



POINTER

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University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

December 11, 2003

Student senate to vote on differential tuition

By Andrew Bloeser
NEWS EDITOR

The student senate will vote on a proposal Thursday that could raise tuition by up to \$25 per semester to pay for new and enhanced programs aimed at improving the quality of the university.

If enacted, UW-Stevens Point would become the ninth UW System comprehensive campus to adopt such a plan-known as a differential tuition program-whereby students experience an increase in the price of tuition to generate funds for specifically designated initiatives.

Enacting the proposal would establish a pilot program at UWSP that would remain in place for three years beginning in Fall 2004 and face a review to determine its continuation.

Although the proposal does not name specific initiatives that would receive funding, improvements to academic and career advising and innovations regarding programs associated with a student's freshman year experience have ranked among the most commonly discussed options.

Whether a differential tuition program would benefit students at UWSP has remained an issue of contention for student representatives and university administrators, who have divided opinions regarding its necessity and the timing of its implementation.

"Students I've talked to don't want to pay more money to fund new initiatives or expand existing ones right now," said Adam Wagner, academic issues director for the Student Government Association and chairman of the SGA's differential tuition exploratory committee. "We

were hit with a \$500 increase in tuition this year, and students just don't want to pay more."

UWSP Chancellor Virginia Helm said Tuesday that while timing for implementation could be better, the necessity of the program remains.

"I can see the student perspective, but we live in an imperfect world," said Helm. "Sometimes we have to do things we shouldn't have to do if things were right and fair, but somehow students at other campuses have found a way to do this when they saw tuition increases coming."

Helm also stated that because most other UW campuses have already adopted a differential tuition program, that UWSP would need to follow suit for the university to maintain its competitive edge within the System.

"This is overdue," said Helm. "Campuses that have adopted differential tuition have additional resources that we won't have."

However, even if the current proposal in the senate receives approval,

the types of initiatives that would qualify for funding at UWSP would still remain uncertain, given the vaguely defined criteria laid out by the language of the proposal.

At issue is the definition of "student success initiatives," which will be used as the primary criterion in determining the eligibility of programs for funding during an allocation process that would be completed by the end of April.

While the proposal clearly states that differential tuition cannot be used to supplant items already funded by tuition such classes and salaries, or by student segregated fees, concrete mean-

At a Glance: Differential Tuition

-Three year pilot program proposed

-Tuition increase of no more than \$25 per semester, per student

-Only initiatives that promote "student success" on campus eligible for funding

To read the proposal:
www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/sga

Winter finally arrives in Point



Photo by Patricia Larson

The first major snowfall of the season finally comes on the eve of the semester break.

Students call for tenure resolutions

Student senate to vote on resolutions on Thursday

By Johanna Nelson
NEWS REPORTER

An outpouring of emails and phone calls received by the Student Government Association senators culminated in the body's discussion of resolutions favoring a reconsideration of the recent tenure decisions on professors Bryan and Michelle Brophy-Baermann last Thursday.

Time constraints as well as concerns raised about both Brophy-Baermann pieces of legislation led the Student Government Association to consider postponing the issue for a week, when the resolutions were initially presented.

Katie Gillespie, an SGA senator, explained that last week's meeting was very busy, with four guest speakers, four pieces of old business, and four pieces of new business.

"These pieces were time sensitive," Gillespie stated. "I wanted [the pieces of legislation] to be given their due consideration and debate. I was also

unaware that the Brophy-Baermann pieces were so urgent. After speaking with the author I realized that I made a mistake, and voted to amend the agenda and add both pieces of legislation to new business last Thursday."

SGA concern also centered upon the fact that it was unclear as to whether the issue was a student or faculty affair. Nick Crawford, president of SGA, declined to comment due to the sensitivity of the subject.

Sara Stone, speaker of the senate, did comment, stating, "I

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Tenure resolutions

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think that the concern was that it is a faculty issue because it is a flaw in how faculty handles tenureship."

Student response in favor of the pieces of legislation was strong, and at the December 4 meeting, SGA voted to place the pieces on the agenda as new business.

Phone calls and e-mails directed toward senators reflected student support and concern.

"When the rules committee set the agenda, it wasn't clear how significant of an issue this was," said SGA senator Jeffrey Adams. "I, myself, had no idea how much commotion this caused among students until I started getting phone calls at home."

Gillespie said she also received a great deal of student input.

"Besides the urgency of the matter, what really made a difference was hearing from students about how important they feel the Brophy-Baermanns are to this University," she said. "As a senator, it's easy to complain about student apathy, but I am amazed at how organized and passionate students are on this issue."

Gillespie provided an example of one particular student who visited her office and spent 30 minutes discussing the issue with her.

Feedback such as this led her to state, "I will be voting yes on both pieces of legislation because I feel it is what my constituents want."

Erin Fay, Legislative Issues Director, declined to comment about the issue that precipitated the resolutions, but also noted that many senators have been contacted by their constituents.

"I absolutely feel that it is a student issue and that the outpouring of concern from students is evidence of that," said Fay.

The level of student activism led to praise from Dennis Riley, professor of political science at UW-Stevens Point.

"The response of students and the extent to which students have expressed—not merely support for Bryan and Michelle—but the extent to which they have voiced their concerns about their own education, and expressed their desire to partic-

ipate in making the most important decision, who teaches them, is gratifying to me," said Riley. "It certainly puts the lie to the notion that students don't care about those kinds of things, they'll become involved when they believe that there's something they should be involved in."

Both pieces of legislation will come up for a vote at Thursday's senate meeting. Discussion will continue followed by a vote to decide whether or not the resolutions will be adopted. Ample time will be provided for debate and discussion, including time for the gallery to speak. Students who wish to voice their opinions simply have to locate a senator willing to cede his/her time allotted for discussion of the issue.

Stone and Adams were both pleased with student/senator interactions and felt it was a great example of how SGA works with students to address important issues.

"The fact that it was put on the agenda was great and it gave us chance to hear everything through. In that respect," said Stone. "I think that it shows that you can be heard on the Senate floor and it encourages students to bring their issues to us so that we can help."

Adams added "it really shows how much can happen when you feel strongly about something. I'm also pleased to see how the senators have also taken an active role by adding these pieces of legislation to the agenda and by seeking out student input."

In terms of the tenure appeals process, a written statement of the reasons for denial has been delivered to both Bryan and Michelle Brophy-Baermann. Professor Riley cited the next step in the process as a formal request for reconsideration. If this happens, then the meeting will probably take place some time in January.

Professor Riley also noted that a meeting of the Political Science Department was scheduled for December 10 at 2 p.m. Riley discussed the order of business, which was to involve a briefing from the Vice Chancellor's office, followed by a discussion of how the department plans to conduct the reconsideration meeting. Under consideration was student participation, what the Brophy-Baermann's specific rights will be, and whether or not there will be formal procedures at the meeting.

Poetry comes to Point



Photo by Liz Bolton

Peggy Hong, a poet, dancer and yoga instructor, headlined the 2003 UW-Stevens Point Writer's Workshop. The annual program honors writers at the junior and senior high school level.



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1960 POST ROAD PLOVER (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE SUPERBOWL)



Differential tuition

from page 1

ing is not provided for what constitutes "student success initiatives."

"It's a very loose definition; it encompasses a lot of options," said Renee Stieve, SGA vice-president. "There could become a concern over what qualifies as promoting student success, and hopefully that definition will be tightened in the senate if they decide to support the proposal."

The proposal's language has also drawn attention for another reason-it doesn't guarantee that differential tuition will actually be adopted even if the proposal receives approval.

As it is currently worded, a differential tuition proposal at UWSP could cost students no more than \$25 per semester, which means that it could also receive less funding, or no funding, in the event none of the proposed initiatives prove appealing.

Due to the uncertainty surrounding differential tuition, other proposals to increase UWSP's resources have also been raised.

Chancellor Helm revealed a plan last week that would increase the price students pay for each credit hour they take after exceeding 12 credit hours in a semester, which would bring more funds into the university's base budget.

City to celebrate MLK Day with volunteer spirit

By David Cohen
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Stevens Point will celebrate its sixth annual Martin Luther King Day event Jan. 19 as a volunteer involvement fair, with five different sites throughout the city where students and community members will have a chance to congregate.

The event is designed to allow people who want to get involved in volunteering a chance to make connections. After a day of working to help the community, participants will join together at UWSP for reflection, socializing, entertainment and sports.

Groups involved in the organization of the celebration are the Department on Aging, the Key Club of Stevens Point Area Senior High (SPASH), the Boy and Girl Scouts and Jeri McGinley of the College of Natural Resources.

The event is focused toward working with the high school students, but Ron Strege, multicultural issues director for the Student Government Association, and McGinley hope that this year UWSP students will have more of a presence.

Martin Luther King Day holds different kinds of relevance for various participants. Strege

feels that the event "reinforces the message of Dr. King. The values are non-violence, making change, working together, cooperation, and peace."

McGinley emphasizes that for her, Dr. King's message is largely about community involvement. She states, "It didn't occur to me to not be a part of community service. This is a great opportunity for this."

Strege feels that this is an event which people of all different cultural backgrounds can appreciate. He says, however, "Some students tell me that they think Martin Luther King is too heavy on African-American issues and doesn't pertain to people of other backgrounds. That was the issue of the time, but it could be interpreted to cooperation between all kinds of people. Dr. King's message applies toward cooperation between Black and White, Jew and Gentile, and all others."

Various service projects will be held in commemoration of Martin Luther King from 1 to 3, which will be followed by a reception at UWSP at 3:30 p.m. Strege asks that all students who are interested and available contact him through Multi-Cultural Affairs.

UWSP bans late night music

By Rachel Peterson
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Music students are struggling to adapt to a September UW-Stevens Point policy change to close Nelson Hall at midnight. UWSP Protective Services, along with the Stevens Point Police Department, are consistently enforcing the building's new policy after several residents complained about the late night noise pouring out of Nelson Hall

"We had many complaints and something had to be done about them," said Heather June, a Protective Services radio operator. "The community calls were clogging up our emergency lines."

Students who violate the policy by practicing in Nelson Hall after midnight will be asked to leave the building immediately. Students who fail to comply with the policy may receive a \$200 citation from the Stevens Point Police Department.

David Kamikawa, a junior choral education major, was surprised by the city's decision and wishes the community would support the music students as they learn to adapt to the new building.

"The city residents should have responded better," said Kamikawa. "The new Fine Arts Center will benefit the community by bringing in more students, and an increase in students at UWSP means more money for the community."

Each student said there is a difference between practicing during the day and late at night. The students unanimously agreed that the later they practice, the more practice rooms are available. Students say that during the school day, especially around noon, all practice rooms fill up quickly and many students must wait for rooms to open up.

"Waiting for a practice room to open up is annoying," said Kokkeler. "The number of prac-

tice rooms is limited, but when one takes into consideration that five rooms are designed solely for pianists, one finds the wait for the remaining rooms to open up unbearable."

The building was not designed as a music building and will never be as soundproof as the Fine Arts Center. Each practice room is equipped with a mass of detached carpet squares, curtains and foam walls in an attempt to stop the transfer of sound throughout Nelson Hall.

"The stuffy, stale air is hot and you can't keep the windows open," said Kamikawa, "and because of the heat, all pianos are out of tune, which makes practicing very difficult."

Heather June hopes that UWSP students and the Stevens Point community will continue to remain patient until the completion of the new Fine Arts Center addition, at which point the music students may return to their designated building.

Allen Center to undergo renovation

Center to be closed during winterim

By Jolene Romenesko
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The UW-Stevens Point Allen Center is undergoing construction over the semester break, with changes being made to the upper and lower floors and an expansion of the Cardio Center.

"The Allen Center has been in need of renovation because of the limited space in the entire building," said Susan Crotteau, Assistant Director of University Centers. "The Cardio Center needs more space for machines and stretching areas as well as space for personal training."

Included in the renovations will be another row of cardio machines in the center. Outdoor Ed-Ventures, currently located downstairs, will move to the second floor, and the vacated space

will be used for a second group fitness room. The kitchen area will be totally dismantled, creating office space for full time staff and several student positions. The building will also receive window and ventilation upgrades.

"I believe that the renovations to the Allen Center will have a positive affect on membership with more space and more equipment," said Sheryl Poirer, a full time staff member,

Members of the Cardio Center have also complained about the lack of cardio equipment in the center.

"I have been going to work out only to find that there are no cardio machines left. Sometimes I have to wait 20 or 30 minutes to get on one," said Jamie Krause, a student member of the center.

Dining services money paid by the student body every year is funding the \$500,000 renovation.

Crotteau said that the Allen Center was once a dining hall but was closed due to declining enrolment.

The building has been transformed three times but never totally renovated.

The Allen Center is expected to be closed from Dec. 15 until Jan. 21. Crotteau believes that most students will be away for the holidays during this time, so few will be inconvenienced. It is possible for members to use the Strength Center, located in the Quandt Field House, during the renovation period.

The Allen Center renovation is taking place to ensure all students who want to use the facility have enough room to do so.

"The Allen Center is here to help renew and reenergize students in a convenient and affordable way," said Crotteau.

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• **Baldwin Hall**  
• Sunday, Dec. 7 11:53 p.m.  
• Type: Accidental property damage

• The Protective Services office was notified of a fire accidentally started in a Baldwin Hall office.

• **Knutzen Hall**  
• Sunday, Dec. 7 4:20 p.m.  
• Type: Theft

• A male reported the theft a pair of jeans and a wallet from his room.

• **Hansen Hall**  
• Saturday, Dec. 6 10:30 p.m.  
• Type: Trespassing

• A male reported seeing an individual on the second floor of the building who is currently banned from entering all residence halls.

• **Science Building**  
• Thursday, Dec. 4 11:16 p.m.  
• Type: Theft

• A male reported the theft of his bike from the southwest entrance, east wing, of the science building.

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

## Musings from Mirman

It's the last issue of the semester, so I'm going back to my sports roots.

By Dan Mirman  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Green Bay Packers and the Chicago Bears provide one of the greatest rivalries in all of sports, or at least they used to. For the better part of my adult life I have watched my favorite team, da Bears, get smoked by the Packers.

Even worse than the fact that my team gets beaten up regularly, I usually watch this stomping in person once a year.

First, a little background. My grandpa has season tickets for the Packers, but he only goes to the warmer weather games. This situation means that every year my dad and I journey together to Lambeau Field to witness this one-sided rivalry.

My dad, the faithful Packer fan, hoped that I would return home Saturday night so we could wake up and hit the road at 8 a.m. sharp. However, I had already committed myself to a Saturday night party. After weighing the options, I decided that I could still go out Saturday and make it home by 8 on Sunday. My dad was not thrilled with this decision and he used one last effort to convince me to come home Saturday saying, "Let's face it, Dan, punctuality is not your strong suit."

He may have had a point, but I really didn't care. I wanted to have my cake and eat it too, to borrow a worn-out cliché.

It turned out my dad was right and I pulled up to my house at approximately 8:17. After the initial yelling of, "You're a half hour late, when are you going to start listening to me," we packed the car and headed to the frozen tundra. After a brief stop at the grocery store, where I purchased copies of the *Chicago Tribune* and *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, (gotta keep the objectivity) we headed north on 29 toward Green Bay.

At this point it should be noted that the entire week I ran my mouth about the Bears winning this game. I made prideful bets with some close friends and, as a result, I must participate in the Polar Bear Plunge and wear a Brett Favre jersey and matching cap. At work I told anyone who would listen that Favre is the new washed-up quarterback of the NFL. I made comparisons to Dan Marino in the late '90s as a guy who will never see glory again.



Besides, if the Bears lost, they would be eliminated from the playoffs and I would have to wait another year to make any smart-ass remarks.

Going back to the trip, we arrived in Green Bay at 10 a.m. and after purchasing a bag of pistachios we walked to the stadium. We enjoyed a pre-game meal at Curly's Pub, which is located in the stadium, and then found our seats. Not to brag, but our seats are located on the Bear's side of the 50 yard line about 20 rows up, although there is not a single bad seat in Lambeau Field. The stadium is absolutely immaculate and the renovations make it even more picturesque than before.

My seat placed me next to a middle-aged gentleman from Minocqua, behind a lady who looked eerily similar to Cruella Deville and in front of a fellow Bears fan who felt my pain. For those who didn't view this contest, the Bears scored the first two touchdowns and for one quarter I felt bliss. Though not a religious man, I had prayed for these results the entire week, but then the tables turned. The Pack would score the next 34 points and once again I would witness a blowout at Lambeau.

I would like to think that at 22 years of age I am above letting a silly sporting event control my mood. I'm not. During the walk back to the car I felt contempt for humanity. I kept hoping that some jerk-off Packer fan would get in my face and use that oh-so original line, "The Bears still suck." That would allow me the chance to snap at him. I would ask him if that was his own material. I would thank him for his originality and ask him to keep me up to date when he comes up with a new saying. But none of that ever happened.

I have yet to meet a rude, obnoxious Packer fan on my trips to Lambeau field. The only time I have seen fights or yelling came when some rude Bears fan instigated it.

I hope that some day I will have the opportunity to visit Lambeau and leave after a Bears victory. However, until that day comes, I will still find solace in cheering for the Bears and whatever team plays the Packers that particular week.

## Are our elections popularity contests?

I am one of the original five who presented the CRs the impeachment papers last week. This letter is in response to the impeachment proceedings occurring the night of November 19th, regarding the College Republicans.

Our point was demonstrated sufficiently I believe by our group refusing to vote in favor of our own claim, but in case anyone failed to grasp it, I'll lay it out for you: The political system in America currently is not about upholding freedom, nor ideals, nor preservation of quality of life. It is a large scale popularity contest fueled by rhetoric and illogical claims intended to grasp emotional responses which are perpetuated and bolstered by the media. Our little slice of political interaction tonight at UWSP is a shining example of this fact.

The majority of participants could care less about political issues or republican ideals. What they were there to support were their friends, with no inkling or regard of the political and ethical connotations behind their actions. Vice President Rebecca Barnard is fortunate to have such strong social connections with the swim team, and the other officers of the college republicans with their respective other organizations in order to generate such a positive response to their "cause".

Furthermore, the illogical, emotionally charged rhetoric displayed by the officers of the Republican Club tonight is also representative of America's politics in general, especially secretary

Matt Stack's repetitive invoking of God in his dissertation. The CRs took a page out of George W.'s dictionary of rhetoric by labeling us as "organizational terrorists" and claiming that we are trying to take away freedom of speech; an interesting claim coming from a group who supports a bill (the Patriot Act) that threatens our personal freedoms as never before. The use of philosophical quotes by the officers of the CRs is also laughable, as many of the individuals they quoted openly condemn their use of emotional rhetoric in favor of logically based arguments.

So after all this commotion is over, the CR will go about their business as usual, with their five-person meetings, and their catchy T-shirt slogans, with no analyzation of the effects of who and what they support.

While thousands more die in the name of economic progress, and the biotic life-support system that supports humanity is destroyed via cultural arrogance everyday, the people in attendance at tonight's meeting will go about their lives, sedated by self-interest. Tonight accomplished nothing except to display how truly ridiculous and hollow political belief is on this campus, which was exactly our point. A popularity contest based on superficial factors is no way to go about deciding the correct way to run a society, and furthermore, to live.

Patrick Brennand  
UWSP Senior

## 'Support for the Brophy-Baermann's

Recently, the UWSP Political Science Department voted on whether to give two teachers, Professors Michelle and Bryan Brophy-Baermann, tenure.

Unfortunately for the student body of this university, they were not given tenure. Both of these teachers during my stay at UWSP have demonstrated that they are extremely knowledgeable in their fields and have more than ample skill in the art of teaching.

Michelle is not only a fabulous teacher who easily relates class material to her students, but head up the Political Science Honor Society and makes herself available to students at many times of the day.

Bryan is also a fabulous teacher who relates the material easily to the students, and

also provides in depth assignments that challenge students to think critically and apply themselves to the political field.

A university should dream of having two teachers like the Brophy-Baermanns to teach and train future political scientists.

If the political science department cannot realize this, then I'm not sure what the goal of the department is. Obviously its not retaining two of the best professors in the department whom the students love and learn from.

Rather, they must just be trying to create a subpar academic atmosphere without two teachers who really make a difference.

Jacob Haseman  
UWSP student

## THE POINTER

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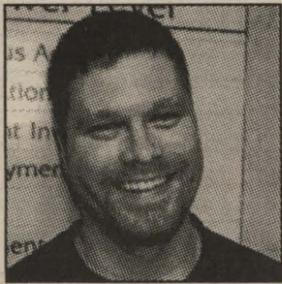
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## Pointer Poll

What would you say if you caught Santa coming down the chimney?

Photos by Liz Bolton



Jason Griepentrog, Sr., Poli-Sci

Do you want a beer?



Amber Koskey, Jr., Biology

Howd'ja fit Big boy?



Courtney Ryan, So., Art

So, am I on the naughty or nice list?



Adam "Belushi" Somers, So., English

Can I pet your reindeer?



Liz van Wieringen, Jr., Comm

Can I sit on your lap and tell you what I want for Christmas?



Sergey Yerememko, Sr., Accounting

Dude, what are you doing here?

## A UWSP artist in Munich



The spark of studying abroad came in the first Art History course I took at Point. Seeing all sorts of colorful slides of "Pointers in Wonderland" traveling all over the world were so tempting. But three years ago I never would have guessed that I would actually leave Stevens Point while studying to do the same.

But after my third time seeing a whole class period devoted to seeing students sit at this famous site, go on a boat ride in the Mediterranean, eat that wonderful local dish it dawned on me. I had to get out of Point. If I

wanted to experience the world and do everything I've seen in photos I needed to start packing my bags.

It was only appropriate that this light hit me while taking an art-related class. Because as I sit here in my bedroom, not only am I a student in Munich, a resident of Germany, a speaker of the language I am an artist here.

It's truly great that I'm able to combine an experience like this to one that relates to my major. The fact that one of our UWSP art professors was coming here as our leader and to teach two studio art classes and that I'd have the

opportunity to take an art history course here were major pulls to my decision to come. But even without these pulls, I've found that it's easy to make this experience geared towards interests of your own (whether it be art, history, international studies, etc). You're not going to learn the same way in a class room than you will at the place you're learning about.

Rarely do I leave my German home without a sketchbook. I've been all over the city of Munich to document things seen, feelings felt, sensations experienced through art. Sit at a

## More support for the Brophy-Baermann's

I do not know much about the tenure policies. Because I don't know much about tenure policies, I should be the last one on earth complaining about them, but I'm going to anyway. Why would I be so bold? Because I'm a disgruntled student who has enough problems to deal with, without having to worry about one of his favorite professors being denied "the status of holding one's position on a permanent basis without periodic contract renewals." (That's right I had to look up the word tenure in the dictionary).

Last year I signed up to take a political science class, I don't know why, I think I just needed the credit. I really didn't have a very big interest in politics as long as they weren't harming me. Nonetheless, I took the class and anticipated very little. The small classroom was full of people I didn't know (except my friend Halley) and it was instructed by an enthusiastic lady with two last names, Michelle Brophy-Baermann. The first day she took the time to ask all of our names (a more personal form of attendance) and began a classroom experience I could compare to no other, she began an adventure in politics (oh, it sounds cheesy but it's true, it was an adventure as far as academics are concerned).

She began by asking us what we knew about politics, we knew nothing (at least I knew nothing, but I got the impression that I wasn't alone). So as a result, as any good teacher would do, she taught us. From "Political Me" to "Die and Ziegler" she taught us how politics work, step by step, case by case, quiz by quiz.

"Big deal" you say "that's what she's paid to do." You are right, that is what she's paid to

do, but I don't think she gets paid to do it the way she does, that sounds confusing, I'll explain. Not only did she teach us the processes of how politics came to be, are, and probably will be, she took the time to teach us how important they truly are in our daily lives. She taught us how we're affected by the decisions that other people make, she taught us the importance of our political awareness, she taught us more than what a petty text could teach, she taught us about politics and our lives. As the class went on I found myself growing more and more interested in the subject, I actually began to care! This is something special because usually as classes go on I lose interest in the subject and grow weary of coming to class. I still liked going to Poli Sci 101, as the classes went on I became more aware of my political feelings, as well as those of people around me. It was truly an educational experience and I'm thankful to Professor Brophy-Baermann for it.

Now I hear she and her husband are denied tenure, I dislike that. I dislike that because she is a good teacher (and I hear her husband is to) and good teachers are hard to come by. When I filled out the end of the year evaluation I know that I gave nothing but approving marks, and I'm disappointed that my evaluation was not successful in conveying the message that I was, in fact, thoroughly impressed by the class. I hope that this teaching duo will get the tenure they deserve, I'm confused why they wouldn't in the first place. Good teachers deserve to be treated like good teachers and I'm a little frustrated that they're not.

Robin Lee  
UWSP student

café in Schwabing, on a sidewalk near Marienplatz, in the Englischer Garten, at one of the museums...and you can be let alone to create. Munich, like many European cities, is an art city. The residents here appreciate art, some like to stop and look over your shoulder as you're drawing, or talk to you while you're working hard (which can always be fun if you have to try and speak a language you haven't become completely fluent in). But it's all part of the experience.

With a city that boast 46 museums we're pretty lucky to study here. Art history class is held in the art museums...how much better can you get there? Just a ten minute walk from our front door in Munich are the three Pinokothek museums...having great art collections from the Early Masters to Modern art, and everything in between. The artists become your friends because you get so familiar with them. It's pretty easy to say these museums are some of my favorite places in the city.

Along with being an artist in Munich I'm also an artist in

Europe. My charcoal pencils and my paint have been toted with me to Vienna, Austria, to Prague in the Czech Republic, to Berlin farther north in Germany, and to Rome, Italy. An experience like studying abroad makes you a familiar resident in one city, but gives you so many opportunities to travel to other cities. Compare cultures, give a try at another language, see so many different things.

The art students on this trip are going to be saying goodbye to our beloved Munich in the most perfect way. We're going to be having an art show in one of the cafes nearby. All of our first international art show. Not many US college students can say that...well, that is if you don't study abroad.

Though its going to be really hard to say goodbye to Munich on December 13th...its assuring to know that I'll continue to come back and experience the world more throughout my life. Maybe you should start packing your bags now too.

Katie Hassemer  
UWSP student

# Tips for being Earth-friendly this holiday season

Simple ways to protect the Earth during the hustle and bustle of the holidays

By Alli Himle

FEATURES EDITOR

We are all aware of the way that holidays get us carried away. They seem to have an effect on us, as we all frantically search for the perfect gift and the most beautiful decorations. However, one area seems to be routinely neglected at a time when it is of the utmost importance -- the Earth. It is my intent to offer you some suggestions and tips for keeping the Earth in mind this time of year, while also having an enjoyable holiday.

Most holidays begin with picking out a tree to decorate. This is something that most of you, or your families, have already done. I would like to offer you an alternative to going to the crowded Christmas tree lots, sifting through half-priced and clearly rotting trees. Instead, buy a live, replantable tree this year, or keep this idea in mind for next year.

Buying a live tree proves to

be much more beneficial. Not only will it last you through the holiday season, but you can also continue with the spirit of the holidays by later planting it with the family in the spring. A live tree will serve as a remembrance of your holidays spent together.

Secondly comes the issue of decorating the tree and house (or whatever your living quarters happen to be) in the spirit of the holidays. Try to use materials around your home for decorations. Use old Christmas cards to grace your wall or use reusable tin tinsel to string around the tree. Try to use decorations that can be used year after year because these will conserve both the environment and your spending.

Many natural decorations are great to use because they do not cost anything and are easy to dispose of after the holidays. Pinecones, leaves and berries make great accents for both your

tree and your home. Collecting these throughout your yard also makes for an enjoyable experi-



ence to remember.

Try to minimize the amount of lighting on your tree and instead compensate by stringing

up popcorn or cranberries on it. This adds a considerable amount of creativity to your tree by putting more care into the overall look of it, in addition to saving on the energy bill. The lighting of Christmas lights does in fact contribute a great deal to the high cost of energy that may be represented on your bill.

With the tree in order, and the decorations in place, next comes the issue of filling the tree underneath with numerous packages to dazzle the eye. The point of gift giving is the gift itself, for excess packaging and wrapping products only contributes to the overall stream of waste. Be creative in wrapping. Use bags made of fabric, which can, in turn, be part of the gift. Decorate the bag to reflect the personality of the gift recipient.

Furthermore, you can use decorative baskets or holiday tins to place gifts in. The tins can then be used to store your holiday decorations in once the holidays are

over. Scarves or towels also make excellent alternatives to wrapping paper. For kids that you know look forward to the frantic shredding of paper, use old comics to wrap their gifts. Above all else, be sure to keep in mind the three Rs of reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling the paper after the gifts are unwrapped.

Most importantly, be conservative this holiday season. This is a time where thinking of the environment is of great importance, because consumerism and material waste is a prevalent issue during this time. Give consideration to the environment this year, and influence others to do the same. In the end, realize that not only must you take into consideration your own actions, but also the actions you wish future generations to take.

## As finals approach, so does silence

Intensive quiet hours to begin this weekend in the dorms across campus

By Sarah Dennewitz

FEATURES REPORTER

Thanksgiving is over and the Christmas spirit is slowly filling the air, which only leads a college student to one conclusion. Finals are on their way!

With just a matter of days until finals, our campus is simply days away from a major change in the relaxed atmosphere, especially in the dorms. A week before finals is the beginning of the policy most students living in the dorms resent -- the policy of intensive study hours.

The Residential Handbook states, "Intensive study hours create an environment of total silence, free from sound. During intensive

study hours no noise is to be heard from the stairwells, hallways, bathrooms, kitchens, and of course, student rooms." If noise is heard from any of these designated areas, students will be immediately written up and told to do a variety of tasks, for example cleaning the kitchen.

During intensive study hours, there are also "relaxed hours" which are supposed to give students time to unwind. Relaxed hours are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. During relaxed hours students are allowed to leave their doors open as long as noise cannot be heard from two doors away. Release hour is from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., which is another hour where students

are "permitted" to gather and talk for hall programming, moving out and stress relief.

This policy was passed by the Residential Hall Association in 1995 with the intentions of creating a healthier study environment during finals week. Since the requirement of living in the dorms is two years at Point, many have experienced the policy of intensive study hours.

Many students are very opinionated as to whether or not this is a beneficial policy. The reactions are rather varied, for some students feel that absolute silence is necessary to prepare for finals, whereas others have expressed that they feel they are being imprisoned in their rooms.



The question is: Do intensive study hours really improve your performance on final exams? Whether you support or disagree with the policy of intensive study hours, they are on their way. Watch the noise during the week of finals in the dorms. What could be worse than cleaning the kitchen and studying for you next exam?

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break!

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## Students kick the habit

Cindi Kolb  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past fall 21UWSP students took the initiative to stop smoking by joining smoking cessation classes offered by the Student Health Promotion Office (SHPO). The vast majority of participants kicked the habit, resulting in an impressive 90 percent success rate.

Two different classes facilitated by SHPO staff members, certified through the American Lung Association, met once a week for eight weeks. Participants prepared for "Quit Day" by gain-

ing knowledge in areas related to smoking. For example, they tracked daily smoking patterns, recognized their individual barriers and realized the importance of creating positive social support. Students also gained personalized tools and techniques for incorporating healthy lifestyle change, such as stress reduction and fitness activities.

For more information on stopping smoking, call 346-4313 or stop by the SHPO, 004 lower Allen Center. Additional smoking cessation courses will be offered at UWSP in the spring.

## AISES / AIRO

We would like to thank everyone for all their support throughout this year!

We greatly appreciate your help!

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Upcoming Events: Indian Taco Sale (2nd week of Spring Semester)  
AIRO Pow-Wow (April 3rd 2003)



# "Dance India" rocks the Encore with talent

A delightful and enchanting performance of Indian dance seen by many at this past weekend

By Alli Himle  
FEATURES EDITOR

A variety of Southeast Indian dances were on display to a filled Encore Friday night for the showcasing of "Dance India." Organized by Tanti Lina, a UWSP student, the performance was certainly something that everyone who attended took a great deal from - whether that was an insight into Indian culture, or simply an enjoyable evening.

The evening began with the audience having the privilege of sampling many enjoyable Indian foods including Mango ice cream, Masala tea and Indian cookies. The evening then got underway with the performance of seven Southeast Indian dances, each one displaying a particular

message about Indian culture.

Master of ceremonies Shabbar Razvi commented, "Dances usually encompass three groups - crowd pleasers, crowd gatherers, and finally, dances that the audience simply cannot refuse to take part in. It is our aim to present all three groups here tonight. By the end of the evening, you too, will find yourself dancing to the beat of Indian music."

And yes, by the end of the evening, the Encore was alive with the spirit of many dancing to the drum of Indian culture.

Over five months went into planning Friday night's performance. This was quite obvious



Photo by Patricia Larson  
The dancers of "Dance India" captivated the crowd at the Encore with their amazing talent and enthusiasm.

with the beginning of the first dance piece. These dancers not only put a great deal of time into making their performance a success, they also put a great deal of

energy and spirit into it as well. As Tanti commented, "I only anticipated 40 to 50 people coming here tonight. I am truly amazed with the turnout. It brings tears to my eyes that so many would come to support this program on Indian culture."

The purpose of the performance was to allow students to get an insight into the culture of India, and, judging from the large number of students that turned out for this event, it was obvious that many came away with a greater knowledge of the Indian way of life.

As Taniya Faticci, a UWSP student who attended the event,

commented, "I felt that the energy the dances displayed was not only amazing, but beautiful. You could see the energy in their eyes and feel how powerful the music was. It was simply an astounding performance."

When the time came for the last dance of the evening to be performed, it was evident that the audience did not want the evening to end. For all of those who did attend, you know exactly what I am speaking of.

Sponsored by Centertainment, the performance was an event to remember. For all of you who were unable to attend, it goes without saying that you truly missed an outstanding display of dance talent.

# Dancers to present "Afterimages 2003" on the UWSP stage

An explosion of energy, creativity and skill to captivate all this weekend

By Maria Lewis  
FEATURES REPORTER

"Afterimages 2003," is a dance concert that celebrates student choreography and dance. Since 1986, "Afterimages" includes works selected by audition before a panel of theatre and dance faculty and students. The student-directed and choreographed show will feature 11 dance pieces in many different styles, including jazz, ballet and experimental dance performed by 39 student dancers. The performance contains many different types of music, from original compositions to live music to some recordings by well-known artists.

"This is a wonderful oppor-

tunity for all involved to learn and experience life in the professional world of dance," stated Kristine Kasper, the production's director and a senior dance major from Gurnee Ill. Kasper choreographed "Moonlight Café," a modern and jazz piece set in the 1940s. It is reminiscent of an exuberant night seen through the eyes of an unromantic guy. The piece is electrifying and sometimes hilarious. The 12 dancers in the piece move to "Sing, Sing, Sing" from the *Swing Kids* soundtrack



Photo courtesy of News Services  
Students show their talent while practicing for the upcoming performance of Afterimages.

by Louis Prima. Professor Gary Olsen is lighting designer for the piece.

Katie Canada, a UWSP dance student involved with the production, stated, "The dances are funny, especially the one at the end. They are moving and interesting as well as entertaining."

There are many choreographers and dancers involved in the performance. Each dance tells a story and explains to the audience, through dance, the emotions of the story. Professor

Susan Gingrasso is the faculty advisor for the production.

The dance concert will be performed at 7:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 11-13 at the Jenkins Theatre of the Fine Arts. Tickets for the show are \$9 for adults, \$5 for youth, and free for UWSP students with ID on the day of the show. You can buy your tickets at the UWSP Box Office located in room 103A in the University Center. Another alternative is to call 715-346-4100 or 1-800-838-3378 to purchase your tickets. A minimal ticketing charge is added to each ticket purchase.

Please come and show your support for "Afterimages 2003." It is sure to be an event to remember.

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## Good eats in Point

You can never go wrong with fried fish at the Hilltop

By Geoff Fyfe  
ASSISTANT FEATURES

Few restaurants have names that describe them as perfectly as the Hilltop. Perched atop the hill overlooking Highway 39, it reminds one of nothing else but a medieval castle lording over its serfs. Inside, though, is one tasty restaurant.

If I had to think up a catch phrase to describe the Hilltop, I would say it's like Applebee's with better prices and considerably better food. The food must be good, because the crowd on Friday night was rather exceptional. It took half an hour to get a table, so I'd recommend get-

ting there early.

The Hilltop's service is friendly and even puts up with morons who spill their drinks in front of them. (All right, it was just one moron and it was me.) And, of course, they have a fish fry. Yes, once again my intense, almost drug addict-like craving for all oceanic food drew me to the Hilltop.

The fish fry costs \$6.49 for four good-sized pieces and your choice of sides. You can also get an extra piece for \$0.99. What was even better was the inclusion of rye bread with the meal. Rye bread is no more exceptional than any other type of bread, but it always seems to go well with fish fries. It's one of those great unsolved mysteries of the culinary world, like what goes into the Milwaukee Brewer's

Secret Stadium Sauce.

I must not forget dessert either. Since it was my birthday dinner (22 and feeling ancient), I got a free dessert. However, I had to take it home to eat over the weekend. Why? The dessert I got is called "Chocolate Suicide" and that's not an exaggeration. There's enough sugar contained within to put Gilbert Brown into a diabetic coma. Consume with care.

I admit that I really should start going places where I can eat stuff other than fish. I try, but the siren's allure of seafood is difficult to resist. At least the Hilltop is out of the way. While I'll be dropping in on the Hilltop in the future, perhaps it's time to broaden my palate a little bit. It's something to think about. Maybe. Possibly. Someday...

## Women continue to climb up the rankings

### Reserves get the job done in pair of weekend wins

By Tony Bastien  
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP women's hockey team used this past weekend's series against Lake Forest to give some rest to goaltender Amy Statz.

#### women's hockey

On both Saturday and Sunday, coach Brian Idalski started Statz, then for the final two periods put in the reserves. And in both contests, it didn't matter who was in net because the very anemic offense of the Foresters could muster only 15 shots total for the weekend. All 15 shots were stopped and the Pointers swept Lake Forest out of town with a pair of 2-0 victories at Ice Hawk Arena.

Statz, along with senior goalie Diane Sawyer and sophomore Crystal Randall combined for the Pointer's first weekend shutout of an opponent since they did it back on January 18 and 19 against the same Lake Forest

team, also at home. That weekend was in the midst of an impressive five game span when they didn't allow a single goal.

Both Sawyer and Randall earned their first victories of the year for their work in the final two periods each day. Now, collectively on the year, the Pointers as a team allow a meager 1.36 goals against them per game.

On Saturday, after a scoreless first period, Jackie Schmitt scored the lone goal in the second period to give her team a cushion after forty minutes of play. It was Schmitt's third goal of the year and was assisted by Emily Teachout and Pam Stohr. Liz Goergen



Goergen

then added some insurance late in the third period. Assisting Goergen on her second score of the year were Ann Ninnemann and Kim Lunneborg. Sawyer on the victory faced only four shots thanks to a fabulous defense in front of her.

Again on Sunday it was a scoreless first period and UWSP made a switch in net at the intermission. The modest crowd at the arena not only

had to wait through the first period for a goal, but also the second and half of the third before Hilary Bulger scored at the 9:33 mark, assisted by Tracy Truckey and Jennifer Norris. Then lightning struck again just over a minute later as Goergen scored her second goal of the weekend, unassisted, on her way to the team's Player of the Week honor. Randall faced five shots in the final forty minutes for the win.

On the year, the women improved to 6-1-1 overall and 4-0 in the NCHA. This weekend the women continue to play their conference schedule playing Eau Claire both Friday and Saturday at home.

Those will be their final games until after the New Year when they travel to the East Coast to take part in four very meaningful games against the likes of Elmira, Plattsburgh, Middlebury and Williams' College. All four of those teams are currently ranked in the top ten in the nation, including Elmira sitting at the top of the rankings at number one.



Photo by Liz Bolton

Junior Liz Goergen brings up the puck against Lake Forest on Saturday. Goergen scored a goal in each of the Pointer's 2-0 weekend victories over the Foresters.

## Pointer grapplers end five year draught with La Crosse

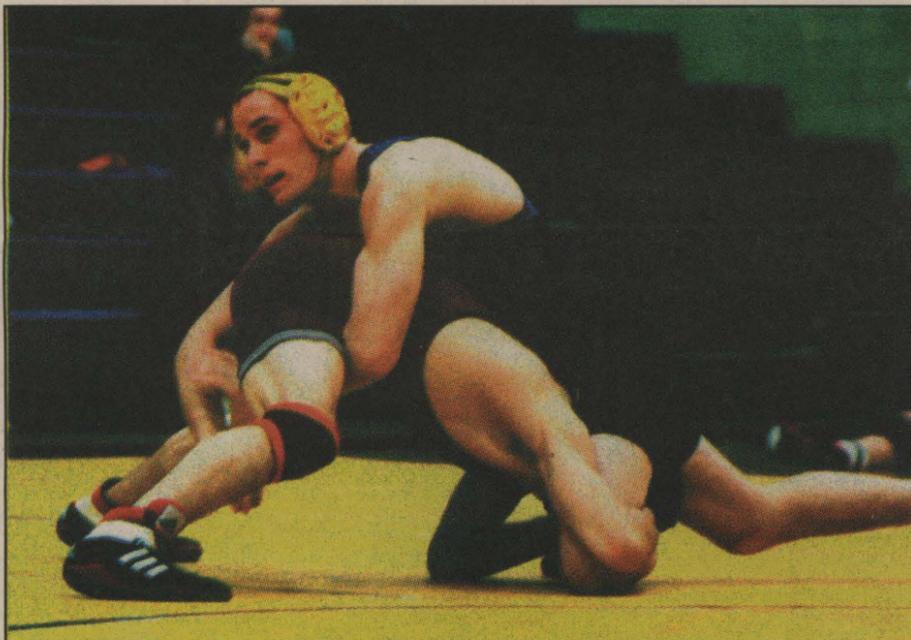


Photo by Patricia Larson

Brady Holtz attempts a reverse on LaCrosse's David Silva during Tuesday's dual meet. Holtz took his match 4-2, helping his team to a 19-17 victory.

By Craig Mandli  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UWSP wrestling team earned its first wrestling victory over UW-La Crosse since 1999 and snapped the Eagles' 24-match WIAC winning streak with a 19-17 victory Tuesday in the Berg Gym.

#### wrestling

"We didn't come into this meet thinking we had a chance to win," said Pointer head Coach Johnny Johnson. "We came in expecting to win."

The Pointers started with a jump with their light weights, opening up a 10-0 lead after the first three matches. David Davila posted a 14-5 major decision victory over Tom Tribon at 125 pounds, Brady Holtz pulled out a 4-2 win over David Silva at 133 pounds and Joel Burdick beat Adam Kuchnia 10-6 at 141 pounds.

"Getting the start at the light weights really helped us," said Johnson. Those guys really came through and set the tone."

One of the key matches of the night was the 165-pound match won by Ed Wynimko. Wynimko scored a tough 5-3 decision over LaCrosse's Derek Hebrink to turn the tide the Pointer's way.



Wynimko

"Ed really stepped up when he needed to," said Johnson. "Instead of wrestling not to lose, he was wrestling to win."

Big wins by the Pointer's top veteran wrestlers, Cody Koenig and Yan White, sealed the victory.

"This win is basically for bragging rights, but it still feels good for the guys," said Johnson.

The Pointers turn around and travel to Platteville to face a tough Pioneer

See Wrestling, page 10

## Swimmers have strong showing at Wheaton

By Jon Henseler  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Pointer swim team met with continued success last weekend at the Wheaton Relays, with both the men's and women's team placing third out of eight teams.

#### swimming & diving

This does, however mark the first time this season that the men's team failed to place first, and this is only the second time this season that the women's team has not finished in first place.

The third place finish does not both-

er the team though, mainly because there were different goals that the pointer team had going into the Wheaton Relays.

"The goal of the Wheaton Relays is for the team to achieve fast times. This relay is a chance for all of the swimmers on the team to race against fast competition," said sophomore swimmer Alex Anderson.

Anderson added, "The overall goal of the Wheaton Relays is not to win the meet, but instead to improve and race as individuals and as a team."

The women's and men's teams from UW-Milwaukee both placed first and Wheaton's men's and women's teams both placed second. UW-Stevens Point was the only team from the WIAC to compete in the meet.

Both the women's and men's teams get a break before they compete at the Aileen Soule Classic in Honolulu.

Neither team competes in Stevens Point until the Get to the Point Invitational on January 23rd and 24th.



Anderson

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# Ballers continue roll through early season opponents

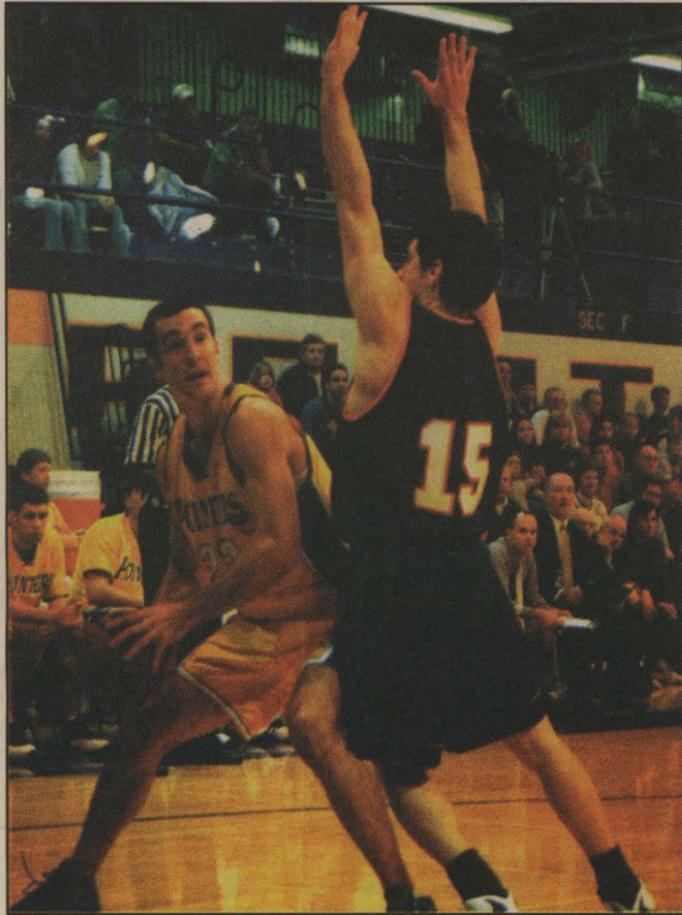


Photo by Liz Bolton

Junior Nick Bennett drives for a basket against Carroll College on Saturday in the Quandt Fieldhouse. Bennett scored 20 points in the Pointer's 80-68 victory.

## Team raises record to 7-0 with big win at Stout

By Craig Mandli  
SPORTS EDITOR

In tough road games, sometimes you are happy just to escape with a win. The UWSP men's basketball team had just those feelings after UW-Stout made a valiant attempt to come back on them on Wednesday night, falling nine points short, 73-64.

### men's basketball

The Pointers used a solid shooting first half to jump out to a 43-23 halftime lead. The Pointers hit 55 percent of their first half shots, including 8-of-15 3-pointers, to bury the Blue Devils. Junior Jason Kalsow led the way for the Pointers with 14 of his game-high 20 points in the first stanza.

"The first half was one of our best of the year," said Pointer Head Coach Jack Bennett. "We shot, rebounded and ran the floor very well."

However, as many games are, this one became a tale of two

halves as Stout began to chip away at the big lead. The Blue Devils cut the Pointer lead into single digits with 1:13 left in the game as Nate Templer blocked a shot on the defensive end, and seconds later drained a three pointer for a 67-59 Stevens Point lead.

Stout's Jeff Vandenberghe cut the lead to six points, 70-64, with five points in the final minute, but the Pointers got three free throws followed by a layup from Brett Hirsch to wrap up their seventh straight win. Chipping in for the Pointers with solid games were junior Nick Bennett and senior Neal Krajnik, with 16 and 13 points, respectively.

"I was very pleased with the overall effort [Wednesday]," said Bennett. "With this being our first road game, I was a little concerned going in."

The win over Stout capped off a perfect week for the Pointers after wins on Saturday and Sunday against Calumet College and Carroll College. The Pointers upended Calumet on Saturday,

96-60; and then came back to beat Carroll 80-68 on Sunday.

In Saturday's game, the Pointers opened up a 54-22 half-time lead while shooting 70 percent in the first half. The hot-shooting Kalsow had 26 points in just 19 minutes played and freshman Jon Krull, in his first extended playing time of the year, added 11 points.



Kalsow

"I was happy with our performance on Saturday," said Bennett. "We put together two solid halves of basketball."

On Sunday, Carroll College gave the Pointers a little more trouble, with UWSP having to rally from behind for the win. Kalsow scored 26 points for the second straight day, while Bennett added 20 points. The Pointers trailed 45-37 at halftime, but shot 67 percent in the second half while stepping up their defensive pressure to earn the victory.

With the three wins, the Pointers improved to 7-0 on the season (2-0 in the WIAC). Next up they travel to Las Vegas to take part in a holiday tournament.

## SENIOR ON THE SPOT ANDREA KRAEMER - BASKETBALL



Kraemer

### Career Highlights

- Beating Wash U at their place two years ago
- Winning a National Championship two years ago
- Named to the WIAC All-Defensive Team in 2002-2003 season
- Led the WIAC in assists the past two years averaging 4.0 a game

Major - Communications

Hometown - Waukesha, Wis.

Nickname - "K-Dawg", "Mama" and "Kraem"

What are your plans after graduation? - I plan on getting on the "Price is Right" because that has been my dream since I was 12 years old! Hopefully I can get a job somewhere in Wisconsin, maybe somewhere with a larger mall.

Do you plan on playing basketball after graduation? - I would love the opportunity to play overseas, but in reality that ain't happenin', so probably not.

What is your favorite aspect of basketball? - My favorite aspect of this sport is being part of a team. I love stepping out on the court everyday with these girls. Win or lose, we always have a great time playing together!

Most embarrassing moment - I do stupid things all the time, so I guess you could say I don't get embarrassed easily. But I did fall down a flight of stairs once and hit every stair with my butt before I hit the ground.

If you could be anyone for a day, who would you choose? - I would choose to be Julia Roberts. She is my favorite actress, I think she leads such a glamorous life.

What CD is in your stereo right now? - Probably one of Nechuta's, considering I borrow her cd's all the time.

If you could take anyone on a dream date, who would it be, and where would you go? - Vin Diesel! I would pretty much go anywhere with him!

What will you remember most about playing basketball at UWSP? - All the good times I have had with the girls I have played with over the years, there is too many to count. Also, winning at Wash U two years ago.

Do you have any parting words for the underclassmen? - Take full advantage of your time here. Your time here is short before you enter into the "real world," so live it up! Also for the underclassmen who know me best, one message from Mama. "Think before you speak!"

## Fourteen years of frustration over

### Record still unblemished on young season

By Joshua Schmidt  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The UWSP women's basketball team finally put an end to fourteen years of frustration Tuesday night in Menomonie. The Pointers, keyed by strong performances by Amy Scott and Cassandra Schultz, beat Stout 76-75, winning at UW-Stout's Johnson Fieldhouse for the first time since 1989.

### women's basketball

The hard-fought win that saw leading scorer Amanda Nechuta limited to 5 points in just eight minutes of playing time due to foul trouble, showed the balance and talent of this Pointer team.

While Nechuta languished on the bench, three of her teammates picked up the slack, lead by junior Amy Scott, who poured in a career high 27 points, including going 11-12 from the charity stripe. Sophomore Cassandra Schultz also established a career high with 19 points, and was clutch from the line, going 7-8 in the last three minutes. Rounding out the triple threat was senior Cassandra Heuer, who

chipped in a career high 14 rebounds to go with her 13 points.

UWSP started strong in the first half, going into half-time with a comfortable 43-31 lead. Stout, however, wasn't going down without a fight. The Bludevils clawed their way back into the game and eventually took the lead at 67-64 with three and a half minutes to play.

The Pointers weren't going to let history repeat itself on this particular night, and tied the game at 72 with :46 left on the clock. Schultz then stepped to the line and hit two clutch free throws to give the Pointers a two point lead.



Scott

See Women's Basketball, page 10

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THE BACK PAGE



The Man's Take All I want for Christmas

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

My girlfriend has been on my case all week, asking me what I want for Christmas. I guess I am pretty tough to buy for.

If it is expensive and/or electronic, I will probably break it. Same if it is fragile. Jewelry? Forget it! The Man doesn't wear jewelry. Video games? The Man doesn't have time to play these (thanks professors).

So here is my list of affordable, practical Christmas gifts:

1. The Milwaukee Brewers. They're cheap, look kinda messy, and make you feel sorry for them. Somewhat like a stray puppy. They will look nice

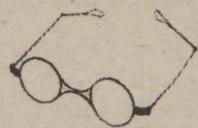
next to my singing Big Mouth Billy Bass.

2. Orlando Magic tickets. They are probably giving these puppies away right now. Plus, I have always wanted to see Zaza Pachulia in person.

3. Antonio Freeman. Okay, I'll have to get him on layaway till the end of the NFL season, but he ought to come pretty cheap, considering he is now the worst wide receiver in the NFL.

4. Rock-em, Sock-em Robots. I don't know what it is about those little plastic guys, but every time I looked at the JC Penney catalogue as a kid, I wanted them. But my mom didn't like violence, so no robot mayhem for me. Oh drat!

Merry Christmas everyone!



The way I see it... What? The BCS isn't BS after all

By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

I'm about to say something I thought I'd never say. After much thought and deliberation I've decided that the hated BCS is dead on with their choices for the Sugar Bowl. GASP!!!

Now don't get me wrong. I still hate the BCS and I think some sort of playoff format needs to be implemented. But in this case, amid all the outrage about the so-called robbing of USC, I'm siding with the Coalition.

The one advantage of the BCS format is the computer polls. While these polls aren't foolproof, they do have one positive: They aren't swayed by popularity or emotion, which is why, I think, USC is such a popular choice. The one problem I've always had with the AP and *USA Today* Coaches poll is that, all things being equal, the team that lost the most recently is usually the odd team out. There's always a kneejerk reaction in these polls. If you lose, you take a big hit in the polls the week after, and then slowly work your way back up. If

Oklahoma had lost its first game of the season and won the rest, no one would argue that they don't belong in the title game.

Now, I don't want to seem like I don't like USC. I think they're a good team; in fact they're the third best team in the nation. There are two strikes against them as far as I'm concerned. First they didn't play nearly as tough of a schedule as OU or LSU. They have the 37th ranked schedule, while OU's is 11th and LSU's is 29th. This is mainly due to the fact that they play in the PAC 10. I know they can't help what conference they play in, but it still plays a role.

The only thing USC has got going for them is their rankings in the two human polls, which, as far as I'm concerned, are flawed. If you really look at the three teams objectively I think the OU vs. LSU match-up is dead on.

My advice to USC? Go out and beat Michigan. If you can beat Michigan, then maybe we have a controversy on our hands, but that's a big if. Until then, enjoy the weather in Pasadena.



The view from the Rowdy Crowd Ho, Ho, Ho...The Holiday Edition

By The Rowdy Crowd
SPORTS COLUMNISTS

Welcome back! I hope everyone enjoyed last week's tales of the road as experienced by Caveman. Often members of the Rowdy Crowd take these road trips with the team, a great aspect of college life. It's a chance to hang with friends, invade other towns and cities, and just cause a general ruckus. This will be our last article for the year of 2003 and before the holidays we have

some ground to cover.

The week that was...

The Pointers traveled to River Falls to engage in a well fought game against the fifth-ranked Thunder Chickens. The 1999-2000 season was the last time that the Pointers had won in UWRF's barn, so it was a long time coming. The whole team showed, through their play, that this conference season is going to be a battle within the eight-team NCHA.

On Saturday night the Pointers played the Blue Devils of UW Short n' Stout, and lost a close game 3-2. A tough loss, but look for the Dawgs to be up for this weekend's games.

On the other side of the ice, the women's team swept the Lake Forest Foresters, 2-0 both nights. Finally fans got to see the veteran goaltenders Diane Sawyer and Crystal Randall get some playing time. Way to go ladies.

Coming Attractions!

This week sees the Pointers continue in conference play against the UW-Eau Claire Bluc cheese. Oops! I mean Blugolds. (If you know what a Blugold is, and can provide evidence, please let us know!) The home and home series sees the Pointers travel to Eau Claire for the Friday night game and then, at home, in the K.B. Willet Arena Saturday night. This game will be taking place after EVERYONE in the residence halls has to observe "quiet hours." So come to the Willett and cheer with us, get that finals-week stress out and cheer on our Pointers to victory! This weekend also sees the

women's team at home both Friday night and Saturday afternoon with both games against the Blugolds. Make the trip out to Ice Hawks Arena and cheer on the women to victory and help them keep first place in the NCHA.

Ok now that things are settled, the Rowdy Crowd wishes everyone a good holiday season and encourages YOU, the reader, to attend the games that are coming up in the second half of the season. The games start back up on January 9, so stop by and work off that post-holiday poundage and cheer with us. EVERYONE is welcome.

Women's Basketball from page 9

UWSP never relinquished the lead after that point and posted the 76-75 win, putting an end to the Johnson Fieldhouse curse.

Coach Egner was pleased with the way the team responded to adversity.

"It was a huge win for us, a total team effort," said Egner. "If anybody would have told me we were going over there and Nechuta was going to foul out in eight minutes and score five points and we were going to win the game. I would have said they're crazy."

With the win, the Pointers move to 7-0 on the season, 2-0 in the WIAC.

Saturday the Pointers travel to Waukesha to take on Carroll College. After Christmas UWSP travels to sunny San Diego to take part in the Surf N' Slam Hoops Classic.

Wrestling from page 8

team on Thursday. While Johnson knows his team is strong, he also knows that the chance of a letdown is still there.

"I told the guys to enjoy the LaCrosse win for a little while," said Johnson. "But they need to be ready for a tough test on Thursday."

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Wild matters

Gearing up for ice fishing season

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
OUTDOORS EDITOR

1. Tip-ups

Nothing in ice fishing is as exhilarating as looking across the wind-swept ice to see a bouncing orange flag that signals both a fish bite and a moral victory. These simple fish traps do all the work for you, making it possible to fish a large area of ice with only a few people on guard. Tip-ups come in dozens of designs, from the classic Beaver Dam Arctic Fisherman, to the Frabil insulated roundies and homemade box traps. These workhorses of ice fishing have been reinvented over the years, making them ideal for pike and walleye fishing in any conditions, over any amount of time. Wisconsin Fish and Game laws allows for each fisherman to set three lines a piece, and for that reason, I carry at least that many in my bucket at all times. Sometimes I carry more because you never know when an extra buddy might show up, or when the fish will want a different rig. I love tip-ups, because my heart goes from 50 to 200 beats per minute when I see one of those flags go up, and the thrill of setting a steel treble hook into a big pike's mouth and fighting her back to the hole hand by hand is an experience that surpasses memorable every time.

2. Jiggin' rods

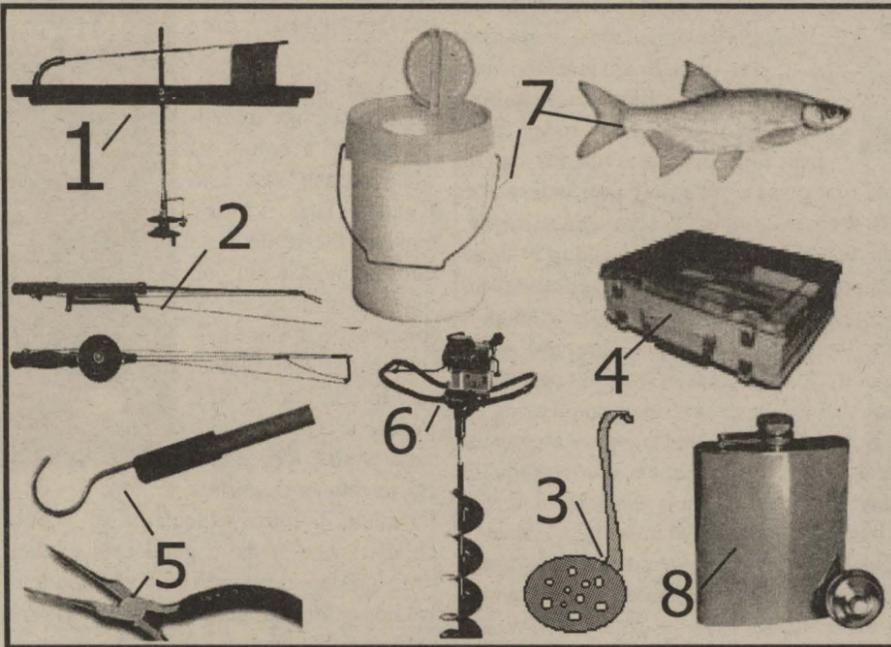
These puppies seem like fishing rods made for midgets at first glance, only these tiny rods are capable of so much more than their initial appearance, kind of like a midget with mind-reading powers or a steel endoskeleton. You see, a small twig with ten feet of line could easily catch a limit of panfish on the ice, if you are in the right place at the right time. Jiggin' rods do range from twigs and nails to carbon-fiber shafts with \$50 reels; however, they all serve the same purpose: catching those

light-nibbling sneaky bastard panfish come winter. Bite detection methods include spring bobbers and slip bobbers on super thin line. While the tip-ups get all the glory, it is most often the jiggin' rod that brings home the bacon (fish filets). Hitting a school of crappie, perch or bluegill on the hard water can turn the coldest day into a jovial holiday. Plan on carrying along a few of these little fellas in

less, frostbitten paw all afternoon. Geesh! It looks like you stuck your hand in a raisin machine, a lava pit and a vial of herpes-ridden blood all in one five-minute span. Seriously, shell out the three bucks and get a scoop.

4. Tackle

One of those small plastic boxes is usually big enough to handle your tackle



The essential equipment for a good day on the hard water.

graphic by Tycho

the bucket, so you're ready when the panies start mowin' on the minnows, like midgets on a shrimp platter.

3. Scoop

All the tackle in the world won't make a difference without a scoop to clear the ice from your hole. Like anything, you can spend a little or a lot on this product, and like anything, you get what you pay for. In any case, a scoop is a must, unless you plan on clearing that slush with your life-

needs on the ice. Some essentials include lead weights, swivels, small jigs, bobbers, extra line and a clip-on depth marker. Jigging spoons and "flying lures" have become popular in the past few years around these parts as well. Whatever the case, remember to carry extra of all the necessary goods in addition to a few wild-cards like trout flies, porkchops and magic Guatemalan snails.

5. Pliers and Gaffs

You won't want to forget these, unless of course, you like losing big fish at the hole and sticking your hands inside pike mouths on a regular basis. If that's the case, go ahead and leave the steel at home. The bloody, fishless "wildfolk" society is always looking for new members.

6. Auger

Probably the most important tool of the ice-fisherman is the auger, or ice pick. If you can't afford one, it usually isn't too hard to find a buddy with such luxuries; however, this can become a real pain in the ass over winter break when people are gone. For under \$50, you can get a sweet hand-auger, which makes a great holiday gift to give, or receive. I once asked an auger, "What is your favorite thing to do?"

It replied with a sick grin on its face, "Well Adam, aside from perverted auger-sex, I'd have to say my favorite activity is searching for the taste of glory that one may derive from pulverizing less formidable water molecules with relentless fury. That, and knitting."

7. Bait

You don't want to forget these little kamikaze critters. Be it a shiner or a wax worm, the bait is the glue that brings the whole show together. So say thank you, give them a drink of the emperor's milk and stick a hook of glory into your little friend. "The water is your theater, the hook is your chariot and the pike's mouth is your intended target little warrior!" Banzai!

8. Extra fun

Inbetween bites, it is always good to have some fun on the ice. Listening to the Packers or some tunes on the portable radio is always a bonus. If that isn't an option, a football is good fun to toss around, especially if the ice is slippery. The last component for fun is refreshments. Sandwiches, meat and booze are definitely a must for a good day of fishing, or any outdoor activity for that matter.

Enjoying winter in Point

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
OUTDOORS EDITOR

I've always thought that the first good snowfall of the year is one of the best days to be alive. The scenery around town is so peacefully perfect, life begins to settle down and all the wintertime activities I've been waiting for since last March come rushing back into my cozy little head.

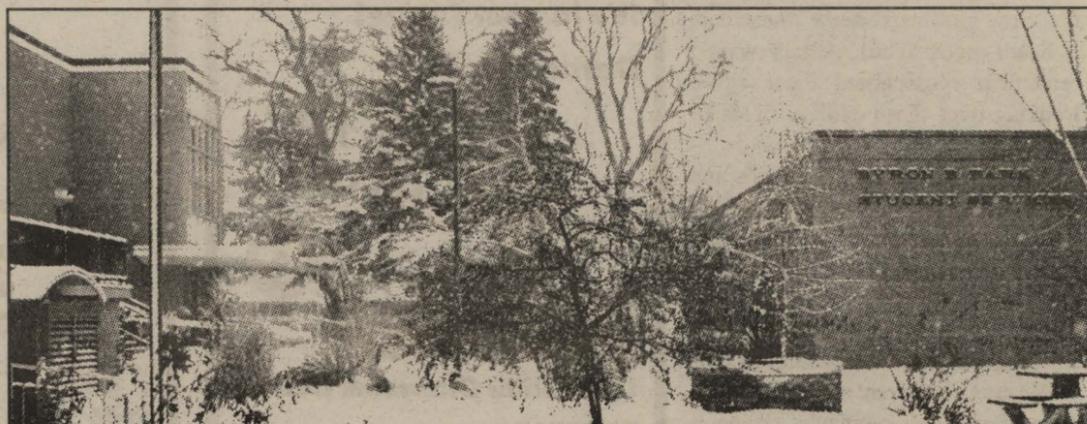
As a UWSP student and Wisconsin native, I view snow and winter in general as the best season of the year. The other seasons have their own charms; however, real winter weather is a treat that a good majority of the earth's population simply never experiences or understands. I take pride in that fact. I cherish this time of year.

And why not? Point arguably has more to offer

in the winter than during any other time of the year. Wisconsin has its own Badger State Winter Games every year up in Wausau that features dozens of winter sports and activities unique to cold-weather climates.

Snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hockey skating, sledding, downhill skiing, curling, ice-fishing, snowmobiling, making snowmen, snowball fights and sleigh-rides are all things that I will do over the next few months.

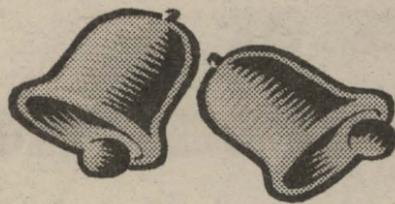
I just don't understand why people groan about snow and cold weather all the time. Living here is a privilege, and if you can't find something in this season that gets you excited, it might just be that you're not looking hard enough. If not, quit your griping and move down south, because variety, not cajun, is the real spice of life.



Six inches of the good stuff fell on Point this Wednesday. It's about time!

photo by P. Larson

Holiday Special



The Holidays are coming and so is Christmas Break. Get yourself a really cool gift and rent an apartment for next school year. Save yourself some holiday cash and bring in this coupon for \$15 off your monthly rent, a limited savings of \$180 over a year lease. It's not much, but are any of the other guys giving discounts for the holidays? Call 341-2120 for a tour.

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Happy Holidays!

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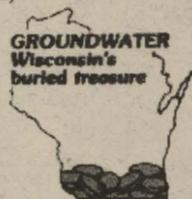
CALL 341-HELP

Browne is a genius!!!!

The WiSys Technology Foundation, Inc., a private, nonprofit organization that manages intellectual property created at the 25 University of Wisconsin System campuses other than UW-Madison, has received notice from the U.S. Patent and Trade Office that a patent will soon be issued on an invention from UWSP. This is the second patent for the university. The only other patent was granted to Mathematics Professor G. Kung in 1998.

Created by Bryant Browne, associate professor of soils in UWSP's College of Natural Resources, the technology is a highly efficient device for sampling multiple dissolved gases in surface and groundwater, with potential applications in both water quality monitoring and remediation.

According to Browne, the essence of this process is extracting natural and man-made gases out of any existing body of water using a simple pumping process. Unlike existing approaches to measuring gases in surface and groundwater, which typically require different extraction methods depending on the gas, Browne's device collects multiple gases at once. Browne has used the device to quantify emissions of global warming gases when agricultural pollutants in groundwater enter streams; to study natural processes in sediments and wetlands that convert nitrate pollution to harmless nitrogen gas; and to chart the his-



torical degradation of ground water quality over the last 60 years.

"The ability to easily and rapidly collect a large volume of dissolved gas in one sample is unprecedented," said Browne. "This technology affords several advantages for environmental research applications, including affixing the date of origin for groundwater itself. That's exciting because you'd be able to construct the history of groundwater quality and learn more from past mistakes."

For example, says Browne, rainfall and snowmelt in the 1940s and 1950s contained very small amounts of dissolved chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases. But today they have large quantities of CFC, one of the first gases targeted as a potential source for global warming. According to Browne, the historical atmospheric buildup of these industrial gases is mirrored quite well in groundwater. The device makes it simpler for scientists to link CFC age and water quality, allowing easier tracking of historical changes in groundwater quality.

Browne, a teacher of water chemistry and soil physics, holds undergraduate degrees from Boston College and the University of Massachusetts, a master's degree from the University of California-Berkeley and a doctorate from Syracuse University. In 1996 he received UWSP's Excellence in Teaching Award. He joined the faculty in 1993.

Mr. Winters' two cents

Hey kiddies! How the heck is that schoolwork going? Hopefully good. I tell ya, you don't have to worry about getting out on the ice too much yet. Actually, I'm sitting here waiting for this snowstorm to hit as I write this up.

Yet, any snow we get now is a snowstorm. You all should've been around years ago to see a real "storm." The one back in 1923 damn near covered the outhouse. Anyways, I figured I'd give you kids a little lesson on the spirit of Christmas before you all skeedaddle for the winter break. There was a time when the holidays meant more than money.

When I was a kid, things were much different in Wisconsin. I can remember back when I was real young. Every Christmas eve, I was sent to hitch up the team so we could go down to Grandma's place for the festivities. We had one of them old sleighs, which we would ride for the mile or so from our farm. My father would take the reins and allow us kids to enjoy the snowy weather. Those cutters would glide through the snow, kicking flakes up on the faces of my siblings and me. You know how the snow glistens at night when there is a full moon about? That's what I remember most about those rides. Looking over those endless fields of snow.

Well we'd get to Grandma's and she'd have a big old dinner going. That was a Christmas present in itself. We'd eat and then sit by the ol' stove and receive our gifts. Most of them visits I remember, I got an apple and an orange, and a few times I got a new warm shirt for the rest of winter. Now, most of you kids would be crying if that was all you got! The ride home



"Christmas memories"

was just as enjoyable, for with a full belly and fruit in hand, I would always fall asleep in the cold and silent land.

Christmas day, the family went to church, came home, and that was that. The winter wheat grew and the season of winter continued. My best Christmas when I was a little older, when I was given an erector set. I did nothing else but my chores and play with that set. I'd take those days over any Christmas today. Fancy-smancy electronic gifts can't replace those tasty fruits. So this Holiday season, take a step back, enjoy the break, and then, "Go on and Geeeeeeeeeeet!!!!"

-Mr. Winters

Summer 2004

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Cornerstone offers local flavor

By Marty Seeger & Craig Mandli
OUTDOORS CONTRIBUTION DUO

"The nature signs are all covered with a two-inch layer of fresh snow—a blank page—as if in the end nature will decide what to write about herself." This is just a taste of what you can expect from *A Wisconsin River Almanac: Embracing the Tattered Wild*, authored by Ron Hay and published by Cornerstone Press. Hay is a retired environmental educator and avid outdoor enthusiast from Mosinee.

The nature book takes you on a month-by-month account of life along the Wisconsin River. The writing engages the reader, and does an outstanding job of illustrating the importance of our environment as a prominent tool in education. "If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a real life encounter is worth a thousand pictures—especially to school children who spend a good deal of their time looking at pictures in books, on television, or on computer monitors, without realizing that some of these things are in their own back yards."

Readers will gain a better understanding of nature, and understand the importance of saving our precious natural resources. Dr. Richard Behm, noted out-

door writer and professor of English here at UWSP, stated "Ron Hay has crafted a book in the tradition of Wisconsin's other three great nature writers—Aldo Leopold, John Muir, and Sigurd Olson."

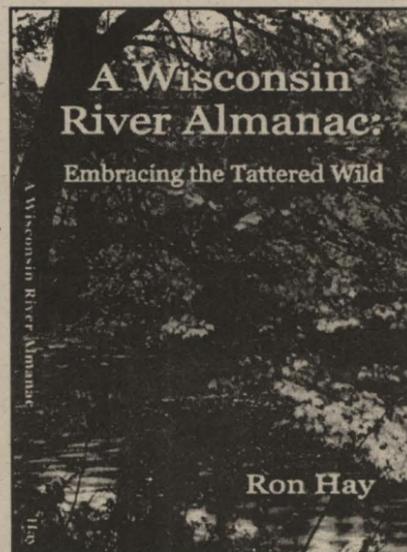
Cornerstone Press is a student-run publishing company operated by the English 349 students of Professor Dan Dieterich. Mary Croft founded Cornerstone Press in 1975 at UWSP and

Dieterich took over in 1984. Since then, nearly 20 books have been successfully published in all genres of writing, from historical nonfiction to humorous fiction.

Twenty three students took part in the class this year, with each student taking on a strict deadline schedule that they must meet in order to get the book to the public. In one semester, the students accomplish what takes most other

publishing companies nearly two years.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of Hay's book, or would like to learn more about Cornerstone Press and the English 349 class, visit <http://www.uwsp.edu/english/cornerstone/>. Copies of the book are also available at the University Center bookstore or at Bookfinders on the east side of Stevens Point. The books retail for \$15.95.



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)
- ◆ Purchase caps, gowns, and tassels, or rent hoods at the University Store Dec. 8~12, 8:00 a.m.~4:00 p.m. or until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday or Thursday. Order by mail Dec. 1~9 at 346~3431.

Questions? Contact University Relations at 346-3811

Events Calender



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

Saturday, December 13
Moon, w/guests Tree of Woe @
 The Witz End
 9:30 p.m., \$5

Friday, December 19
Coma Savants @ The Witz End
 9:30 p.m., \$5

Saturday, December 20
Diggstown @ The Mission
 Coffee House
 9:30 p.m., \$5

Read *The Pointer* on the web!
<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/pointer>



movie review:

By Geoff Fyfe
 ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

If I had to sum up Edward Zwick's *The Last Samurai*, it would be *Dances with Wolves* crossed with Akira Kurosawa. Like Kevin Costner's epic, it deals with a white man ingraining himself with another people at a time when their existence is nearing an end. And it deals with the legendary Japanese director's favorite subject: the samurai and honor in feudal Japan. Zwick, already with one great war movie to his credit (*Glory*), summons these disparate threats into a satisfying emotionally charged epic, aided by a great cast of mainly Japanese actors and one huge American star, Tom Cruise.

Cruise plays Capt. Nathan Algren, a Civil War hero and Indian fighter who's fallen on hard times. Haunted by battlefield experiences, he's now a chronic drunk who earns enough booze money by shilling for the Winchester Rifle Company. But an offer comes out of the blue from Japan. The Japanese are in the process of modernizing their country and Algren is chosen to train their new Western-style army. The army is needed, for the samurai, the ancient warriors of feudal Japan, are in rebellion in a desperate attempt to preserve the old ways.

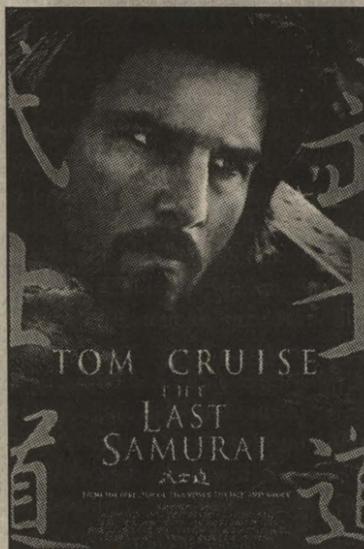
The first battle with the samurai is a disaster and Algren is taken prisoner. But the samurai leader, Katsumoto (Ken Watanabe), spares his life, intending to learn all he can about the enemy from this foreigner, even though he killed the husband of his sister Taka (Koyuki). Over the course of a winter, Algren befriends

The Last Samurai



Katsumoto and learns the way of the samurai, finding a peace he never thought he'd find again. Eventually, he must decide whether to return to his old world or stand and fight by Katsumoto in a last desperate battle against the increasingly well-trained and equipped government forces.

Samurai is an epic in every



way, from the scope of the story to the scale of the impressive battle scenes. It's also intelligently written, full of subtext about Western influence on foreign countries and about the determination of people to hold on to ancient ways which are timely topics in this post 9/11 world. Sometimes the film is too close to *Dances with Wolves* for comfort. Cruise even keeps a diary of his exploits like Costner did and the ending is a little bit too Hollywood, but it doesn't detract from the film's overall accomplishments. And there are some scenes, like the first battle that has samurai emerging out of a misty forest like phantoms from a vanished age, that are pure filmmaking magic.

Cruise, never an actor to shy away from taking risks, does a fine job as Algren, conveying his damaged soul and his warrior prowess. It's clear he studied samurai techniques for the role. However, it's Watanabe, virtually unknown in the West, who rules this film. Channeling Kurosawa's legendary star Toshiro Mifune with energy and force, Watanabe dominates the screen in every scene he's in. His Katsumoto is a fascinating character. He swears loyalty to the emperor, his former pupil, who he now rebels against. Watanabe perfectly captures his honor, his magnetism and his determination and will to fight a battle against Japan's encroaching modernism that he knows deep down he cannot win. If there's an Oscar nomination in *Samurai's* future, Watanabe deserves it, not Cruise. The supporting cast is solid as well, including Billy Connolly as Algren's profane Irish sergeant and conscience and a supremely oily Tony Goldwyn as Algren's hated former commander, a textbook study of the Ugly American.

Despite its minor faults, *The Last Samurai* is the closest thing to a Kurosawa epic since the master's death. Full of great characters, emotion and epic battle scenes that rival anything in *The Lord of the Rings*, it should serve as prime Oscar bait in a couple months. Despite the uplifting ending, it achieves what *Dances with Wolves* achieved - the sorrow of seeing a culture and people fight for their existence despite the knowledge that their time is nearing an end.

Celebrity news and notes

Idiot count: Celebs- 2
 U.S. Government- 1

By Steve Seamandel
 ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

King of funk George Clinton was arrested after allegedly telling a police officer that he had a bag of cocaine in his pocket in Tallahassee, Fla. early on Saturday morning. A police officer approached Clinton's vehicle and

found him alone, sitting in the passenger seat. An officer found what was believed to be a crack pipe shoved between the seats. Clinton has officially been charged with one felony count of cocaine possession and a misdemeanor for possession of the crack pipe.

Ozzy Osbourne injured himself on his 4-wheeler ATV this week, was rushed to a hospital and had surgery on a broken collarbone, six ribs and a cracked vertebra in his neck.

Also, news came out this week about Ozzy's drug habit. He was, at times, ingesting up to 42 pills per day. A Beverly Hills doctor, whose license has since been suspended, allegedly prescribed Osbourne Valium, Dexedrine, Mysoline, Adderall and an array of opiates, tranquilizers, amphetamines and antidepressants to help him cope with his wife's cancer. Osbourne claimed that his mumbling and stumbling on their MTV reality show was because of the pills. Smooth.

Finally, a new Eminem song entitled "We As Americans" that was leaked on the Internet last week contained lyrics that the Secret Service found possibly threatening to President Bush, prompting a full-on investigation on the rapper. Apparently, Eminem belts out the lyrics, "I don't rap for dead presidents/I'd rather see the president dead." No worries, though, as the Secret Service deemed that Eminem is indeed not a threat to the security of President Bush.

All I want for X-mas

By Steve Seamandel
 ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

Christmas has become a holiday of "what do you want?" as opposed to kindness and giving for me. And I'm not talking about generalities. Nowadays, relatives want specifics. What size, color, brand, style, or - my favorite - widescreen or full screen? Things can get so difficult in my house, that the gift of music or movie reigns supreme. After all, it's the gift that just keeps on giving...until you scratch it, at least.

Trying out new music can always be fun, and after all, it won't cost you a dime, and is way more ethical than downloading it, right? The in-between-Christmas-and-New-Year's purgatory can then be transformed into a new-music listening session.

A few critically acclaimed discs from 2003 that are worth a listen include *Elephant* by The White Stripes (rock), *Heavier Things* by John Mayer (acoustic), *On and On* by Jack Johnson (acoustic), *Hail to the Thief* by Radiohead (rock), *Get Rich or Die Tryin'* by 50 Cent (rap), *Speakerboxxx/The Love Below* by

Outkast (hip hop) and *Jackpot!* by Chingy for starters. Stay away from the 36-minute bomb *Vintage* by Michael Bolton (crap rock), though.

DVDs are also perfect for the holiday season, and when you live in Wisconsin, good movies are essential to make it through the winter. Try out *Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Chicago*, *The Indiana Jones Trilogy*, and no collection is complete without *The Simpsons* or *The Family Guy*. Any season will do.

And don't forget the intellectual, time-honored tradition of reading. Cruise around Barnes and Noble (or a smaller indie store, as suggested by a colleague) for a few hours. You won't feel as dirty as you would after cruising around Wal-Mart, and you'll probably come out a little sharper in the end. But I will give a quick shameless plug to Michael Moore's new book *Dude, Where's My Country?* To quote Krusty the Clown, "Give a hoot! Read a book!"

I'll try to remember the important things this Christmas, as usual. But, I'm guilty. All I really want is music and DVDs.

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Jackie's fridge



by bj hiorns

tonja steele



by joey hetzel



Your College Survival Guide: For Whom The Bell Tolls

By: The Pat Rothfuss Consortium
With Help from GottaHavaJava

AN OLDIE, BUT A GOODIE

Dear Pat,
Well, I see in the Pointer that if we have something to piss and moan about, we are supposed to let you know. So here we go.

The other day I was walking past the UC. I was cold, but I knew I had to get to the next building for my next class. I was tired, but I knew I had to keep going and make it through the day. I was hungry, but I knew I would have to wait until I got home because I had no money.

While I was approaching the UC building (dreaming about what kind of food I wish I could go and buy) I hear a bell ringing and thought to myself, "No way, they don't have a Salvation Army guy here at the college." But sure enough, I got a little closer and I saw that friendly old guy waving his bell in front of his cute little collection pole.

I couldn't help but glare at him in the

way that said "I hate you" and I did, at that moment, hate that man, whoever he was. I glared at him the whole time until I was passed him. I made damn sure he saw me glaring too, I don't care what he thought.

I am broke. Isn't everyone here at the college????

I am a full time college student (who happens to live alone) and I work close to 40 hours per week at some cheesy restaurant trying to pay my bills and get an education. Rent, car payment, bills, you know what I mean. No matter what, I never can get ahead enough to even feel like I can treat myself to a nice hot meal.

All the money we students are spending here at college, not to mention the (expensive) parking meters, and yet the college has enough balls to set up a collection for more money. I don't even have enough money to support myself. You stand here wanting us to help out the less fortunate when we are the less fortunate. We have nothing.

Well. If ya like my piss and moan

story-that's great. I feel confident that you know what I mean here and I hope you help in writing something up on this in your paper, maybe the bell guy would then go away.

Marie Strelow

Well Marie, I had a strong response to your letter. Actually, I had two responses, each of them utterly irreconcilable with the other. Luckily, due to an end-of-the-semester psychotic break, I have two fully formed personalities willing to give their opinions on the matter.

NICE PAT'S RESPONSE

I know for a fact that the Salvation Army guy isn't a new thing. I used to see him there in front of the UC every year, and I'll admit my reaction was somewhat similar to yours. I felt put-upon. As my dad always said, you can't get blood from a stone, or pity from a freshman during finals week. Why were they trying to milk me when I was already dry?

Truth is, even well-intentioned college students are usually strapped for cash, especially at the end of the semester. Because of that I always felt the bell ringer could have been put to better use somewhere else. In the mall. Outside Wal-Mart. On the square at bar-time. Onstage, next to that big pole at the New Yorker...

EVIL PAT'S RESPONSE

Marie, it's not that you're poor. It's that you've been trained to drool when the bell rings. What do I mean by that? I mean this: You've bought into the system, and the system has made you its bitch. Sure I feel sorry for you, but the fact remains that it's your own damn fault.

I understand that you work 40 hours a week in addition to school. Fine, but don't expect pity from me just because you follow some outmoded protestant work ethic.

"But I need the money!" I hear you cry.

Bullshit. You think you need the money. The truth is you spend your money on non-essential

items. Just like everyone else who's been inculcated into the three-step easy-bake American dream.

- 1) Work hard to get money.
- 2) Use money to buy things.
- 3) Use things to achieve happiness.

"But I don't have things! I'm barely making it from bill to bill!"

Bullshit. I know that you're living in some manner of extravagance because as an undergrad I made on average of 6000 dollars a year. And with that colossal sum I paid my tuition, had my share of hot meals, bought presents for my girlfriend, and still had enough to drop a couple of bucks in the bellringer's bucket come Christmas time.

How did I achieve this miracle? Well, I never had a car for one thing. I survived nearly a decade in Point without one, walking to my various jobs and carrying my groceries home.

I never had the luxury of living alone either. Well...that's not really true. For a year I lived in a one-room apartment with a bathroom down the hallway. It cost me \$140 per month, everything included. My friends called it 'The Pit.' I stayed there because it was cheap, and that freed up my money for other things, like nudie magazines, leather pants, and grain alcohol.

Here is the unvarnished truth. If you're poor and in college, you're not really poor. You're just indulging in certain luxuries beyond your means. However, there are people in the country that are genuinely poor. People who don't have cars, or even nasty little one-room 'pit' apartments.

Most importantly, those people don't have a support network of friends and family who are willing to help them out if something bad happens. What those people do have is The Salvation Army. They buy toys for poor-kids and shut-ins for chrissake. You can't find any fault with an organization like that.

So pony up, pig-licker, and give some jingle to the bucketman.

After you've ponied up to the Salvation Army, why not stop by GottaHavaJava for some holiday shopping? They've got gift baskets, chocolate espresso beans, Holiday Roast Coffee, and best of all, gift-certificates for the under-caf-feinated person in your life.

Send E-mail to proth@wsuunix.wsu.edu.

Spark it...

by: Mel Rosenberg



@-Folks, it been Real.
Mel...

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\$375/month
Call Matt, 573-4191

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