



THE

Defensive excellence

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POINTER

Volume 48, No. 12

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

December 4, 2003

Students react to tenure decisions

By Johanna Nelson
NEWS REPORTER

Two separate 2-1 decisions made by UW-Stevens Point political science faculty denied professors Michelle and Bryan Brophy-Baermann tenured positions, stimulating an organized response from supportive students, as plans to appeal the decision enter their initial stages.

The decisions were handed down at a departmental meeting Nov. 19, after a vote involving the department's three tenured staff—professors Dennis Riley, Edward Miller and James Canfield.

Although the department is not at liberty to comment on the details of the situation at present, Professor Riley was able to state that "there were questions raised about scholarship, how much they published, and there were questions raised about teaching... in terms of style - seminars, discussions, and how they were being conducted."

Professors Miller and Canfield, who voted against granting tenure to the Brophy-Baermanns, did not wish to comment about their decision.

"Unfortunately any comment would be based upon information from a personnel file which is confidential under Wisconsin law," said Miller. "Information from a personnel file can be made public record



Photo courtesy of Brian and Michele Brophy-Baermann

Brian and Michelle Brophy-Baermann are appealing the tenure decisions made by the political science department.

but there is a separate process that must be followed based initially on a Wisconsin Supreme Court case and subsequent clarification by the legislature."

Professor Canfield also felt that the issue was a personnel matter and explained that "state law prohibits discussion" of the situation.

Professor Riley, who voted in favor of granting tenure, was surprised about the decision but

felt that "it is just a difference in professional judgment and professional opinion and I respect the right of my colleagues to have different opinions from myself."

Professor Bryan Brophy-Baermann also expressed surprise.

"The process is a complicated one," he said this week. "You think you are piecing everything together the way you're sup-

posed to and other people interpret things differently... so I think because it was more complicated, it led to the outcome that it did and that surprised me."

Professor Michelle Brophy-Baermann shared his sentiments, stating "I don't feel I can comment on the details of my denial or my request for reconsideration at this time, but suffice it to say, I was surprised and disap-

See Tenure decision, page 2

Strong influenza strain to strike Midwest soon

By Ben Wydeven
NEWS REPORTER

Influenza is striking earlier and harder this year. Ten states have already reported widespread influenza activity during the week before Thanksgiving and, according to the National Center for Infectious Disease, this year's flu symptoms are getting worse.

"This appears to be developing into an earlier and more severe influenza season than we have had for several years," says Dr. James Zach, a Family Practitioner at Delzell Hall.

Universities in several Western states were hit with severe influenza outbreaks. "We are just emerging from what felt like an epidemic," said Thomas R. Kunstman, a doctor at the University of Colorado at Boulder. In an email, he described the scene at the University's Health Center. "We started [the first week of November] with 3 Influenza cases. The next day there were 6 cases, then 12, and so on and so forth. I would estimate that we have seen somewhere in the range of 250 - 300 students with Influenza now and the numbers are just starting to dwindle."

Influenza, or the flu, is a disease that attacks the respiratory system, and is different from a cold. It strikes suddenly, causing such

See Influenza, page 2

Resolution targets parking appeals process

By Andrew Bloeser
NEWS EDITOR

A resolution coming before the student senate Thursday seeks to spur a change in the parking appeals process at UW-Stevens Point, aiming to end a practice requiring students to pay citations before their appeals are heard.

The resolution criticizes the current parking appeals process as "an undesired deterrence against seekers of redress" and calls for a revision of the process that would allow fees to be suspended without penalty until after a citation is challenged.

Parking Services voiced opposition to the measure Tuesday, noting that the appeals policy formerly suspended parking fees chal-

lenged by students until the 1993-94 academic year, when it was determined that students exploited the process to delay the payment of fees.

"Since then we've seen the number of appeals drop from hundreds down to about 10 to 12 a month," said Anita Godin, director of revenue, liability and parking at UWSP.

"In the past, because of the number of appeals the appeals board received, it would take months before a citation could be reviewed, giving students a chance to put off paying the fee," said Godin. "Now, the majority of students who receive citations are paying, not appealing."

Frank P. Gaura, executive director for the Student Government Association and author of the resolution coming before the student

senate, feels that students may feel compelled not to appeal if they have already paid their parking fee.

"People are unlikely to go through the appeals process because it's a burden," said Gaura. "If you just pay it, it's done. However, right now, the current policy is being used as a weapon to deter the appeals process itself."

The results of an online survey conducted through the SGA's question of the week indicated that students have qualms with the current parking appeals process on campus.

Although the response to the survey was not great enough to be considered statistically significant, 69 of the 73 responses the SGA received as of Tuesday voiced opposition to


See Parking appeals, page 2

Non-Appealable Violations

- 1.) Parking at an expired meter - \$6.00
- 2.) Parking in a fire zone area - \$25.00
- 3.) Parking in an area reserved for individuals with disabilities - \$50.00

*Violations, other than those received for parking at expired or disabled meters, parking in a handicap space or parking in a fire zone, may be appealed within 10 days of the date of the citation.

Source: Parking Procedures and Regulations

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UWSP Dean supporters journey to Iowa



Photo by Drew Wellinghoff

Seven UW-Stevens Point students attended an Iowa fundraiser in support of Democratic Presidential Candidate Howard Dean. The students spent their day campaigning for Dean before attending a rally in support of the candidate later that evening.

Influenza

from page 1

symptoms as fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches. It is highly contagious and is generally passed through the air. A person with influenza can have the virus without having any symptoms.

"The best prevention is getting influenza

immunizations before the disease gets started in our population," says Dr. Zach.

Zach says that Delzell Hall's supply of flu vaccine has run out, but 500 doses of a new vaccine in the form of nasal spray should arrive by early next week.

The vaccines are free to UWSP students. For more information on getting the vaccine you can contact Delzell Hall at (715) 346-4545.

Parking appeals

from page 1

paying parking citations before the appeal.

UWSP remains one of two UW System four-year campuses to require the payment of a citation before its challenge. Eleven of the UW System's 13 four-year campuses do not require students to pay parking fees before granting an appeal.

Among those 11 schools is UW-Milwaukee.

"There is a feeling here that everyone should have an opportunity to appeal and that some might not have the ability to pay," said Donna Boxhorn, program assistant for UW-Milwaukee's parking services department. "We don't want to put up obstacles."

Boxhorn also stated that known abuses to UW-Milwaukee's appeals process, similar to those described by UWSP's parking services, do arise from the university's student body.

Gaura said Wednesday that he understood the concern over student exploitation of the appeal

process, but added that parking services could potentially exploit current practices.

"It's an issue of fundamental fairness," said Gaura. "The current policy just wears people down and I think parking services could be aware of that psychology."

Godin holds a different perspective.

"From my point of view, if you truly believe you have a valid complaint, payment shouldn't be an issue," she said, noting that students have their fees refunded if they successfully challenge their citation.

The student senate will discuss the resolution when it meets Thursday in the Legacy Room of the University Center at 6:20 p.m.

Gaura anticipates the senate will vote on the resolution during its last meeting of the

semester, held on December 11.

If the senate approves the resolution, it will be forwarded to the University Affairs Committee for further consideration.

"The current policy just wears people down and I think parking services could be aware of that psychology."

-Frank P. Gaura

"From my point of view, if you truly believe that you have a valid complaint, payment shouldn't be an issue."

-Anita Godin

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Manager



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For more information, call 346-2249

Tenure Decision

from page 1

pointed by the 2 to 1 vote to deny me tenure and promotion."

Student Reaction

Student reaction became immediately evident as the news of the decisions spread.

A student meeting, organized by UWSP students Tyler Roden, Sarah Monte, Justin Gleicher, and Melissa Cichantek attracted nearly 80 concerned students on Tuesday before last week's four-day recess from classes.

The meeting focused on the decision to deny tenure and ways in which students can express their support for the Brophy-Baermans. Professor Riley accepted an invitation put forth by Roden to serve as an informal advisor for the group, and began the meeting by discussing the significance of tenure in academia.

"If you know your job is on line every time you walk into a classroom and say something some legislator or regent might not like, [faculty] can't be effective, can't take their students where they need to go," said Riley.

Although Riley played an instrumental role in the student group's first meeting, the group has remained largely a student run affair and has not been duly influenced by any members of the faculty.

Monte summarized the intentions of the student group, stating, "our goals right now are to have people reconsider this decision. We want to mobilize students to get involved in this and voice their support, without making the professors who did vote against feel ostracized."

She believed that focus should be directed toward the positive aspects of both the Brophy-Baermans and stated, "we believe their teaching is good, and that's what is in question here - their teaching."

Cichantek agreed with Monte, stating, "We think it's really important for the students to have a voice and to be able to question the decision."

To keep students involved, Roden mentioned plans to start a student Web site. If the appeals process is drawn out, Roden stated, "we can continue to have meetings and allow students to voice their opinions in person or concerns or ideas. We're always open to volunteers, too... we need the student body to really want to be involved and to offer any assistance they might feel is necessary."

Professor Riley was pleased with the student response, stating "for 35 years I've been an advocate for more student involvement for every aspect in the university so I was excited by the student response." Professor Bryan Brophy-Baermann expressed similar sentiments, stating, "I am overwhelmed. I am so heartened by the fact that so many students have felt strongly enough to say... we do value their contribution to the school."

Students had no contact with the Brophy-Baermann's and

organized on their own accord.

Senate response

Student interest in the issue has also been brought to the attention of the Student Government Association, in the form of a resolution supporting both Brophy-Baermans. In order to gain a spot on the SGA's agenda, however, the legislation needed to be approved by the rules committee.

The issue has been postponed for a week. With only two weeks left in the semester, this poses a problem for advocates of the issue due to the fact that legislation is considered new business one week and not until the second week is it voted on.

Amy Clark, the student senator who sponsored the legislation, commented "I sponsored it, so I abstained from the vote. It was the decision of the rules committee."

The Process

The appeal process has several stages and begins with a request for a written statement of the reason(s) for denial.

Professor Riley said that in regards to the Brophy-Baermans, the request has been filed, and a response should come within 5 to 7 days.

A reconsideration hearing can then be arranged if an appeal is still desired, but must be filed within 10 days of receiving the statement. The department then has 20 days to schedule it. The hearing can be made public; in this case there would be two- one for Bryan and one for Michelle.

The three tenured members will be present at this meeting, along with the department chair, and will listen to opinions concerning why the denial of tenure is the wrong decision. Each candidate will then answer, stating why or why not they choose to change their vote.

At this point, it is unclear whether or not students will be allowed to speak. The university doesn't have a set of procedural rules so the department either creates set procedures or proceeds without.

If the vote remains the same, the next step involves the faculty mediation sub committee. This committee is designed to handle hearings, and is part of the larger standing committee of faculty mediation.

The candidates and department must appear, and students are free to voice their views as well. The subcommittee takes all the testimony and then makes a recommendation. It can dismiss the appeal, recommend another meeting, recommend another meeting in which certain factors are excluded, or send it directly to the chancellor.

If sent, the chancellor then chooses an independent committee without any individuals from the Political Science department. Again, this happens only if the committee recommends the case to the chancellor. This is the final step in the process, and as Dr. Riley states, "The chancellor is the final arbiter of tenure."



Lot P
Tuesday, Nov. 25 12:34 p.m.
Type: Vandalism

A male reported that the tires on his vehicle had been flattened while parked in the lot.

Lot E
Sunday, Nov. 23 between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
Type: Hit and Run

A female reported that her vehicle was sideswiped while parked in the lot, resulting in damage to the passenger-side front door.

Lot U
Saturday, Nov. 22 6:00 p.m.
Type: Disorderly Conduct

A male student drove a vehicle in the lot with imprudent speed, unnecessary acceleration, and in an unsafe manner.

Lot U
Saturday, Nov. 22 5:40 p.m.

A female student backed into a car belonging to a male student, which had been parked in the lot's fire zone, adjacent to Tomson Hall.

Campus Beat is compiled by UWSP Protective Services. All names withheld.

Student experiences e-mail account theft

By David Cohen
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A controversial email was sent through the UWSP network on November 21 to approximately 4,000 people.

The e-mail contained strong language against God and included a graphic solicitation for sex.

The email came from the account of UWSP student Lori Bohm. However, Bohm, who is a member of the Campus Crusade for Christ, states that the message was not sent by her, but by an unauthorized person who somehow accessed her account.

"I would like people to know that I was not the person who wrote that email," said Bohm.

"I believe that one reason the content of the email may have been what it was, is that the person read emails that I had in my inbox from and about Campus Crusade for Christ, and other ones dealing with faith, God and my Christianity."

Protective Services contacted Bohm and the campus Postmaster after the email was sent. The offense of sending blanket emails throughout the campus is punishable by having the student's e-mail removed.

Protective Services is currently conducting an investigation as to who may have accessed Bohm's account.

She has also received numerous emails from angered people in response to the email sent in her name. Many were from other campus Christian organizations that are not familiar with her, which resulted in Bohm having to have her email blocked off.

This incident has also raised concerns for some students about the security problems of being a part of a network in which such things can happen.

David Olson, a friend of Bohm's, said, "This year the campus has it so that the computers will lock up if you don't log off so that things like this shouldn't happen. They may have to change it though so that it will lock up after a shorter time."

Bohm stated that she didn't know how someone was able to access her account, but that two possibilities have been suggested.

One speculates that a person interrupted the logoff process of the computer she was on after she left, because she failed to wait until the computer had completely logged her off.

Another possibility holds that the logoff process stalled in the middle of logging me off and they were able to get in that way," said Bohm.

Olson has also been outraged by the content of the message that was sent in Bohm's name.

He states, "I know that Lori would never write such disgusting and trashy materials to half the campus at 2:45 in the morning."

He adds, "This is also the biggest insult ever to reach this campus on issues such as religion, sex, and the role of women in our society."

Olson also challenges the true author of the email "to step up, and claim responsibility for his actions."

He adds, "This immature person obviously does not exemplify any qualities of true manhood or womanhood, and is desperately in need of counseling of some sort."

The message was removed from all email accounts recently by the Postmaster's office in response to Bohm's claim.

Helm the object of UWSP's other chancellor search

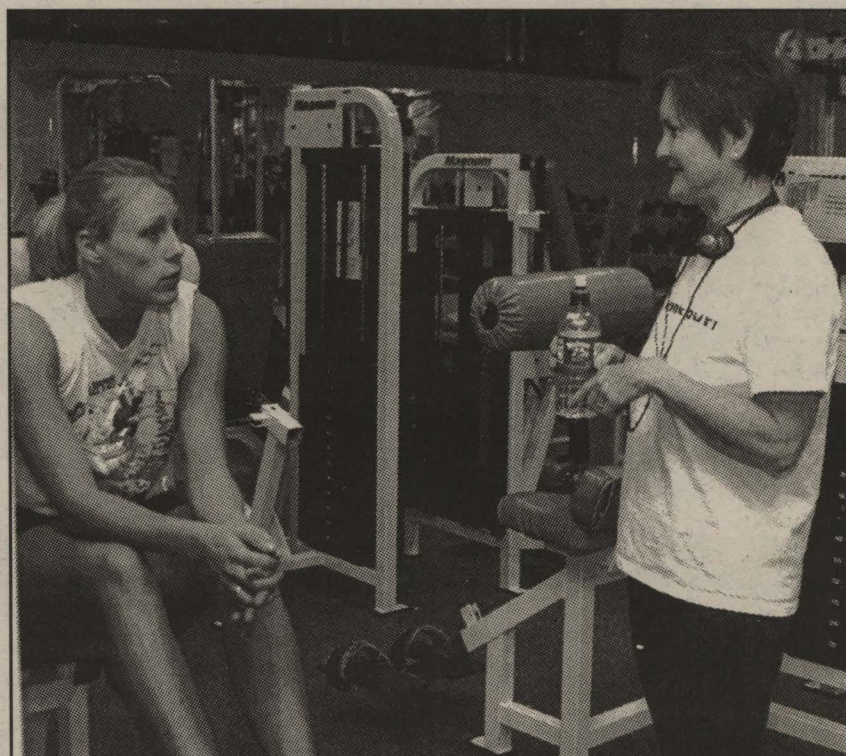


Photo courtesy of UWSP News Services

UWSP Chancellor Virginia Helm makes an appearance at the Health Enhancement Center as part of the "Where's Virginia?" contest, designed to generate student awareness of Helm's presence on campus.

Attention!!!



Candidates for Winter Commencement

Do you have questions about the December 13, 2003 Commencement program?
Have you visited the Commencement web page yet?

<http://www.uwsp.edu/special/commencement/>



- ◆ Return your RSVP cards (electronically or by mail)
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Questions? Contact University Relations at 346-3811

Musings from Mirman

Did you really expect me to go a full semester and leave out the president?

By Dan Mirman
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The December 1 issue of *Time* magazine offered an interesting picture on the cover. The picture provided a headshot of none other than the leader of our free nation, Mr. George W. Bush.

Only, the picture that appeared had two notable differences from most Bush pictures. This one had a black eye on the right and lipstick on the left side of Bush's head shot.

The title of the *Time* article was "The love him, hate him president." The article then went on to explain how Bush is polarizing America. There are no moderates when it comes to the president's critics. The left side feels that he has single-handedly brought our country into a tailspin and that his cowboy presence and unfair invasion of Iraq gives the wrong perception of America.

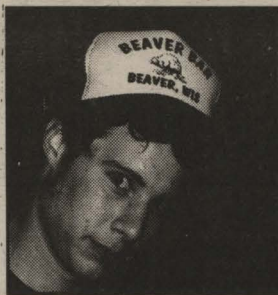
The right, however, would disagree with this sentiment. Most of these people feel that Bush is finally leading our country back into the moral right. His pro-Christian family values, as well as his support of anti-abortion and anti-gay marriage legislation have many people believing that his regime is saving our country.

Whatever side of Bush you believe is in power, credit has to be given for the man's savvy on the public relations front. More than any other president, Bush has shown mastery over the photo opportunity.

Earlier in the year he arrived at a press conference in a fighter plane. The fact that the conference was held on an aircraft carrier just off the coast of California is unimportant. Bush came out of the plane in full aviator gear, codpiece included, and appeared as the quintessential American hero.

Was it effective? Well, KB Toys is currently selling a Bush aviator action doll for \$39.99. According to the *Time* article, the doll set sales records on KB's website.

While the aviator move did draw criticism from some, the President's latest PR move was



almost criticism-proof. Bush spent Thanksgiving in Baghdad with 600 U.S. soldiers, handing out food and talking to the troops. Whether he did this from the goodness of his heart or if it was a stunt to gain support back in the U.S., the move was brilliant. How can you criticize a man for spending Thanksgiving with the troops instead of his family?

And the press absolutely loved it. Our president was on the front page of every major newspaper the next day, smiling broadly with the troops while wearing his army jacket. And judging from early results, the public appreciated the gesture as well. In a poll conducted by the National Annenberg Election Survey, Bush's job approval rating jumped five points, from 56 percent before Thanksgiving to 61 percent after the holiday weekend.

Bush has shown the ability to connect with average Americans. His visit to ground zero after 9/11 and his building of a little league field on the Whitehouse lawn are just a few examples of the president's PR genius.

However, all these great photo opportunities and public appearances provide a nice distraction for a one sided political agenda. Rarely do we read of Bush compromising and never will the man admit a mistake and that's scary.

By now most sides are tired of hearing about the WMDs, our reason for going to war. But the reason the issue won't die is because it's never been addressed. Bush has yet to give a clear explanation on where all the WMDs, our main reason for invading another country, went. Whether Iraq violated human rights is not the issue. The issue is why our administration lied about the main reason we went to war. Like the President or not, when our country invades Iraq and then constantly changes their reasoning, that sets a scary precedent. But the fact that nobody cares because our President looks good in an aviator suit is even scarier.

Dan Mirman is a Senior and Comm Major at UWSP. All letters and feedback to the Pointer can be sent to Pointer@uwsp.edu

Tenure denial of Brophy-Baermanns raises ire

The political science department recently came to a decision regarding the tenures of Bryan Brophy-Baermann and Michelle Brophy-Baermann. Only the three tenured professors of the political science department were responsible for deciding the Brophy-Baermann's tenure. Unfortunately, the 2-1 decision was not in favor of either of the professors.

These professors have two semesters to find employment elsewhere and can never be employed at Stevens Point again.

This was a surprising result to many students who have taken classes with them. One major question was, apparently, their teaching content. An appeals process has started, but its success may well depend on the support of the students.

After all, it is the student who feels the effects of their

teaching content.

Students can pressure the political science department to change, or at least reconsider their vote, by writing letters and by attending the reconsideration hearing. This hearing is a second vote by the professors, but it is public. The professors will have to explain their vote in front of an audience.

A movement has been started to unify the student voice. If you feel you have benefited from the teachings of Bryan or Michelle in any way, I urge you to contact the recently formed Organization for the Brophy-Baermanns.

This organization can direct you where to send your letters and will keep you updated on the appeals process. Contact Justin Gleicher at jglei104@uwsp.edu.

Brian Machon
UWSP Student

THE POINTER

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Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication for any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

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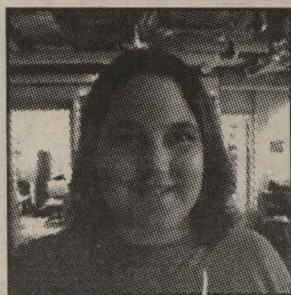
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Pointer Poll

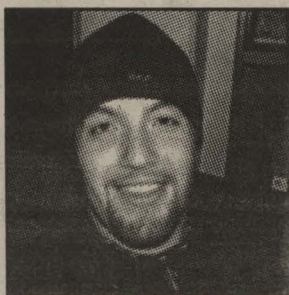
Photos by Liz Bolton

How do you deal with stress?



MaryEllen Grys, So. Communications

I work out in the fitness room in my dorm.



Dan Taufener, Sr. Communications

I like to go out with friends and drink beer.



Lyndsay Learman, So. Poli Sci

I play my guitar.



Susanna Schell, So. Undecided

I sleep.



Jayson Jung, Sr. Communications

I play video games or play with my new kittens



Aaron Arfstrom, Sr. Biology/Wildlife

Go have a \$5 Long Island at Partners.

Holiday gift giving on a sensible budget

Yes, one can give presents in spite of being a poor college student

By Alli Himle

FEATURES EDITOR

Holiday gift giving is in full swing and you do not need to look hard to recognize that. For me, that time is often characterized by the infamous day-after Thanksgiving sales. Every year I battle the crowd in search of the best deals -- going aisle to aisle, store to store, all to save a dollar or two. And yet, with the passing of each year, I find myself spending more and more money during the holidays. So, in order to aid myself and others in the turmoil of not having the funds to lavishly spend for those we love, I thought I would offer a few suggestions as to how to give without tapping into the ever-needed college fund.

First, it is important to set a budget, regardless of how many people you need to buy for this holiday season. Spending roughly the same amount on each person will make this process a great deal easier. More importantly, it is one thing to set a

budget; it is another to follow it. I strongly encourage sticking to your budget, for I would hate to see what would happen otherwise. For if you forgo the budget, at the very least, you will be spending a copious amount of money on gifts for those people that are really not all that significant to you.

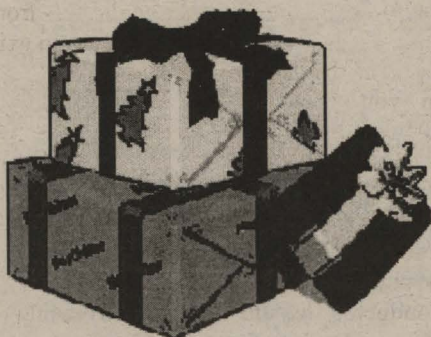
Secondly, as far as the college friends are concerned, you can never go wrong in exchanging names. Let's face it, we are all poor. Therefore, we all understand what it is like to live off of Easy Mac and ramen. No one really wants a number of pointless gifts that will, in the end, amount to a plethora of body lotion and picture frames. If you do decide to exchange names, have each person make out a short list of a few items that are reasonably priced that they would like. This

way you avoid getting those ridiculous gifts that you got in elementary school. Who remembers those wonderful lifesaver story books that were ever so popular? I

swear, if someone ever buys me another one of those . . . Well, I would suggest not doing so.

Lastly, and perhaps the point that I would like to emphasize the most, is you can never go wrong in giving handmade gifts.

Nothing excites me more than a gift that is homemade. The thought put into them truly outweighs the cost investment. For those relatives you never know what to buy, make them some holiday candy and wrap it in a hand painted towel or washcloth. Popsicle sticks are also very useful in making creative picture frames for your friends and family.



Otherwise, you can always create homemade cards or make coupon books for free massages, car washings, etc.

Whatever it is you decide to do, be creative. Try to match the gift to the personality of the person you are giving to. I can personally testify to the fact that loved ones (especially parents) are quite impressed when they open a homemade gift from their college son or daughter. To them, it signifies that in spite of the miles apart, and the fact that you are now on your own, you are still their kid at heart.

This holiday season, realize that gift giving is not about the amount of money you spend, or about the number of gifts you receive. The holidays are a time to feel good about giving to others, no matter how you choose to show others you care about them. Have fun, avoid extravagant spending, and most important, be creative. Hopefully, I have inspired your creative energy. You never know, the true gift may come in discovering the hidden talents within yourself.

"Dancing to the beat for little feet" for a good cause

Be sure to cut a rug at ACT's first ever dance marathon

By Amy Helgren

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Dancing to the beat for little feet" is ACT's slogan for the first-ever Dance Marathon, which is being held to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

The Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to helping children by raising funds for 170 children's hospitals across North America.

These hospitals provide the finest care, research and community outreach to help millions of children with diseases and injuries of every kind.

The Children's Miracle Network hospitals are there 24 hours a day to help children of every age and background to overcome every imaginable disease and injury -- from asthma and broken bones to



cancer, sickle-cell anemia, pediatric AIDS, muscular dystrophy and other serious injuries.

The money made from this dance marathon will go directly to the Children's Miracle Network, and will in turn help St. Michael's Hospital in Stevens Point with their neo-

natal unit, and to buy toys and other entertainment for sick children.

In order to dance in the dance marathon, you must raise \$50 by getting individuals to sponsor you. This money will in turn pay for the dance, and benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

The marathon is sponsored by ACT and Y108, and begins at 8 p.m. on Friday, February 6, and lasts until 8 a.m. Saturday morning. Registration begins one hour prior to the dance. Meals will be served, a trivia table will be set up and themed hours such as " '50s and '60s" hour, and "Bad Boy Band" hour will be interspersed throughout the night. Contact Missy Miller at ACT with any questions.



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The Legal Corner



A feature of the
Student Legal Society

Question:

What happens if our landlord finds out we have an extra person living in our house?

Answer:

It depends on whether or not there are any restrictions in the lease or in the law that would either violate the terms of the lease, or violate the law in some manner. For example, most leases specifically identify the number of tenants. If there are more than those specifically permitted under the lease, the landlord could give the tenants a five day notice to correct the lease violations. That extra tenant would have to move out within the five days; otherwise the landlord could file an eviction action in Small Claims Court and evict all the tenants. If the lease does not prohibit an extra tenant, but local regulations prohibit an extra tenant (the Building Inspection Department of the City of Stevens Point licenses student housing for a specific number of tenants for units of more than two unrelated persons), the City and/or the landlord could issue an order/notice for the extra student to move out. If that order/notice was not complied with, the landlord or the city could evict the extra tenant through Small Claims Court.

Have a legal question of your own? Stop by the Student Legal Services Office on the Second Floor of the UC (across from the Pointer Express) or call us at x4282.

How to survive the Christmas shopping season

All who shopped on Thanksgiving weekend, we salute you

By Geoff Fyfe
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

I doubt there are many times of the year that are more stressful and crazed than the Christmas shopping season. The second Thanksgiving is over, it kicks off. I feel bad for Thanksgiving. Once Halloween is over, do stores pay attention to Thanksgiving? No way, they just segue right into Christmas. Thanksgiving is over. After all, who cares about turkey when there's shopping to be done.

Those of you who actually shopped the weekend after Thanksgiving deserve a medal for bravery. Having grown up in Appleton next to the monument to consumerism that is the Fox River Mall, I know how insane the Thanksgiving weekend can be. Good luck finding a parking space on that day. If you do, you'll be locked in a Darwinian struggle of the fittest with three

other cars for that precious few square feet. And if you do find a parking space and manage to get inside, you'll have to face a veritable sea of humanity battling for the nearest holiday sale. Is it insanity? Yes. Does that ever stop anyone from shopping? No.

My advice is to always wait until after the Thanksgiving break to shop. In fact, skip the first weekend in December too, unless there's a sale that you really, really want to take advantage of. It's my personal experience that the middle of December is the least congested when it comes to shopping centers. That's not to say you won't face crowds, but at least you won't have to engage in a real life game of *Grand Theft Auto III* to get a parking spot.

And don't forget your lists. You always must know who you need to get presents for and what they want. Some of you may have lucked out and only need to

get a couple presents for your significant other or something. Others, like yours truly, have a myriad relatives to shop for. If you don't have a list, you run the risk of forgetting someone and that can cause for rather testy situations on Christmas Day. Do you want to have your little brother plotting an elaborate demise for you because you forgot to get him the latest Harry Potter merchandise? I think not. Bring the list or risk the wrath of loved ones.

I would also advise avoiding certain shopping areas if you can. Stay out of malls unless you absolutely have to. At the Fox River Mall, I typically do my shopping on the outlying stores, not the actual mall. At those stores, the prices are generally cheaper and there's actually space to move around and breathe. The mall itself, however, is a veritable death trap.

While you should wait until the middle of December to shop, don't put it off until the last few days before Christmas, or, God forbid, Christmas Eve itself. If you do that, you'll have to contend with every other schmuck who decided to put off his or her shopping until the last minute. With luck, the item someone really wants as a present will be out of stock everywhere and you'll have to go on a race across town to try and find it. The lesson is to not go shopping too early in the season or too late. Pace yourselves, people.

I also hope that you don't have to find the latest popular toy (the "It Toy" as I like to call it) for someone. If past crazes like the Cabbage Patch Kids, Tickle-Me Elmo and those damn Furbies have taught us anything, it's that people will turn into savage packs of wild animals to get that "special toy." In order to acquire the toy that will make them Parent, Sibling or Relative of the



Universe in some kid's eyes, some will bite, crawl, trample and riot to get it. If you have a relative or someone else who requests a very popular item, get it now. I mean right now. Don't be stuck a few days before Christmas fending off a pack of ravenous parents who are acting like the *28 Days Later* zombies in order to get possession of a Pokemon doll.

Yes, the Christmas shopping season is a stressful time. But just remember, with the right planning and strategy, you can pull it off with little stress or noticeable scars. Hey, it's worth it just to see the faces of your loved ones on Christmas Day when they open their gifts. You'll make it through the holiday season yet.

Submit to Barney Street

And get your literary work published

By Leigh-Ann
Balthazor
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

University Writers will be accepting submissions through Monday, Dec 8 for their 2003 edition of *Barney Street*.

Barney Street is UWSP's literary magazine, which includes works of poetry, prose and art. While anyone in the community may submit work, the magazine is compiled, edited and steered through the publishing process exclusively by a small group of UWSP students.

Barney Street, originally titled *Portage*, was first published in the 1970s. The title was changed in the early 1980s to commemorate the legendary Barney Street, a road that used to run down the center of campus. The College of Letters and Science and the Fine Arts Center now reside in its place, leaving the literary *Barney Street* the job of

bringing together those who write and those who make art.

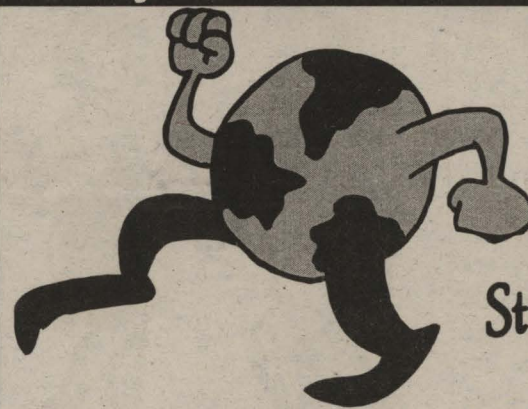
Last year, the magazine began the process of renovation, beginning first by increasing campus awareness through a massive ad campaign that succeeded in doubling submissions. This year, the group plans to continue spreading the word with posters and SMOD postings, but adds a modern twist.

"We are opening a website accepting submissions by email for the first time. We will be publishing last year's magazine on the web and offering a first hand look at writing and publishing on the website," Erica Ringelspauh, *Barney Street* president, said.

Students can contact *Barney Street* at barneyst@uwsp.edu.

The website will soon be up and running at www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/univriters/barney_street.htm.

Study Abroad Now! Study Abroad Now!



Students, we need your help!

There will be Prizes for your help! Drawing for T-shirts, hats, tote bags, etc. Cool Inter'l Stuff!

Inter'l Programs at UWSP plans on expanding its offerings. They want to serve you even better. All you need do is answer a few questions. Cut out this ad, give us your answers and drop the page in the box by the door in 108 Collins Classroom Center by December 15, 2003.

- 1.) If you could study abroad anywhere in the world where would it be? Name up to three locations:
- 2.) (Rate these 1, 2, 3, in order of preference)
Would you want to go for a semester? ____
Over the winter break? ____
During the Summer? ____
- 3.) What is stopping you from studying abroad with UWSP, if applicable?

Name: _____
E-Mail: _____



www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad

Craving for your story idea to be published by the end of the semester?

Well, here is your last chance to be heard!

Email Alli Himle
ahiml618@uwsp.edu

Women garner close win

By Tony Bastien
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP women's hockey team played only one game in the past two weeks, but made the single game against Augsburg College in Minneapolis count. They skated past the Auggies by the final of 2-1 on the Tuesday before the Thanksgiving break.

women's hockey

After a scoreless first period, Ann Ninnemann scored at the 12:55 mark to put the Pointers on top. Responding quickly to the call were the Auggies, though, scoring a power play goal just 1:19 after the Ninnemann goal to tie it at one apiece.

Special teams play has been a sore spot through the first six games for the women and again the penalty kill was

unable to hold the lead. On the year, the Pointers are allowing a power play goal 22.2% of the time, clearly there is room for improvement.

Fortunately for UWSP, Pam Stohr scored her second career game-winning goal in the third period at 11:53. The rest was left up to the defense and young goalie Amy Statz. Statz has been solid in her first year, compiling a 4-1-1 record with a 1.82 goals

against average in her first six games.

After spending the majority of the early season on the road (five of six games), the Pointers come home to the Ice Hawk Arena for the next two weekends, including this weekend against conference foe Lake Forest. Both games begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.



Stohr

Men skaters prepare for conference season

By Jana Jurkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP men's hockey team is looking for their strong non-conference start to carry over as they open conference play this weekend.

men's hockey

The team had the weekend off for Thanksgiving, but took on the University of St. Thomas in their final game against MIAC teams. Senior goaltender Ryan Scott led the Pointers, stopping 21 of 22 shots.

"The St. Thomas game was a battle of the goaltenders. Both teams were playing their systems great and with top notch goaltending from both teams it became a battle," said Scott.

Junior Mike Brolsma opened up the scoring 56 seconds into the second period to give the Pointers a 1-0 lead. The Pointers maintained the lead until just before the ten-minute mark of the third period when St. Thomas put their one and only goal past Scott. Both teams tried desperately for the go-ahead goal, but both goalies stood their ground and didn't let

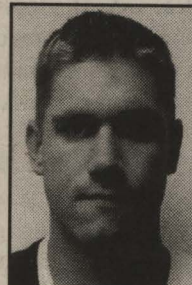
anything else slip by them.

The St. Thomas game gave the Pointers added confidence in their defensive play as they get set to roll into conference games. "Defensively we looked a lot better. STU was really good at moving the puck and we shut them down, for the most part, which say some good things for our defensive zone," remarked Brolsma.

This weekend will mark the start of NCHA play for the hockey team. After opening up 6-3-1 in non-conference games, going 5-1-1 against the MIAC teams, the Pointers are pleased with their start.

"Our success in the league will come from hard work and everybody knowing the d-zone and neutral zone systems. The team has been working hard on the ice and off the ice. This is what led to our success facing MIAC schools this season," said Scott on the beginning of the season.

The Pointers will be on the road at UW-River Falls and UW-Stout this weekend before returning home the following Saturday.



Scott

Write for the Pointer???

Learn how by emailing cmand608@uwsp.edu



Advent at Newman

Listen to the voice of one crying out from the wilderness

The Sundays of Advent

5 PM Saturday
10:15 AM Sunday
6 PM Sunday

St. Joseph Convent Chapel
1300 Maria Drive, just west of K-mart

Late-Night Mass

9 PM, Newman Center Next to Pray-Sims

Pray the Rosary

Noon Thursday, Newman Center

Holy Day Mass

6 PM 8 Dec., Newman Center

Reconciliation

6:30 PM 10 Dec., Convent Chapel

www.NEWMANuwsp.org
The Roman Catholic Parish at UWSP

Thunderous takedown

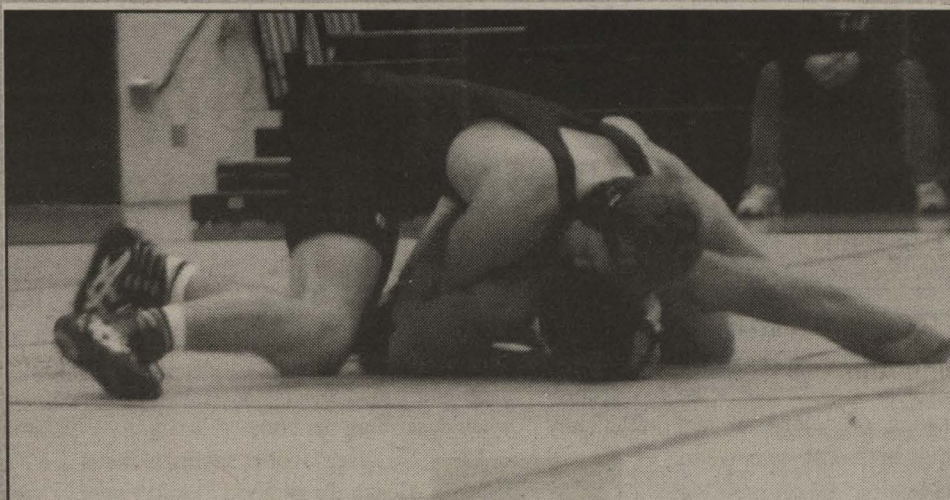


Photo by Shea Rollins

UWSP sophomore Joel Burdick attempts to pin Lakeland's Noe DeLeon during Tuesday's wrestling meet in the Quandt gymnasium. Burdick won the match 13-1, helping his team take the meet 40-3.

Bruce takes top academic honor

By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

UWSP soccer standout Jenny Bruce added to her already impressive Pointer career resume by taking home the prestigious Academic All-American Player of the Year. Bruce still needs time to get used to the idea of being the recipient of such an award.

soccer

"I don't know that I can really put it into words because I haven't had much time to really sit down and think about everything. I will say though, that when Sheila [Miech] told me, it was a bit surreal because we were still discussing the all-conference selections. I was also very hon-

ored to be selected among the nation's top, considering the academic and athletic levels of all the other athletes."

A three time Academic All-American selection, Bruce is the first WIAC athlete to receive this honor in any sport. The award winner, selected by the college sports information directors of America, is chosen from a large pool of NAIA, Division II, and Division III athletes.

Bruce, who carries an impressive 3.94 grade point average in sociology, credits her family and friends for her success both on the field and in the class-



Bruce

"I think the first thing that people should know is that you can't do it all by yourself. I have a lot of support over the years from friends and coaches, but no one like my parents. When I was growing up, my parents never let my brother or I settle for anything less than our best effort," said Bruce. "It takes a lot of hard work and a lot of Friday nights spent doing homework. My roommate still yells at me for studying for hours for a test."

During her career at UWSP the Pointer soccer team posted an impressive 73-12-5 record.

Swimmers continue success at relays

By Jon Henseler
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP women's and men's swimming and diving teams continued their success over the Thanksgiving weekend, both placing well at the WIAC Relays.

swimming & diving

The women's team placed second out of six

teams and the men's team placed first out of six teams.

Individually the men's team placed first in the 400 yard medley with a meet time of 3:34.98s. They also took first in the 300 yard butterfly relay, as well first in the 300 yard individual medley. They had a time of 2:39.1 in the

See Swimming, page 9

Women roll to first conference win

Huge first half keys easy victory

By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The UW-Stevens Point women's basketball team got their conference season off to a red hot start as they hosted UW-River Falls on Tuesday night in what was the conference opener for both teams, coasting to an easy 94-50 win.

women's basketball

The Pointers came out of the chute fast and hard and never looked back in an all-around dominating performance. UWSP scored the first eleven points of the game and continued strong, building a 35-9 lead midway through the first half. As if that wasn't enough, Point then went on a 21-0 run to post a 56-9 lead near the end of the half.

Junior Amanda Nechuta set the tone for the Pointers in the first half, as she scored 18 of her team high 24 points.

When asked about the play of her forward, Head Coach Shirley Egner had nothing but positives, saying "What can I say about Nechuta? She is a tremendous athlete, she comes ready to play every game. She is so explosive. Last night she had 24 points, six rebounds, two assists, a block, a steal and a turnover in 21 minutes. Now that is a productive night. She is getting better at reading defenses, making free throws and committing fewer fouls."

The Pointers didn't let up in the second half, as if a 57-14 halftime lead wasn't enough, to take an incredible 70-20 lead barely four minutes into the second period. From there the Pointers coasted the rest of the way.

Coach Egner seemed especially impressed with the team's defense, which contained the Falcons top three scorers and held the team to under 30% shooting for the game.

"Our defense is our best offense. We shut down their top three scorers. Effle was averaging

18.7 and we held her to four points; Olson was averaging 13.3 and we held her to three points; Sickels was averaging 14.0 and we held her to nine points. We were able to score easy baskets in transition, which is what we want to do. Our sets worked well too when they played us man to man. Being able to force 37 turnovers without applying full court pressure says a lot about our half court D. We put on good ball pressure and we get into the gaps."

Besides Nechuta's big night, the Pointers had four other players in double figures. Senior Andrea Kraemer added 13 points; junior Amy Scott had 12, while sophomore Cassandra Schultz and freshman Natalie Lechault each chipped in 11. Schultz also distributed the ball well, tallying eight assists on the night.

With the win, the Pointers stay undefeated at 5-0. This Saturday the Pointers travel to Ripon College and on Tuesday head to Menomonie to take conference rival UW-Stout.



Photo by Liz Bolton

Amy Scott takes an inside jumper for two of her ten points in the Pointer's 94-50 victory Tuesday over River Falls.

Juniors on the Spot Fun-loving Nechuta ready for spotlight

By Dan Mirman
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

How do you begin discussing Amanda Nechuta? The junior forward for the women's basketball team has accomplished a ridiculous amount athletically during her first two years in school.

On the basketball court she performed a key role in a national title her freshman season. Then last year she took the WIAC conference scoring title as a sophomore. This year she was named a second team pre-season all-American by D3hoops.com.

The hoops accolades are impressive, but Nechuta has also found time for the shot-put. She was the WIAC outdoor champion in the shot-put her first two years, and she finished sixth nationally last season. Nechuta would have been the indoor champion as well, but that season interferes with basketball. However, during a bye her freshman season she qualified for nationals at one meet. She was unable to attend nationals due to her participation in the national title run with the basketball team.

Yes, all these accolades tell you that

Nechuta is a superstar. But they don't reveal her personality as a self-confessed goofball. Goofball is the word Nechuta uses, coach Shirley Egner uses, and teammate and roommate Diane Hawkins uses when describing her style.



Nechuta

"Her favorite saying to me is, 'Coach it's all good,'" said Egner. "When they're horsing around and having a great time and I give that look that it's time to get serious, Nechuta's always the first to pipe up and say it's all good."

It's all good comes off as Nechuta's personal mantra. She even owns a t-shirt with that phrase spelled out. It's all part of a mentality where Nechuta tries not to take herself too seriously. In fact, she's constantly finding ways to make her teammates laugh.

Hawkins remembers one particular Nechuta line. "One saying that stands out is when sometimes girls on the team miss their friends from back home. Huta will ask 'Why do you need any other friends?' She'll say they have 14 best friends right here on the team, so why do they need anymore."

Four years ago it seemed unlikely that

Nechuta would even consider Stevens Point. She was getting looks from Division I schools in both basketball and track. But after visiting a few larger schools, she made up her mind to go somewhere a little smaller.

"The summer going into my senior year I was at the AAU stuff and I saw the politics of Division I," said Nechuta. "I didn't want to go to a school and have them own me. At Point, I knew a bunch of girls on the team and it seemed like I was going into a program that was similar to my high school. Everyone seemed to get along and it was a family atmosphere. It was kind of comforting coming from a smaller town."

When Nechuta decided to come to UWSP, Coach Egner considered it a major coup for her program. What made Nechuta's decision even bigger for Egner was that she considered the Mosinee native a lost cause earlier in the year.

"Realistically did I think we had a shot at her? No," said Egner. "We really thought after her junior year of state track and field that there was no way we would get her. But she came for a campus visit in October and we were just elated when she decided to come to Point."

This season even greater things are

expected for Nechuta, and she has not disappointed. Through the first five games she has topped 20 points three times and was named the MVP of the Pointer tip-off classic.

How good can Nechuta become? In the pre-season press conference, Egner said that she is the best player in the WIAC. Some would see that statement as hubris, but Egner simply sees it as fact.

"Everybody in the league knew who was getting the ball when we needed to score and they still couldn't stop her. When she's scoring 16, 20, whatever points a game while she's double-teamed, she's the best player in our league."

All this talk of potential and greatness may make it difficult for some players to try to keep their heads on straight. But staying grounded and loose has never been a problem for Nechuta and with her perspective it's easy to see why.

"There's always a lot of things going on, on and off the court. You got school, you got a couple jobs. If I let that bother me it would totally affect my game. So no matter what, it's all good."

When you have Nechuta's talent and sense of humor, there's little doubt that this season will stay "all good."

Jakusz to succeed Page as UWSP tennis coach

By Amber Wilkowski
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

A new UWSP women's tennis head coach has been hired to lead the team next season.

tennis

Karlyn Jakusz, the 2003 season assistant tennis coach, was hired by the UWSP athletic department to take over as the 2004 head coach.

"It was her experience as an assistant coach, her energy, her rec-

ommendations, and the tennis team being so strong in her corner that made her standout over the other candidates," O'Brien said.

Nancy Page, who is retiring after spring semester, asked Jakusz to be the assistant coach in hopes that she would take over her position after she left.

"She is very interested in the job," Page said. "She has a solid knowledge of tennis. She is

a detail person, so she will attend to all of the busy work a coach must do."



Jakusz

Present players from the tennis team also put up a strong campaign in support of Jakusz. Six players had a meeting with O'Brien to help convince him Jakusz should get the position.

"Karlyn cares a lot about us," said Tiffany Serpico, junior captain of the tennis team. "She already has tons of

ideas on how we can improve next season and be more competitive in conference."

One of the main responsibilities Jakusz will be faced with is bringing one of only two teams at UWSP with a non-winning record up to a more competitive level.

"Of all the sports on campus only two have non-winning records, volleyball and tennis," Jakusz said. "The athletic department wants that to change."

Jakusz hopes to lead the team to a conference championship. She

would also like to see the team play more matches and become involved in the community.

"I think the team needs to be more involved with community activities like tennis camps and charity events to promote UWSP tennis," Jakusz said.

"With Karlyn as head coach we will be stronger all-around players," said Kim Goron, a junior UWSP tennis player. "I know that it will result in a better conference record and a better team presence on campus and in the community."

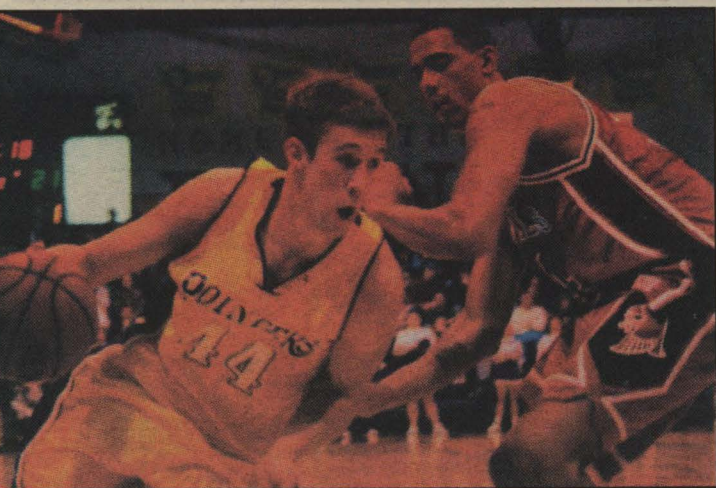


Photo by Patricia Larson

Jason Kalsow drives around Rich Melzer in Wednesday night's game.

A game of defensive excellence

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

Three field goals in 14 attempts. Seven points. Six rebounds.

men's basketball

Hardly the stat line for an NBA hopeful. But this horrid line is what Eric Maus and the UWSP Pointers held WIAC pre-season Player of the Year Rich Melzer to in Wednesday night's 56-38 Pointer win.

Maus, a junior center, shut down the highly-touted Melzer and limited the senior star to just seven points. Melzer entered the game averaging 29.8 points per game, but had just four first half points and three points in the second half.

"Eric (Maus) did such an excellent job, basically one-on-one, that we didn't have to go to our trap play, which opened up other options," said Head Coach Jack Bennett.

In the battle of pre-season all-star post players, UWSP's Jason Kalsow easily got the better of the matchup, putting in 17 points while grabbing 14 rebounds.

It was Maus, though, who was the most valuable player on this night. The Green Bay native

had 10 points while grabbing 5 rebounds, in what Bennett termed as the junior's best performance as a Pointer.



Maus

"Eric is such a smart, instinctive player," said Bennett. "He was capable of shutting down probably the most explosive player in the conference."

The Pointer's stingy defense shut down a River Falls offense that came into the game averaging 81.2 points per game, and was favored to win the WIAC coming into the season.

"We've had stretches in other games where we played great defense in the past, but never the whole game like this," said Bennett. "This game was special."

The win improves UWSP to 1-0 in the WIAC and 4-0 overall.

Runners make school history

By Tony Bastien
SPORTS REPORTER

While many individuals in the state of Wisconsin were in the woods chasing their trophy bucks, the Stevens Point men's and women's cross country teams were chasing history in Hanover, Indiana. At the NCAA Division III championships, both squads placed higher than any other teams at UWSP ever had.

cross country

The men were more of the surprise than the women's team, placing second in the nation behind top-ranked Calvin. The Pointers were ranked fourth going into the weekend behind Calvin, UW-Oshkosh, and North Central. Stevens Point was able to climb past two of the three teams ranked ahead of them on the very warm November day, but fell short against a Calvin squad that was clicking.

The national champion Calvin had their top five runners all in the top 16 of the 215 in competition of which nine weren't even able to finish the course. Oshkosh was the biggest disappointment. The Titans had been ranked among the top teams all season long and fell all the way to ninth.

Familiar faces for the men lead the way for UWSP. Junior Mark LaLonde was the top finisher in 12th overall, eighth among DIII runners, with senior team



Photo by Rick Witt

Junior Mark LaLonde and senior Curt Johnson finished 12th and 18th, respectively, to give their team a second place finish.

leader Curt Johnson, hampered by a knee injury, right on his heels in 18th overall and 12th in DIII. Both LaLonde and Johnson received All-American honors for their performances. Rounding out the field were: Adam Bucholz (40 overall, 26 DIII), Andy Bednarek (51, 37), James Levash (60, 45), Brad Wick (122, 87) and Jake Rhyner (183, 139). The second place finish eclipsed their prior high of third in 1996.

As for the women, they were third in the nation going into the weekend and left Indiana with the third place hardware. Facing the same warm temperatures and rugged course as the men, the women matched the 1981 Pointer team which also finished third at the national meet for the highest in school history. Top ranked

Middlebury won the championship finishing ahead of fourth ranked Trinity.

Junior Leah Herlache and sophomore Jenna Mitchler finished 1-2 for UWSP and 19th and 20th respectively among Division III runners. Closely following them to the line was sophomore Teresa Stanley in 27th. The other finishers for Pointer were: Megan Craig 61st, Ashleigh Potuznik 66th, Isabelle Delannay 104th and Kara Vosters 135th.

Both UWSP cross country teams had phenomenal years that ended up not necessarily as ideally as they could have, that being a national championship, but as expected and even exceeded both coach Witt's and Hill's expectations going into the weekend.

Swimming

from page 9

butterfly and a time of 2:39.1 in the individual medley. Also of note was the men finishing in second in the 800 yard freestyle relay, with a combined time of 7:13.17.

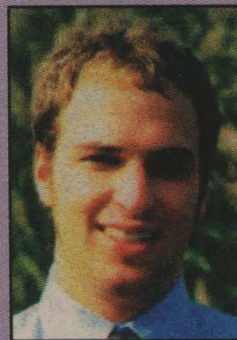
The women placed second to UW LaCrosse in every event with the exception of the 300 yard individual medley relay in

which they placed third to UW LaCrosse and UW Eau-Claire.

Both the Pointer women's and men's teams will be in action this week when they travel to Wheaton for the Wheaton Invitational on December 5-6.

The Pointers do not return home until January 23-24 for the Get to the Point Invitational.

SENIOR ON THE SPOT NEAL KRAJNİK - BASKETBALL



Krajnik

Career Highlights

- Member of three conference championship teams
- Receiving team's Kurt Hoermann passion award twice
- Led league in assists in 2001-2002 and in steals in 2002-2003
- Named top male freshman in a team sport in 2001

Major - Spanish and Communications

Hometown - Manitowoc, Wis.

Nickname - "Belly" or "OMK"

What are your plans after graduation? - To begin the process of becoming a big time spanish speaking movie critic.

Do you plan on playing basketball after graduation? - I might play a game of horse every now and again.

What is your favorite aspect of basketball? - The different rushes you get—like before tipoff, or when we need to score a basket, etc...

Most embarrassing moment - Once, while I was on my way to check in at the scorer's table, the ref was making a foul call near the bench and basically backhanded me to the floor. I got a bloody nose and a spot back on the bench.

If you could be anyone for a day, who would you choose? - Brett Favre—or maybe Steve Buccemi, that's a tough one.

What CD is in your stereo right now? - Jon Spencer Blues Explosion - Plastic Fang

If you could take anyone on a dream date, who would it be, and where would you go? - I would take Brandi from Joe Dirt camping down south.

What will you remember most about playing basketball at UWSP? - Hangin' with the guys, and the roadtrips.

Do you have any parting words for the underclassmen? - "Chance favors the prepared mind." -Louis Pasteur & Steven Segal

Clark Place

1009 Clark Street

Mud Angels Blues and Rock

Saturday, December 6th

\$5.00 Admission or \$3.00 w/Student ID

Ladies FREE!!

Show starts at 8pm

Get your tickets early

343-1530



THE BACK PAGE



The view from the Rowdy Crowd

The time has come for the REAL games!

By The Rowdy Crowd
SPORTS CONTRIBUTORS

Welcome back everyone, swallow that turkey and get off yer arse, cause' the real hockey games start now! NCHA conference games start this weekend with Point playing at fifth-ranked UW-River Falls on Friday and UW-Stout on Saturday. It'll be time to see which teams are for real and who's just a bunch of chumpzillas. Now here's this weeks article as submitted by Rowdy Crowd member Caveman.

For the weekend of November 21-23, I decided to support the team and travel to see them play. Seven hours and 480 miles later, I arrived in Moorhead, Minn. Almost four years to the day earlier, I made the same trip, that time they played to a nice and clean 5-3 victory.

This time they got the W, but it was far from clean or nice. Lots of penalties and very sloppy play, especially from the D, kept the Cobbers alive into the third. Point scored twice, 40 seconds apart, early in the last period to suck any life out of the Concordia team.

Concordia had to be the roughest bunch of hacks I've seen, outside St. Norbert College. Lots of goons on the team, which is surprising for a MIAC team. Big, slow, and couldn't hit is a good description of them. If we weren't so sloppy, the score would have been 10-1.

After a good rest at the Super 8 in Moorhead, I headed toward the Twin Cities. By the way, if you ever head up that way, just to warn you it's flatter and more boring than Iowa. Anyway, after wandering the Mall of America for two hours and eating at Hooters, I drove (in very slow traffic due to poor conditions) to Augsburg College. Thinking the rink was in the bubble dome, I found I had wandered into a soccer game. I thought it best not to practice my hooligan cheers there (Olé?) and wandered back out into the snow to find the ice rink right in front of me.

Anyway, Point must have gotten a good night's sleep too, because they came out and manhandled the Augsburg team. After swapping goals early, (The Auggies' goal came on a very poor attempt to clear the zone) the Dawgs took control and scored three more goals in the period. With two goals scored by Point early in the second the Auggies looked dead in the water. I was ready to sit down after 25 minutes of hockey! Yes, Augsburg had some nice scoring opportunities, but Ted Eastman kept them out of the back of the net with a few nice "stack the pads" saves.

Point had one more game before Thanksgiving break, Wednesday night against St. Thomas. This would be Point's last MIAC opponent of the regular season and last game before going into NCHA conference play. 582 is a nice attendance number for the day before Thanksgiving, so thank you to those who showed up. Even though the game was played to a 1-1 tie, the fans got to see a Point team that was well improved from the start of the season. Playing a lot harder and cleaner, the team seems to be gelling at the right time—going into conference play. Well I sure am ready for the rest of the hockey season, are you?



The Man's Take

Good riddance, Richie

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

December 1, 2003—a day that will be remembered by the Milwaukee Brewer faithful. This was the day that the cash-strapped Brewers unloaded their only legitimate star—first-base slugger Richie Sexson—on the Arizona Diamondbacks.

I, for one, won't miss the big guy.

Now before you think I'm totally off-center, hear me out. Sure, Richie was a productive player in Milwaukee, but he wasn't someone that could put the team on his shoulders and lead them out of the central division cellar.

Many of Sexson's numerous tape-measure homers were in garbage time; either those rare games where the Brewers were up by a lot, or much more commonly, down by a lot. He seemed to have an inability to deliver in potential game-turning situations. In fact, as the season went on last summer, I turned to calling Sexson "Mr. Anti-clutch" due to his propensity for either striking out or popping up in those situations.

Looking at the return the Brewers got back for Sexson, I find it hard to complain. Heck, the Diamondbacks, only three years removed from a world championship themselves, pretty much gave Milwaukee a whole new team.

In Lyle Overbay, the Brewers get a 26-year old minor-

league phenom who, while won't nearly put up Sexson power numbers, will have a better average and strike out much less. He is also an inexpensive stop-gap until The Prince (Cecil's son) hits the town.

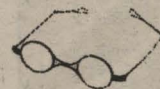
Craig Counsell, while up in years and in salary, will provide a steady influence in the clubhouse, and be a great mentor for young phenom J.J. Hardy. Another plus—Counsell, originally from the Milwaukee area, actually wants to be here.

Talented Junior Spivey gives the team either a very talented former all-star infielder, or great trade leverage to acquire a decent corner outfielder. Who knows, Spivey may even have the athleticism to move to the outfield himself, solving a huge Brewer need.

Chad Moeller is the young, established catcher that the Brewers haven't had since B.J. Surhoff bolted for Baltimore in the mid-90s. He may be the key to the deal.

In Jorge de la Rosa and Chris Capuano, the Brewers picked up a couple of young, hard-throwing lefties to add to their highly-touted minor-league system.

So, Brewer fans, all is not lost. We basically picked up a boon for a strikeout machine who hit a few homers but was probably going to bolt Milwaukee next year anyway. For once, the Brewers did the right thing. Go figure.



The way I see it...

The greatest pro sport question

By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Hello, sports fans. This week I've decided to offer my opinion of the greatest pro sport in America. I heard many arguments for Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, NASCAR and the National Football League, but as far as I'm concerned, one stands head and shoulders above the rest. We'll get to that later.

First, I'll talk about Major League Baseball. Baseball has a tradition that's second to none. It seems like everyone grows up with a few fond baseball memories, whether it was attending the games of your local minor league team or having your first hotdog at good old County Stadium. We grow up with baseball in our blood.

Unfortunately, the best thing about baseball is its past. The professional game in its current state leaves something to be desired. Every few years there seems to be a threat of a strike. Then there's the massive salary differences between the teams. While the Brewers have to get rid of their most marketable player, Ritchie Sexson, the Yankees year after year go out and get the best team money can buy. You add all that onto the MLB's ridiculous steroid policy and all you've got left is a mess.

The NBA enjoyed a golden age in the 80s and 90s with Magic Johnson, Larry Bird and Michael Jordan. But since then, there hasn't been much to cheer about. Nobody has really stepped up to

assume the throne. Kobe Bryant looked to be stepping up, but his future is in question after his alleged indiscretions this summer.

And don't talk to me about Shaq. The players I mentioned earlier were all great basketball players. Shaq is dominant because he's bigger and stronger than everyone else. Allen Iverson is good, but I have a hard time giving props for any player who jacks up 35-40 shots a game. There's also T-Mac (Tracy McGrady), but recently he's been complaining about the zone defense because now he can't isolate on anybody. I've got a little advice for you T-Mac—learn the jump-shot.

I've also heard some people talk about the wonders of NASCAR. Give me a break! I know these guys are athletes and I respect them for that, but the bottom line is the car does most of the work.

And finally, the winner is: the NFL. The only negatives about this sport are the over-marketing and a steroid problem that's probably more prevalent than people realize. I know some people think parity is a bad thing but it also is what makes the NFL great. What other sport can say that all the league's teams have a legitimate shot to win every week?

I know this first hand being a Bears fan. After a 1-5 start the Bears are now 5-7 and still have a shot at the NFC North title. Will they win it? Probably not...but stranger things have happened in this league. That's enough to keep me watching.

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Passing hunting on to future generations

By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

"Take it! Take it!" I whispered, as I crouched behind Kyle, my 13 year old cousin. His iron sighted .243 seemed to shake uncontrollably as a huge doe stood alert no more than 20 yards away. My heart was beating erratically, and I could only imagine what he was feeling. The snow had covered the limbs of the trees, making it difficult to see, but the doe presented a perfect shot.

I waited patiently for his rifle to crack the silence. If he didn't shoot soon the deer would bolt into the snow covered timber. Suddenly, the doe scurried away just as soon as it appeared. "What happened?" I asked. "I couldn't get the safety off," Kyle whispered. I couldn't help but to smile at his reply. The same experience had happened to me ten years earlier, and ironically it was in the exact same spot.

Although he didn't get to bag his first, deer it was a hunt that he will never forget. It was definitely a learning experience for both of us. The rest of the hunting party assured Kyle that it happens to everyone. On that same morning I had missed a nice eighth pointer at only 150 yards away--or maybe it was 100 yards. Whatever the yardage was, it was a clean miss.

In my first year of hunting I harvested a button buck. The following year I harvested a fine four pointer. It took at least five misses to get one, but I eventually got the hang of it. My first buck is still notched firmly on my wall-- hunters never forget their first deer.

Since those days I have begun to let the smaller bucks go. This year I passed on four smaller bucks opening day. This not only ensures the quality of deer for the next year, but it offers a better opportunity for younger hunters to bag a good buck.

On the following day snow covered every corner of the woods. It was the perfect opportunity to glass a few

of the cornrows that were located around my uncle's property. As I snuck quietly around the perimeter of the cornfield, I spotted a large clump of brown near the center of the cornfield. A closer look with my binoculars revealed that it was a nice six pointer. This would be the perfect opportunity for one of my cousins to get their first buck.

Dusk was beginning to take over the day, so I knew I had to act quickly. As luck would have it, my uncle Del and his son Tyler were coming out to hunt for the evening. Tyler was eager to take a buck with his gun. The only thing he had to do was make the shot count.

However, the situation was not going to be easy. The buck was bedded more than 100 yards away and only the head and neck of the deer were visible. As the father and son team chambered rounds of ammo, I promptly carved a shooting stick to steady Tyler's gun. Together we nearly crawled to where the buck was bedded and prepared for the next step. My uncle's face seemed to show a nervous excitement, and mine was no different. Tyler, on the other hand, was as cool as the freshly fallen snow.

The wind was perfect as Tyler steadied his gun. Del



Practicing with the BB gun is the first step in passing on the hunting tradition to my younger nephew. Photo submitted by author

calmly whispered where to shoot and Tyler let the bullet fly. At that instant the buck seemed to disappear into the cornfield. For a minute it appeared that the buck had fled the cornfield. Del traversed the corn to see where the buck went, while Tyler and I waited for the buck to move. Thankfully the buck hadn't moved an inch; Tyler made a perfect shot.

Overall, it was a successful hunting season for most of my hunting party. It was a great year for all of the young hunters, regardless if they shot anything or not. Everyone has come home with a memory that will stick with them forever. Participating with the younger generation as they continue the tradition of hunting is always a worthwhile endeavor.



Wild matters

Hunting a ghost in my mind: Year one.

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
OUTDOORS EDITOR

The great state of Wisconsin has a special place in my heart. While I have spent the majority of the past 22 years fishing Wisconsin's waters, I decided to change gears and spend the Thanksgiving week (Deer Hunting Week in Wisconsinese) searching for whitetail deer with a bolt-action rifle.

Most folks prefer to hunt private land that is plentiful in game and lacking in FIBs, drunken lunatics and poor people. The aforementioned unfortunate souls, myself included, have the pleasure of exploring Wisconsin's vast public lands in search of a solitude that never comes. During deer hunting season, the public lands of Wisconsin get worked like a Billy Joel CD on the Friendly Bar jukebox. Owch-cha-cha!

So being a landless peasant, I traveled up north on Friday night with my buddy and his dad to the realms of the Nicolet Forest. After getting to know the guys at deer camp over a few hands of sheephead and some oat sodas, I hit the hay around five a.m. Not surprisingly, I wasn't in my blind come sunrise. Around ten I finally dragged my ass out to the woods where I sat in the snow, waited and looked for a ghost in the swaying trees.

Day two held more promise. We beat the sun out of bed on Sunday and snuck out to a new blind in the pines. There I sat, eating Pop Tarts, waiting and freezing my ass off in the rain. The warm chili and Packers victory later that day kept my hopes up.

Day three rolled around with the hope of driving a big one out of the thickets. After crossing an icy log across the Oconto River, we marched through the woods in a weaving formation. While I did get a

great workout, the sitters saw no

deer, and in the end I found myself crossing a new, smaller ice-log to get back to the truck.

These patterns continued, with a break for Thanksgiving. Sitting, stalking, waiting and looking. But the ghost did not show itself to me. Only owls, mice, crows and squirrels dwelled in these public lands. I've heard it said that persistence wins out though, so that next Saturday morning, day six, I was back out in a new stand... at about 11. My persistent

" I heard a noise off to my right, which sent my heart racing and my eyes into an eagle-esque zoom. "

love for the northwoods nightlife affected my hunting once again.

And so I had one last shot for a deer on day seven. I was in my original blind on top of the ridge before sunrise,

where for the first time all week, doubt crept into my mind. I began to think about the article I would write on failure and determination and lack of real will. Right about that moment I heard a noise off to my right, which sent my heart racing and my eyes into an eagle-esque zoom. But nothing came as I sat and waited with anticipation. The ghost had passed me by. I managed to go a full week without spotting one live deer.

On the ride home, I narrowly missed five deer with my Mazda.

My first year of deer hunting was a failure in hunting deer, but in every other aspect, it was a success. Deer camp was everything I had expected, and the folks up there made it worth all the sitting and waiting for that mysterious ghost in the cold swaying woods. My thanks goes out to the Hedmans and my good buddy Kennedy for getting me started. Now I'll keep sitting and waiting, knowing that it is just a matter of time before a ghost comes haunting my way.



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- 2.
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DNR calls '03 gun season a success

By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hunters registered 304,538 deer after the nine day gun season closed last Sunday. The numbers have risen slightly from the previous season when hunters registered 277,775 deer in 2002 and 298,266 in 2001.

"We're glad to see that even after what first appeared to be a sluggish opener, hunters prevailed and had a good harvest," said Michelle Windsor, big game ecologist for the DNR.

The DNR is also encouraging people to take advantage of the other hunting opportunities that will take place throughout much of December. The muzzle-loader gun deer season opened Dec. 1 and will close Dec. 10. Late season bow opened as well on Dec. 1 and runs through Jan. 3. Another late Zone T antlerless deer hunt will also take place in several management units south of Hwy. 8.

Depending on where you hunted last week, you may have experienced a multitude of weather conditions. Students here on campus were either

SEASON AT A GLANCE

-644,818 DEER TAGS SOLD

-304,538 DEER TAGGED
AFTER NINE DAY SEASON

-100,000 LBS. OF VENISON
DONATED TO NEEDY TO DATE

-11,500 HEADS TO BE TESTED
FOR C.W.D.

-2 GUN-RELATED FATALITIES

happy or disgusted with the weather conditions. One student, who preferred to remain anonymous stated, "This was the worst f\$#@%# season I ever had, it rained all day, and I didn't see a thing." Another student jumped in the conversation afterward and boasted about taking three.

Whether your season was bad or good, it is nice to know that there is always next year. Quite frankly, I'm glad it is all over, because late season bow is starting up and I can't wait. It also means that we're one step closer to Christmas break.

Mr. Winters' two cents

Well she's starting to get chilly out there, but in my mind, it's just not chilly enough for good ice to freeze. I tell you what, this time of year always chaps my ass a little bit. Sure don't help none living like a buncha flatlanders. Sometimes I think that Central Wisconsin is a pile of Nebraska's leavin's, or some estranged cousin of them salt flats. But then again, how could something so grand be a leftover?

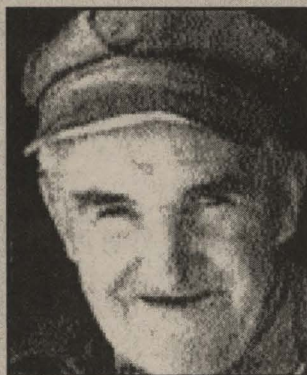
If it weren't for them hearty meals the old lady fixes, I woulda blown away years ago.

There is one good thing about this spell between real fishing and ice fishing: Television pictures. If it ain't the *Red Green* show or the Packers at least we have the return of college hoops, especially Bucky Badger, to keep an ol' feller occupied. 'Course they didn't beat those Maryland Turds on Tuesday either. Anyhoo, I do have one word of advice: move it back to the old fieldhouse, folks! That place has got some character.

Now I'm not done complaining yet. I happened to be reading one of those fancy *Field and Stream* magazines the other day in the out-house, and they decided to print some advice on ice. They claim that two inches could support an average adult man, and eight inches could support a motor driven machine too. Now thanks to my wife, I ain't average... in many ways, so sitting on eight inches of ice with my old pickup and a sixer of the ol' H-Life just sends my ticker all whacky. I don't know about you kids, but I think those *Field and Stream* folks are just crazier than a beaver in a bingo parlor.

Well anyway, I gotta get back to the television box. The history channel is playing some show on the Kennedys and that crook LBJ. I suppose you rascals should get back to studying for finals now, so grab me a hard candy from the dish and then "Go on and geeeeeet!"

-Mr. Winters



"Where are my slippers?"

Outdoors Recipe

From the kitchen
of A.M.T.H. Mella

"Can't feel my left ear" Venison Chili

Instructions:

This is a good winter recipe for those who love spicy stews to keep warm and full. Simply brown the venison in a skillet over some butter. Add to crockpot on high, along with other ingredients. Let heat for 45 min.

Prepare noodles on side. Add cheese, noodles and serve with cold refreshments. Left ear should tingle within 15 min. of consumption if made correctly.

Ingredients:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2.5 lbs. venison | 1/2 cup tabasco |
| 3 cups noodles | 1 diced onion |
| Assload of cheese | 1 T. garlic |
| 1.5 cups habaneros | 1 T. salt, pepper |
| 1 cup jalepenos | |
| 2 large cans of chunky tomatoes | |
| 1 large can tomato paste | |



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movie review:

Elf



By Geoff Fyfe

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

There's no doubt that the record of former *Saturday Night Live* stars making the transition to the big screen is a spotty one. For every Bill Murray, there are at least five Joe Piscopos. But Will Farrell, perhaps the most talented *SNL* cast member of the last decade (you don't believe me, look at how the show has dropped off since he left), is succeeding with aplomb. After stealing the show in *Old School*, he scores once again with *Elf*, a funny and touching film that has the potential to become a Christmas classic.

Elf begins with Santa (Ed Asner) accidentally bringing something back to the North Pole following one Christmas — a baby who crawled into his toy sack. Adopted by Papa Elf (Bob Newhart, employing his trademark nervous Nellie tics), "Buddy" (Farrell) grows up believing he's an elf, never wondering why he's twice as tall as the other elves and is the only baritone in the elf choir. Finally, Papa and Santa reveal the dark truth to the oblivious Buddy. Not only is he human, but his father Walter (James Caan), a workaholic book publisher who neglects his wife (Mary Steenburgen) and son, is on the naughty list. Horrors! What's an elf/man to do?

Determined to connect with his roots, Buddy sets off for New York City to meet his father. He doesn't exactly get a warm welcome, as Walter isn't too keen on connecting with an apparent lunatic in a green cap and yellow

tights. But Buddy charms his way into his father's house and even tries to help his dad at work, where he must deliver a new book or be fired. He also finds work at Gimbles Department Store (a nod to *Miracle on 34th Street*) and starts romancing store elf Jovie (the enchanting Zooey Deschanel, showcasing her deadpan wit). In



the end, Buddy must not only help his father regain his inner goodness, he also has to save Christmas when Santa gets into a tight jam in Central Park.

Like all truly classic holiday films, *Elf* is one for the whole family. Kids will laugh at the various fish out of water jokes and Farrell's juvenile antics, especially his mania for sugar (his ideal meal is spaghetti and syrup and he downs 2-liter soda bottles in one gulp). Adults will dig the references to past Christmas films, including some stop-motion animated figures inspired by the Rankin-Bass TV specials like

"Rudolph" and "Frosty", as well as some wickedly funny asides, such as Buddy screaming at a department store Santa that he's a fraud and that he "sits on a throne of lies." Yet despite the humor, the heart is always there and the film is heartwarming without being sappy.

It's no wonder that Farrell is often compared to John Belushi. Like Belushi, Farrell will do anything for a laugh and he always conveys an endearing boyish sweetness to his roles. The role of Buddy is tailor-made for him and he makes this eternally happy, obliviously innocent man-child into a comedic gem. He's ably supported by a top-notch supporting cast, particularly Deschanel, who also reveals her singing voice, and the perfectly cast Asner as a gruff but kind Santa who worries about kids losing faith in him and fears the paparazzi ("They've been after me forever!"). Even Caan scores as the modern-day Scrooge who needs reconnection with his softer side. One would not expect Sonny Corleone to be in a film like this, but Caan pulls quite a surprise on us.

Recent holiday films have proven disappointing, but *Elf* redeems them all. Funny, touching and infused with holiday spirit, *Elf* is truly a film the entire family can enjoy. And it proves there may be no stopping Farrell in his march to film superstardom. The man is a veritable comedic hurricane and has a long, bright career ahead of him. One only hopes that, unlike Belushi, he won't burn out too quickly.

Events Calender



Friday, December 5

Harmonious Wail, w/Gypsy King
with Killer Vocals @ Clark Place,
8 p.m., \$10

Friday, December 5

SLM @ The Witz End
9:30 p.m., \$5 cover

Saturday, December 6

Green Tea @ Mission Coffee House
8:00 p.m., \$5, \$3 w/student ID

Saturday, December 6

Sophistafunk @ Michelson Hall
7:30 p.m., FREE!

Saturday, December 6

The Mud Angels @ Clark Place,
8 p.m. \$5, \$3 w/student ID
Ladies FREE!

Friday, December 12

Tony Brown & The Landing Crew @
The Witz End
9:30 p.m., \$8 cover

Saturday, December 13

Michael Johnson @ Clark Place
8 p.m., \$10/advance, \$12 @ doors

Young comedian hams it up

Performance at UC
delves heavily into
college habits and
lifestyle

By Dan Mirman

EDITOR IN CHIEF

At first glance, comedian Tim Young looks just like a regular college student. Young played up that fact during his routine at the UC two Thursdays ago.

Young hit on most of the main aspects of college life. He talked about everything from the miniscule dorm rooms to stories about his crappy car. In between, he interacted with the audience and had most of the crowd laughing loud and often.

At one point during the show a cell phone rang while Young was speaking. Without hesitation, Young asked the audience member to answer it. After the audience member answered the phone and continued to talk, Young told him to hang up and stopped his routine until the man complied.

One of the biggest laughs occurred



when Young did a bit on hunting. He asked a hunter in the audience if he thought hunting was a sport. When the man replied, "Yes," Young retorted with, "I always thought that in a sport there was defense." He then suggested that men dressed in camouflage should shoot back for the defense of the deer.

Young also talked about his life growing up in the south, and, along those lines, he had an amazing ability to make you laugh and then grimace. Young touched on family subjects like his father's excess body hair and how he received the sex talk.

Tim Young's college based routine provided a perfect fit for a packed and captivated audience of UWSP students. Hopefully UWSP will continue to provide even more comedians to laugh at in the coming semester.

The Wookie's Corner:



A year end wrap-up



By Steve Seamandel

ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

News and happenings in the jam-band world are fairly quiet, and will remain as such until the New Year approaches. Phish, moe., Yonder Mountain String Band and The Disco Biscuits just completed northeast Thanksgiving runs, all of which received good to excellent reviews.

Allow me to discuss Phish for a paragraph or two. I've been lucky enough to hear the first show (thanks to our friend, the Internet), Friday, Nov. 28 from Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, NY. (For more information on how to snag these shows on your own, point your browsers to <http://bt.etree.org>)

The first set standouts from Nassau include a typically funky "Ghost," a semi-rare "AC/DC Bag" and a strong "Bathtub Gin > Free" to end the set. None of the segues from song to song are spectacular, minus maybe the "Gin" into "Free," but the jamming is strong throughout.

Set two gave way to the typical

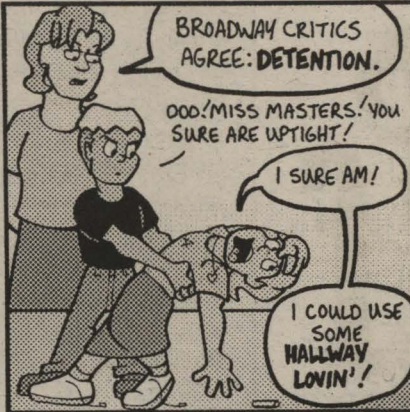
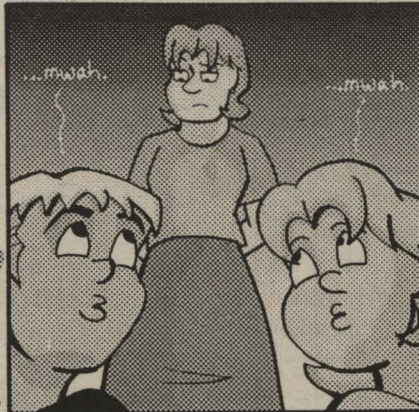
inconsistent setlist that has aggravated many phans since the hiatus. "Down With Disease" gave the show a boost of energy, only to be diminished with three newer songs: "Walls of the Cave", "Two Versions of Me" and the live debut of "Crowd Control". A standard "Mike's Groove" closed the first set, which seemed to negate the sour energy that the newer songs left in the set.

Phish has changed, although they're still worth listening to. They're not the hard-edged Gamehendge hippies they used to be. Now, they seem content with mixing their time-tested, vintage material with shakier, newer songs that work at times, and fall short at others. Phish isn't trying to be the band that they used to, which is why they can get away with this new style.

And finally, a shout out to Brian Ruff and Casey Nelson, hosts of the "Thursday Night Phish Fry" on 90FM. Every Thursday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., Brian and Casey play a few sets of Phish, songs by other jambands and talk about what's going on in the area. Tune in!

Until next year, get a job, sir!

tonja steele



Your College Survival Guide: Differential Tuition

By: The Pat Rothfuss Consortium
With Help from GottaHavaJava

Hey Pat,

What's up with all this differential tuition talk lately? Most of my friends are for it, but I don't know. I mean, my tuition just jumped like 400 dollars last semester.

That's all I've got, really. It just seems like the University's going to hell, and they just want me to pay more and more money for it. It sucks.

Don't Use My Name,

How about I just call you ... I don't know ... Salome. Yeah. I like that.

Here's a funny story, Simone. I was surprised when you mentioned \$400 in your letter. But, since I didn't know what the recent tuition hike was, I decided to go ask a student, figuring they'd know.

But when I asked a few, I found out that they [italix] didn't [unitlaix] know.

That's when I decided to conduct a little "walkabout poll," partly because I wanted to know what the real tuition hike was, and partly because I wanted to know how many of you short-bussers out there didn't have the first clue. Here's the result of my poll of 20 random students:

3 students made guesses between \$300 and \$500.

3 students said "a couple hundred

bucks."

13 students stared at me with vacant, soulless eyes and shrugged, not even attempting a guess. I swear, some of you people are like Muppets with no hand inside.

One. ONE student said 250 dollars, which is the right answer.

So congratulations, Taniya Fatticci. You are my shining star. For saving my faith in humanity, you receive the first-ever NUMINA award. Why NUMINA? Well, it's a terribly clever acronym that, unfortunately, is too obscene for [italix] The Pointer to print. Suffice it to say that it has a lot to do with not having your head up your ass.

The NUMINA award consists of: a ten-dollar Gift Certificate from our sponsor, GottaHavaJava, and the unshakable knowledge that deep down, you're just a little bit cooler than everyone else in the world. Except me.

But back to your question, Suzan. I understand what you mean about differential tuition. This recent round of budget cuts hit everyone hard. Students got a tuition hike. Teachers get less health care and a pay cut. It's the budget equivalent of getting kicked in the nuts.

Those of you, like Samantha, who are members of the memberless gender, which is to say that you are somewhat nut-challenged, will have to adapt my little analogy to make it work. First, imagine a triangle formed with your hip bone, your belly button, and your...um... You-Know-What. (For decency's sake, I will henceforth in this column refer to the You-Know-What as "Disneyland.")

Got your triangle? Now, imagine someone running up to you and punching you right in the middle of this triangle. POW. Right in your ovary.

So here you are, hunched over, clutching at your gender-appropriate reproductive paraphernalia, when someone taps you on the shoulder and asks if you'd like to cough up more money? Just a little, you know, maybe 25 bucks or so?

Believe me, Rachel. I understand. It's

natural to be pissed off. Just like it's natural to feel like you've been kicked 400 bucks worth, when it's really only \$250. The part of me that spent years scraping by as a student thinks, "how dare they ask for more money? How dare they!?"

But here's the horrible truth, Josephine. Over the last 10-15 years, the UW budget has been slowly whittled away. A lot of programs have been limping along for years now, doing as much good as they can with the little money they still have available.

For some of those programs, this recent cut wasn't like getting kicked in the nuts. It was like being stabbed in the kidney. It isn't just going to hurt them. It could kill them.

And you're right. The University IS going to hell. But differential tuition has a chance of fixing some of that. Best of all, differential tuition money will be controlled by a committee of students, not administrators, so you don't have to worry about it getting pissed away on mismanaged renovations to athletic fields or repaving parking lots.

Besides, 25 bucks isn't going to really break any of us. It stings, but it's a small price to pay if it helps things get better around here. \$25 bucks from each student comes out to about \$400,000 a year. The university could do a whole lot with that money, better advising, improved class availability, more tutoring... y'know, more of the things that can really make a difference.

Now maybe all those things won't happen, but [underline] something will. Right now we need to do something, ANYTHING, or this whole place is going to slowly fall apart around our ears. Compared to that, \$25 bucks seems like a pretty good deal....

Only one column left this semester. Send your letters to proth@wsunix.wsu.edu.

I just discovered that GottaHavaJava is making their smoothies with real fruit these days. Now, I won't say that their strawberry-banana is better than sex, (cause that just ain't true), but I can say with some certainty that it's better than any sex you can buy for three dollars. Trust me.

SPARKit...

by: Mel Rosenberg



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Spacious house. Perfect location between campus and downtown. Washer/dryer, own room, rent negotiable! Call Mandy, 345-0373

EMPLOYMENT

Organist Needed:
Small Lutheran parish in nearby Amherst needs organist one (1) hour every Sunday. Salary is negotiable. Please contact Pastor Mark, 920-231-9226

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Large 1 BR apt.
Michigan Terrace
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