltimore" to the delight of the fans. As the Crows do in almost every show since their This Desert Life release, they finished the concert with "Hangin' Around," which made for a great conclusion to a great show.
Second City comedians to perform at UWSP

The Second City touring company will perform at 8 p.m., Thursday, April 17 at the UW-Stevens Point University Center Laird Room.

For more than 35 years, Second City comedians have been performing nationally and internationally, including in New York, London, Miami, Montreal, Los Angeles and other venues. A training ground for some of the nation's finest up-and-coming comedians, its alumni include John Belushi, Mike Myers, Chris Farley, Gilda Radner, Martin Short, Joan Rivers, Shelly Long, John Candy and others.

At UWSP a six-member cast will share songs, scenes and improvisations, combining the best material from the past as well as new skits by some of the nation's top young comedic talent. Three touring companies operate year round with resident theatres in Chicago, Toronto, Detroit and Cleveland. In addition, Second City operates a corporate division that customizes comedic entertainment for the business community.

Sponsored by UWSP's Centerentertainment Productions, the performance is free to students with a valid UWSP ID and $6 for the public.

Movie Review

Phone Booth

By Geoff Fyfe ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

After a several month delay due to the Beltway sniper shootings, Phone Booth has finally made its way into theaters. Thankfully, it was worth the delay. Aside from a terrific lead performance from Hollywood B-Boy Colin Farrell, Phone Booth is a taut, effective little thriller with some surprise along the way. It also serves as something of a redemption project for director Joel Schumacher, who some (including me) still haven't forgiven for the big stinking pile of celluloid crap that was Batman and Robin.

Farrell portrays Stu Shepard, a hotshot New York publicist who is, to put it bluntly, an egomaniacal jerk. When we first see him, he's strutting the streets oozing arrogance, berating his assistant over his cell phone. He's also on his way to a payphone to call Pam (Katie Holmes), an actress client of his. Why call her on a payphone instead of his cell phone? Stu is trying to talk her into bed and doesn't want such calls to show up on cell phone records that his wife Kelly (Radha Mitchell) can detect. Yes, Stu is king of the world, until he answers a ringing pay phone in a booth. Big mistake.

The caller at the other end of the line (voiced by Kiefer Sutherland) coldly informs Stu that he has a rifle aimed at him from one of the nearby buildings. If Stu hangs up, he will be gunned down. The caller, angry with Stu's behavior, has taken it upon himself to make Stu publicly repent for his sins or faceless caller will pull the trigger and a Hitchcockian suspense thriller, generations of phone snipers. 

If Stu hangs up, he will be gunned down. The "24" star pulls it off with aplomb, investing his role with humor, disgust and cool menace. His performance is nifty and clandestine. To his credit, the caller is there to keep the caller from pulling the trigger while trying to convince Capt. Ramey (Forest Whitaker), the officer in charge, that he's not a threat.

Originating the idea 20 years ago, exploitation director Larry Cohen (best known for the mutant baby killer hit It's Alive) wrote Phone Booth. To his credit, Schumacher doesn't bungle Cohen's original version. While Phone Booth's plot has holes and doesn't hold up under close scrutiny, the level of tension and suspense it generates is almost unbearable at times. We're on the edge of our seats wondering if the caller will pull the trigger or if Stu will talk himself out of the nightmare. A couple of nifty twists toward the end also ratchet up the suspense level.

Farrell, hot off his scene-stealing turn in Daredevil, turns in another stellar performance, using his charisma to make even an arrogant prick, like Stu, likable. Farrell doesn't miss a beat as Stu goes from egomaniacal publicist to a broken man sobbing for his life. Whitaker, one of the most criminally underused actors around, is also solid as the flawed but decent cop who begins to understand Stu's situation. Unfortunately, Mitchell (Pitch Black) and Holmes (Dawson's Creek) of course) are wasted in thin roles.

Then there's Sutherland, who has the difficult task of acting with only his voice. To his credit, the "24" star pulls it off with aplomb, investing his voice with humor, disgust and cool menace. His faceless caller comes off like the voice of God, a cruel, vengeful god who enjoys smiting the wicked. Stu is the wicked and Sutherland's caller is there to make him repent. As both a twisted morality play and a Hitchcockian suspense thriller, Phone Booth passes with flying colors.

Entertainment week in review

Compiled by Josh Gober

The Good:

Grammy-winning singer Melissa Etheridge for announcing her engagement to girlfriend Tammy Lynn Michaels. Etheridge's personal life has been openly exposed to the media since she "came out" in 1993. Congratulations to the happy couple who refuse to let society's biases stand in the way of love.

Honorability Mention:

Comic book giant Marvel for challenging Sony's Spiderman license. Marvel claims that Sony basically stole Spidey from their unauthorized merchandising of the hit comic book hero turned blockbuster movie character. Thankfully, this may prevent the Hollywood studios from ruining Spiderman like they did Batman.

The Bad:

Americans advocating a boycott of the ABC network and its advertisers for airing the upcoming sitcom revolving around vehemently anti-war actress and comedian Janeane Garofalo. A big fat thumbs down to narrow-minded Americans who attempt to curb the freedom of speech. Didn't the horrors of mid-20th century blacklisting to silence unpopular opinions teach us anything?

Dishonorable Mention:

NASCAR fan Michael Melo for framing priest time as a result of flooding the FOX network's e-mail boxes with more than a half million messages because he was angry the network aired a baseball game instead of an auto race. The action forced FOX to shut down part of its website.

The Ugly:

The man who made national headlines for his assault on the Easter Bunny at a Wausau area mall. After jumping on the bunny's lap, the attacker pounded the man in the plush mythical character costume in the head before forcing him into a headlock and punching his mouth. All the while, young children and their parents stood waiting in line nearby. The only way such a emotional-scarring act of delinquency could ever begin to be justified is if the assailant had showed, "This one's for Brodie!"
Your College Survival Guide:

By Pat "Shaft" Rothfuss

can you dig it?

Pat Rothfuss is still recovering from the dual rigors of trivia and cross dressing. That means you get a recycled column this week, and oldie, but a goodie:

The dilemma is this:

You're hungry, so you want food.

There are several ways around this troubling turn of events. One is a diet, which in all honesty, you should probably be considering...

If you answered 'yes' to any one of these, chances are your friends think of you as a grasping, sucking, lamprey-eel of a mooch. Too bad. Better have a good cry and start looking for some new friends.

If you visit someone's house, do you complain that you are thirsty/hungry? If no food or drink is forthcoming do you pretend to go to the bathroom and explore the kitchen instead? If you find something you like, do you ask loudly if you can have it? If no one answers, do you hide in the closet and eat it anyway?

If you answered 'yes' to any one of these, chances will probably involve eating groceries (gro' yer yu).

You buy groceries at a store. Groceries are the things that your mothers turn into food through an ancient alchemical process called Cooking (kook' eng).

Unfortunately, Cooking involves work. Complicating matters further is the fact that work takes time, and time is money. Consequently, groceries end up costing you money, so let's move on to the third, and best, option. Free food.

Now if you're hungry, and someone else has food, and you eat it, this would appear to solve your problem. However, it is not as easy as that. While you may no longer be hungry, something horrible has happened. You've become a mooch. There is nothing on God's green earth that people hate more than a mooch.

If you think you've got what it takes to be the person who pays the pizza guy. Take your money back out of his tip.

When going to someone's house, do you come. If you smell pizza in the room/house, do you invite yourself in, eat as much as you can, then take a piece back to your room for later?

If you visit someone's house, do you complain that you are thirsty/hungry? If no food or drink is forthcoming do you pretend to go to the bathroom and explore the kitchen instead? If you find something you like, do you ask loudly if you can have it? If no one answers, do you hide in the closet and eat it anyway?

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For the rest of you, here are some tips that might save you from a similar fate.

If pizza is ordered and you haven't given any money for it, you can safely eat one piece without being seen as a mooch. If it has been ordered in your room/house you can eat two. If it sits more than four minutes untouched you can safely eat another slice.

If you visit someone's house, do you complain that you are thirsty/hungry? If no food or drink is forthcoming do you pretend to go to the bathroom and explore the kitchen instead? If you find something you like, do you ask loudly if you can have it? If no one answers, do you hide in the closet and eat it anyway?

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If money is being collected for pizza, pay your fair share. Then arrange to be the person who pays the pizza guy. Take your money back out of his tip.

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Free Internet. One block from campus. Fully furnished for your convenience. Parking
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2 Large 2-Topping
Pizza, &
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Single Order of
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Pizzas &
2 Liter of Soda

Large Cheese Pizza &
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