Efforts to discourage files-sharing continue

By John Larson

The growing trend by the recording industry to search for and sue those who are conducting illegal file sharing across the internet has led UW-Stevens Point to become one of the hundreds of college campuses that are trying to inform their students about the consequences of their actions and limit the ability of students to download music and software onto their computer networks. According to David Dumke, the Information Technologies (IT) Director for UWSP, there are no plans to block access to any websites or programs that allow for file sharing, but there are plans to "educate students about copyright laws and make them aware that what they are doing is illegal."

Dumke stated that UWSP has placed filters on its network that search for packet information that resembles file sharing and attempts to limit the bandwidth for those downloads, slowing down the ability to share files but not preventing it. Dumke went on to emphasize that UWSP is committed to student Internet use privacy and has no plans to conduct searches on the network for those who are still downloading files from Kazaa and other file sharing programs.

He said that prior to the installation of the network filters, at least "65 to 70% of our bandwidth was being hogged by file sharing, making it difficult to justify what we spend per year on bandwidth if only 30% was being allocated for educational purposes."

More information regarding their rights and responsibilities with regards to copyrighted material will be made available to students in the coming weeks.

Even though the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) or other music groups have sued those who are conducting illegal file sharing across the internet has led UW-Stevens Point to become one of the hundreds of college campuses that are trying to inform their students about the consequences of their actions and limit the ability of students to download music and software onto their computer networks.

Vandalism: 33 cars damaged in lot Q

UW-Stevens Point has announced that it is offering a reward of $2,500 for information on the individuals behind an act of mass property damage that occurred to cars parked on campus early Saturday morning. Thirty-three vehicles parked in lot Q were found with their windshields bashed in and hoods dented in, as were 12 cars parked off campus on neighboring streets.

Footprints found by Stevens Point police and campus security indicated that the hoods were dented by someone standing on them and that the windshields were kicked in. The damage is believed to have occurred between 4:30 a.m. and 6 a.m. based on security patrols and when the incidents began to be reported. Stevens Point police and campus security are still investigating the incident and are calling for help in providing information leading to an arrest. The Stevens Point Police Department can be contacted at 346-1500 and Campus Security can be called at 346-3456.

Walking on broken glass: Thirty three students with vehicles parked in Lot Q awoke Saturday morning to find their hoods dented and windshields cracked. Police believe the vandals stomped on the windshields of all the vehicles, like one pictured above.

Students experience higher tuition and larger class sizes

Andrew Blesser

Students at UW-Stevens Point will face higher tuition and a diminishing course selection beginning this semester, the result of $110 million in budget reductions exacted on the UW System for the current fiscal year.

The university cut 28.5 positions during the summer, 10.5 of them instructional, while tuition was upped $250 per semester, a 15% increase from 2002 aimed to compensate for a reduction in state support.

The effort to reduce payroll expenses and the tuition increase followed the approval of the 2003-2004 budget by the UW Board of Regents in July. The budget calls for an additional $140 million in cuts to the UW System in the next fiscal year as part of the state's see Budget cuts, page 4

 UWSP feels the effects of budget cuts

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Three year project to cost $26 million

David Cohen
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Work is in progress toward restructur­ ing the Fine Arts Building on campus. Campus Planning Director Carl Rasmussen says that the plan is to demol­ ish the existing music wing and add on a 103,800 square foot addition with three floors. The plan, which was approved in September of 2002, is slated to cost $26 million and is expected to be completed in 2005. The addition will push out into what is currently the sundial and designed to accommodate the growing needs of the Fine Arts department.

These needs include a new theater and costume shop as well as practicing rooms and a dance studio. This will allow the Dance and Theater departments to work together more closely. Additional space will also be used by the Music and Art departments.

Andrew Claude, a Theater major, is very excited about the remodeling. "We were running out of rooms to practice in because they were always being used," says Claude. "I was having to reserve the weight room in my dorm just so we would have a place to rehearse scenes. We would have to push some of the equipment to the side."

Downloading
from page 1

not contacted UWSP in recent months, students should be aware of recent moves by the record­ ing industry to find the identities of those that have been downloading music illegally.

As revealed in the September 1st issue of Newsweed, the recording industry placed identi­ fier tags on some MP3 files that were being traded on Napster, the predominant file sharing system a few years ago, and has spent the last few years searching the Internet for those files and noting the ISP addresses of those that have been sharing the marked files. The RIAA and other music groups recently announced plans to sue several hundred people that they have identified through the use of marked files and through lawsuits against Internet providers that were aimed toward obtaining the names of those believed to be responsible for major file sharing.

The RIAA has announced a "Clean Slate Program," where those who are willing to come forward and identify themselves as file-sharers will be given a blanket pardon and promises not to be sued. Those applying for amnesty must pledge to stop using file-sharing networks and to remove illegally downloaded music from their hard drive. This option is not available for those who are currently under lawsuit.

Some have criticized the plan, as it requires an admission of guilt with guarantees from the RIAA but not other music interests that those that admit file sharing will not be sued. Once identified a user could also face future litigation by music publishers and the artists whose music they have been download­ ing.

For those who are identified against their will, the average settlement has been in the $5000 range with a $7500 settlement with the industry for sharing 1,000 files across Kazaa.

For legal and practical reasons, student organizations need to be re-recognized each fall to maintain formal recognition status. To complete the re-recognition process, the following is required:

1. A list of current officers with addresses and phone numbers.
2. An Advisor Contract Form signed by your advisor(s) stating that he/she will advise your group (forms are available in the Student Involvement & Employment Office).
3. A completed Risk Assessment Questionnaire (to help protect organizations and advisors).
4. An updated copy of your constitution if outdated by three years. (NOTE: Constitutions need to be updated a minimum of once every three years.) In addition, if non-students are members of your organization a risk management statement needs to be added to your Constitution.
5. MANDATORY ATTENDANCE at ONE of two re-recognition meetings (PRESIDENTS or DESIGNEES) scheduled on Monday, September 22 and Tuesday, September 23 at 7PM in the Legacy Room of the University Center.
6. ADVISOR ATTENDANCE (if your advisor has not done so in the past) at ONE of several Risk Management sessions which will be offered through the Student Involvement and Employment Office.

Please register AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in the Student Involvement & Employment Office, lower level of the University Center. Groups not re-recognized will not be included in the Student Organization Directory and will not be able to use university services.

PLEASE VISIT THE STUDENT ININVOLVEMENT & EMPLOYMENT OFFICE TO REMAIN ACTIVE!
NEWS
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UWSP The Pointer

College aid shifts to state for UW students
State grants could offset decrease in federal assistance
Andrew Blooser
NEWS EDITOR

Despite this summer's controversy over a change in the formula used to determine federal financial aid eligibility, students in the UW System need not be overly concerned, says Phillip George, the financial aid director at UW-Stevens Point.

The formula change specifically altered the state tax tables by reducing the amount of state and local taxes students and their families could claim as deductions, increasing the amount they would have to contribute toward post-secondary education expenses.

"The formula that is used is very complex and considers a number of factors, so individual students could be affected differently, and part of that effect is determined by what state a student lives in," said George. "However, Wisconsin is in a unique situation given the amount of money slated to be available for state grants."

A provision in the 2003-2005 Wisconsin state budget increased funding for the state grant program by $118 million, equating to an extra $5,360,000. An increase of nearly 22%, or approximately $13,120,000, has been slated for next year, when the new federal aid formula will take effect.

"That could provide an offsetting effect," said George. "But that would be dependent on factors such as how many people a given family has in college, and the income of a given household."

A provision in the state budget also requires the UW System to rely on its auxiliary funds to provide $23.6 million in financial aid through Wisconsin Higher Education Grants, Lawton grants and Advanced Opportunity Program grants. It also reduces the WHEG appropriation by $3 million to fund National Guard tuition grants.

A blood drive sponsored by the Association for Community Tasks (ACT) will take place September 15 and 16 at UWSP in the Student Union. Students can sign up online or by calling 715-748-4711.

The blood drive will begin at 10:30 a.m. and donors will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. both days.

The organization aims to attract over 180 donors over the course of the two day event.

Sponsors of the drive say that while all donations are important, a great need currently exists for Type O negative blood, which only seven percent of all Americans have.

A press release circulated by the ACT has cautioned students who have recently returned to the United States after semesters abroad that blood donation might not be possible.

Persons having spent a total of six months in the United Kingdom are ineligible to make a contribution. Those who have traveled to any malaria areas such as Central and South America and Africa require a deferment period of one year before making a donation.

Requirements for being a donor include:
- Must be 17 years or older, no upper age limit
- Must weigh at least 110 pounds
- Must not have had Hepatitis
- Should be free from a cold or flu symptoms the day you donate
- Should not have any risk factors associated with HIV or AIDS

Call The Blood Center toll free at 1-888-310-7555 to evaluate whether you can donate.

Sara M. Stein
NEWS REPORTER

Hackers. Viruses. Identity theft. Cyberwar. With such threats looming over the world of technology, the growing need for cybersecurity is evident.

As a result, numerous career opportunities will surface to help strengthen cybersecurity systems. While neither the number of jobs nor their titles can be predicted, the goals are clearly stated in the definition of Information Systems Security (ISS), which is a less common term for cybersecurity.

According to the National Security Telecommunications and Information Systems Security (NSTISSI), ISS is defined as the "protection of information systems against unauthorized access to or modification of information stored, whether in storage, processing or transit, and against the denial of service to authorized users, including those measures necessary to detect, document, and counter such threats."

The jobs in this field will be open to Computer Information Systems majors who have an information assurance track option.

Recently, this option has become available to the CIS majors of UW-Stevens Point, due to a $200,000 grant awarded to the university by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Money received in the next two years will help in funding this curricular addition and for planning activities to establish a post-bachelor certificate program for those who wish to further their studies in the field.

While most of the required courses are readily available, CIS 366 "Information and Network Security" and CIS 368, later to be CIS 331, "Secure Server Administration" will not be offered until next year. The goal is to have them ready by Fall 2004 and Spring 2005, respectively.

Andrew Blooser
NEWS EDITOR

Many students classified as "high need" received increases of $127 in state grants this year, but similar increases the 2004-2005 academic year will depend heavily on the effect economic pressures have on the number of grant applications.

One effect will be that Wisconsin will see one of the highest federal aid disparities in the nation after the change takes effect, a situation rendered by a discrepancy between the current formula, which had not been updated for nearly a decade, and the actual state tax rate in Wisconsin.

"On paper, a student's aid was being calculated against a 10% state rate, when in actuality, Wisconsin state tax rates were much lower," said George. "In reality, we're just catching up."

According to statistics by Human Capital Research, an Illinois-based consulting firm, a Wisconsin family earning $25,000, may be expected to contribute an extra $220 or less. A family earning around $50,000 may owe in excess of $940, while families with incomes of $80,000 may be required to pay an additional $1,400.

However, those statistics remain contingent on a number of factors, including the cost of higher education. Tuition increases in the UW System could increase a student's calculated need according to the UWSP financial aid office, as the current state budget allows for universities to raise their tuition by up to 18 percent.

"I would expect that students with high financial need will find their needs addressed in fashion such that as costs go up, so will their grants," said Miller. "Students with limited or no grant eligibility will probably be looking to borrow more if that is possible."

An increased dependency on loans would likely be a trend reflected at UWSP, as many students already make use of both subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans.

Totals from 2002-2003 indicate that 3,113 subsidized and 2,030 unsubsidized Stafford loans were issued to UWSP students, a statistic that reflects some duplication, as many students borrow from more than one source.

Cyberspace security program comes to UWSP
Sara M. Stein
NEWS REPORTER

"I am shocked at what is happening," said Robert Oluyomi, an associate professor of physics and astronomy, during a blood drive sponsored by the Association for Community Tasks (ACT) to attract over 180 donors over the two day event.

"This is not going to go away," Oluyomi said. "Who knows what the future holds."
The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) today announced receipt of the first major contribution to its Great Artists and Speakers Endowment. The $50,000 gift comes from Worzella Publishing Company President Chuck Nason and his wife, Vikki. It was made in memory of Nason's parents and family, longtime residents of Stevens Point.

"This gift is a testament to their demonstrated commitment to the students in COFAC," Dean Gerry McKenna explained. "Their gift will have a lasting impact on the quality of communications programming throughout the community. It couldn't have come at a better time for us."

The endowment was established to bring talented performers and guest artists to the UWSP campus for extended residencies, and to support student travel to experience great art around the nation. Visiting artists and speakers will enhance the existing undergraduate education that students in the college receive, and raise the number and quality of public performances available for the Central Wisconsin audience. The college has recently begun soliciting gifts to the endowment from alumni, businesses and friends in the community.

"The arts and communication are dynamic and ever changing. To provide our students with the best education possible we need to expose them to excellence in all areas of music, drama, dance, communication and the visual arts," McKenna continued. "This endowment enables our students with access to the best in their fields. At the same time it offers the Central Wisconsin community more opportunities to experience great art and hear interesting speakers.

The Nason gift is made in memory of the late Charles W. Nason Jr., and Doris C. Nason. It also honors Nason's sister, Susan Schultz of Appleton, a 1963 UWSP graduate, and her husband, also a UWSP alum and currently a graduate student at the university.

"My father loved being a drummer in the university's band in the late '30s, and both of my parents thrived on the UWSP music programs and cultural activities during their lifetimes," Nason said. "My sister received a top-notch education here as has my wife. I had a daughter attend UWSP so we are thrilled to be able to kick off the Great Artists and Speakers Endowment and at the same time 'give back' to UWSP and the local community."

Nason said the family musical ties to UWSP go even deeper. His mother's brother, Kenneth Cuthbert, was an accomplished trumpet player and teacher. He was dean of the School of Music at North Texas State University in Denton, Texas, where one of his star pupils was Bob Kase, an outstanding trumpet player who is currently chair of the Music Department at UWSP.

The Nasons are both active on the UWSP campus and strong supporters of the UWSP Department of Music. Chuck Nason is a member of the UWSP Foundation Board of Directors and has been involved in the annual Department of Music benefit, "Soiree Musicale," since its inception. Vikki also is active in the "Soiree Musicale" and an accomplished vocalist.

"The outstanding million dollar gift from John and Patti Noel ensured that the fine arts program would have a first class physical structure from which to operate," the Nasons pointed out. "The purpose of the Great Artists and Speakers Endowment is to bring world class people to UWSP to share their talent over several days or weeks. We hope others will join with us to ensure an annual flow of great talent for a great facility."
Five years ago as a lively freshman at the University of Minnesota I received my initial college counseling advice. I simply needed to average 15 credits per semester and I would receive a college degree in four years. My advisor promised that once I graduated, employers would beat down my door trying to lure me to their companies.

One school transfer and a few years later I think I finally figured this college thing out, no thanks to that freshman advisor.

Taking five years or more to graduate college provides a much smoother route and allows students to really appreciate the experience. The first year almost always disappoints and that's cool. It's nearly impossible for college to live up to the idealized view that most incoming freshman have.

Whether the ideas come from movies or TV, we expect college to supply everything missing from high school. The roommate should become the best-friend-for-life and that cute girl or guy next to you in class obviously shares your love of sand dollars and swod collecting. Yes college, where teenagers and independence collude to provide a student utopia.

Except that friends-for-life roommate refuses to clean up that pizza box that's been sitting out for a week. That cutie in class already has a steady girl and you're off. This year the roommate is selected, not tossed from school, I begart the involvement phase, I •

This year the value of education finally starts to sink in. Becoming an intellectual and educated person is no ducking in. Becoming an intellectual and educated person is no ducking in. Becoming an intellectual and educated person is no ducking in.

In your sophomore year, the college career will take off. This year the roommate is selected, not inherited. There is also a certain veteran status of checking in with all the folks from last year. Of course sophomore also translates to wise experience. This is the point where it's time to hit the brakes. You're only 22, why not drop down to 12 credits and really explore your options after graduation? Maybe pick up an extra minor and make sure that your field is one that you see yourself happy working in.

Sure the extra year means more expenses, but with financial aid and student loans they can be pushed out of sight for the moment. This plan doesn't apply to everyone as well. Many students just see college as an obstacle they need to clear as fast as possible.

But with a non-existent job market, why not take that extra year before scoring that sweet unpaid internship?

I thought I'd start the 2003-04 Letters & Opinion section off with a bang by throwing in my two cents about a controversial issue that always seems to poke its nasty head back into the news. Recently, the backwoods state of Alabama became a hotbed of controversy as Chief Justice Roy Moore defied a court order to remove the two and a half ton Ten Commandments monument he'd erected in the rotunda of the state courthouse two years earlier. Moore created such a stir with his stalwart defense of "God's Law" that he attracted religious fanatics from far and wide to the front steps of the courthouse. Despite their public demonstration, the state supreme court's fast refusal to remove "Roy's Rock" from the rotunda resulted in his suspension and the monument was moved to a private area of the courthouse anyway.

Frankly, I don't understand the controversy surrounding the separation of church and state. The Constitution clearly states that the government cannot establish religion and must protect the rights of individuals to practice any religion (including atheism). The separation of church and state prevents members of minority religions from being alienated by our govern­ment. Isn't it understandable why a Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu or (heaven forbid) atheist would feel a bit uneasy walking into a courthouse and seeing a 5,000 pound Ten Commandments monument staring them in the face? Isn't it quite clear why they might feel a bit discriminated against?

But whenever I mention the importance of the separation of church and state, some narrow-minded, egocentric right winger always responds with a "but our nation was founded on the Ten Commandments" or the even more ridiculous "what would our forefathers think?" I often hear these people say that our increases...
My junior year at UWSP is now upon me, and I cannot believe how fast my first two years here went. Everything is now so familiar to me; the campus has become my home. Yet with the passing of two years, I still find myself remembering, as if it were only yesterday, the time I regarded UWSP as only “the place I was going to college.” UWSP has since become much more to me than that. I only hope to offer whatever insight I can into making that transition easier for those just beginning their journey here; the freshmen.

Move-in day is where it all begins; wondering how you will ever fit all of your belongings in that one room, let alone have room for the infamous roommate’s stuff as well. You unpack and then you are left alone - without the comfort and security of your room with you, a room that some may consider not even large enough for one person to occupy, let alone two, for the next nine months. Your roommate can become your best friend, and it can often be difficult to get along with the person who will be sharing a room with you, a room that some may consider not even large enough for one person to occupy, let alone two, for the next nine months.

It is at this time that you meet your roommate - the person who will be sharing a room with you, a room that some may consider not even large enough for one person to occupy, let alone two, for the next nine months. Your roommate can become your best friend, and it can often be difficult to get along with the person who will be sharing a room with you, a room that some may consider not even large enough for one person to occupy, let alone two, for the next nine months. Your roommate can become your best friend, and it can often be difficult to get along with the person who will be sharing a room with you, a room that some may consider not even large enough for one person to occupy, let alone two, for the next nine months.

It is in accomplishing this goal that you realize how important the bond of friendship truly is. You never realize how important your friends are until they are spread across the upper Midwest. Yet with that happening, you have the opportunity to form a whole new circle of friends as close to you as the one you are leaving behind.

I leave you with this final piece of advice: no matter what, make the most of your experiences at UWSP. It is in accomplishing this goal that you realize how important the bond of friendship truly is. You never realize how important your friends are until they are spread across the upper Midwest. Yet with that happening, you have the opportunity to form a whole new circle of friends as close to you as the one you are leaving behind.

I think it can be said that the greatest friendships are the ones formed at college. Keep in mind that you are all starting out on this same new journey. You are all beginning again. The best advice is to go and meet those girls/guys next door to you, or make friends, with the person sitting next to you in class. You never know what great friendships can be formed from a simple hello.

Secondly, do not lose touch with those that helped guide you thus far in your journey. Your parents have seen you become what you are, and without a doubt, they contributed in that formation. With that in mind, calling every week or so is not asking too much. Realize that they care about you, and even though you have started anew and are on your own, you can still be very much involved. Your friends as well as the rest of the world will never forget the bond of friendship you’ve formed.

This brings me to my final point, yet a point I cannot emphasize enough. Do not be afraid to change! Change is one of the imperative benefits of starting anew. I changed more my first year of college than I did throughout my entire high school career. (Parents and friends can testify to that.) This change does not need to be dramatic by any means, nor does it need to be encouraged by others. The reward of a new beginning is precisely that: it allows for a new start. That, I believe, is the true gift of college. It is not an A on an exam (although that certainly could not hurt), it is the ability to transform into the person you want to be.

I leave you with this final piece of advice: no matter what, make the most of your college years. Yes, at times college is hard and stressful, but in the end no experience will allow for more personal growth than the journey you have just begun at UWSP. Make this what you want, and in the end only you are responsible for how you will reflect on this experience.

By Geoff Fyfe

Gandhi was born in 1934 and came to America in 1987. He is a noted journalist with eight books and hundreds of articles to his credit. He also has founded the M. K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence at Christian Brothers University at Memphis.

Much of Gandhi’s speech was dedicated to his experiences with his grandfather and his non-violent beliefs, as well as his Grandfather’s message of peace and nonviolent resistance to Stevens Point on Monday night.

Arun Gandhi spoke in the Larid Room in front of a packed audience for the better part of an hour, speaking at length about his experiences with his legendary grandfather and how nonviolence is the way to achieve a peaceful society.

“Gandhi” continued grandfather’s message of peace and nonviolence to Stevens Point on Monday night.

Arun Gandhi spoke in the Larid Room in front of a packed audience for the better part of an hour, speaking at length about his experiences with his legendary grandfather and how nonviolence is the way to achieve a peaceful society.

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Arun Gandhi spoke in the Larid Room in front of a packed audience for the better part of an hour, speaking at length about his experiences with his legendary grandfather and how nonviolence is the way to achieve a peaceful society.
Yes, there are other options besides Debot

By Geoff Fyfe

If you prefer to eat off campus, there is a wide variety of fast-food eateries around. Like most college campuses, Point attracts every fast-food chain imaginable here to suck all the loose change they can get from desperate students. Our local parasites include McDonald’s, Hardee’s, KFC and the pizza-dishing trio of Pizza Hut, Papa John’s and the venerable Topper’s. Unfortunately, Burger King has closed down, so if you Whopper-junkies are desperate for a fix, you need to drive over to the Plover establishment.

Since we are a college campus, yes, there is a Taco Bell standing right across from Lot P, ready and willing to take your money when you stagger in during the wee morning hours, hungry after a long Thursday night. Plus, there is another TB squashed between the Express and the Spoon in the UC, perfect if you want a nacho or chalupa fix between classes. Just try not to sit next to me after eating.

For 24-hour service on Friday and Saturday, Perkins is ready and waiting near the vast car-strewn wasteland that is the K-Mart parking lot. Country Kitchen, on the other hand, is open 24-hours all days of the week. If you’re sick of fast food and actually want to have a sit-down dinner with service, Perkins is the place to go. It’s even open on Christmas, but your life isn’t so sad and lonely that you would be dining out on Christmas evening, is it?

And one cannot have a restaurant guide without mentioning the immortal Belts. Located just a few short blocks from campus near the downtown area. Belts specializes in serving various frozen treats, many of them cold enough to lower your core temperature to Ice Age proportions. Fair warning: the “Flurries” (which bear a striking resemblance to DQ’s “Blizzards”) come in three sizes: “Large,” “Very Large” and “Gargantuan.” But if you want to taste this ice cream paradise, hurry, because they close in October and won’t come back until spring.

So if you despair of Debot’s latest culinary concoctions and wish to broaden your diet, the Point campus area does offer a wide variety of choices. However, if none of these please you, there is one final alternative: go home and have Mom’s cooking. But you’re in college now and are at least trying to be independent, so use this as a last resort, okay? Otherwise, I see ramen noodles in your future.

Becoming an UWSP Ambassador

By Alii Hilmie

Looking for a way to get involved on campus while influencing the minds of prospective UWSP students? If you are, then becoming a UWSP ambassador is for you.

Being an ambassador for UWSP entails giving campus tours to visitors and prospective students. This includes those who are transferring from other campuses and those who are nontraditional students beginning their college experience.

As an ambassador for UWSP, you will usually give a tour once a week with a time commitment of an hour and a half. The tour takes the visitors through the majority of the academic buildings, as well as the UC, library, and Allen Center and then concluding with a tour of a residence hall which includes a mock residence hall room.

I have personally gained a great deal as an ambassador for UWSP. It is such a rewarding feeling knowing that you are influencing the lives and decisions of others. As an ambassador, you become the first student to give campus insight to those who are visiting. The way in which you regard UWSP helps foster an image of UWSP in the minds of others. This is definitely an experience I would recommend to anyone that wants to profess how truly great UWSP is.

In addition, becoming an ambassador is a tremendous contribution to a resume, not to mention the fact that it will help when trying to find someone to write a letter of recommendation for you once graduation approaches. Having an experience such as this really allows you to enhance your people skills.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please contact Jen Anderson in the Admissions Office, located in the Student Services Building.

Donate Blood

UWSP Blood Drive

Blood Drive September 15 & 16
10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days
University Center, Melvin Laird Rm.

Sponsored by ACT. Call 346-2260 for an appointment or more info.

Blood donated goes to help patients at Saint Michael’s Hospital in Stevens Point. Please support this drive!

The Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc.
There’s no question that road construction and nice weather go hand-in-hand. Believe me, I should know. This summer in my hometown of Appleton it was virtually impossible to go anywhere in town without running into a blocked-off dead end. Still, I could handle it. I just kept telling myself that I would soon be back in Stevens Point where I would not have to deal with it anymore.

Boy, was I a naive fool. I returned to Point and what did I find? Why, road construction, of course! And not just any road construction, either. We’re talking about the massive remodeling job they’re doing on Highway 10, which just happens to be the road I take to go back and forth between Point and Appleton. Now, it’s not enough that Highway 10 can compete for the title of “America’s Deadliest Highway.” Oh no, that would be too easy. Now they have to take the “safe” part of the road, the one part where your chances of a life-threatening accident are minimized, and turn it into a stop sign-laden, zig-zagged, ripped-up mess. I’m sure they have good reason for making Highway 10 more complicated to get through than the Labyrinth, but I haven’t heard it.

And is that all of the road construction we must deal with? Of course not! That would be too easy. No, the geniuses in charge of our fair city have decided to tear up not one but TWO of the major roads in town. Yes, Highway 51 is also blocked off, making travel towards the downtown area a bit more complicated. All those who want to travel to Belts for a frozen treat have to use the footmobile, for real. And even you who want to travel to Rogers, but for a guy who reviews films, this is a pain in the rear. I’m praying all the way home that the film I want to review are at the Campus cinema until the construction is done, but I doubt my luck will hold up.

It’s getting to the point where having a car on campus is not worth the trouble. Case-in-point is that the new parking system, which allows permit holders to park in lots P, J, and Q. The result is that P has been turned into an overcrowded mess where trying to find a parking spot is a Darwinian struggle of the fittest. A word of advice: Do not drive during the week unless you absolutely have to. If you leave, your parking space will be snapped up within minutes and you will be forced to drive around campus for a half-hour like a dummy looking for a new one. Wait until the weekend when people take off.

And whatever you do, don’t park in lot Q. At last week’s events showed, if you love your car, you should avoid Q at all costs. I’m sure that if you own a car you love your precious automobiles and try to maintain them the best you can. The last thing you would want is to leave them unprotected in a place that is the stalking ground for brutish drunks with a mind for property damage. Take care, unless you want to wake up some morning and learn that your car got aired out on account of the windows being bashed in with a baseball bat. A little message, too, for the jerks who committed that act. Have you no shame? Would you like it if someone decided to practice their golf swing on your car? Do you think it’s fun to have to pay for that type of damage? Either you were drunk and didn’t know what you were doing (and this proves you don’t handle your liquor well), or you’re nothing but a bunch of cretins who think property damage is funny. Let’s see if you enjoy it when you’re caught and forced to pay for the mess you made.

In short, there’s no shortage of things to be cranky about as this semester opens. With blocked-off roads, over-crowded parking lots and roving bands of drunken hoodlums attacking helpless cars, there’s a lot to be stressed about. The only consolation is that it all will pass. The roads will (eventually) get finished, the parking situation will eventually lessen (we can hope) and the anonymous vandals will be caught, hopefully before they think lots P and J are getting off easy. It’ll take a while, but I suppose we’ll have to be patient. In the meantime, get used to using Highway 39 to get around the construction. That is, unless the guys in charge think 39 could use a touching up...

**UWSP organization spotlight:**

**Why joining SGA is for you**

By Jeremy Gorzalski

To explain the Student Government Association, one must first explain that SGA differs from other organizations in many ways. Unlike the many organizations of UWSP, SGA encompasses the entire campus in terms of the wide array of issues that deals with.

To begin with, SGA is empowered by state law. Wisconsin State Statute 36.09(5) gives SGA the power to influence the distribution of student fees and decisions that affect students. The body is comprised of two different branches - the executive, headed by the President, and the legislative, made up of the Senate. Both the President and the Senate are elected by the student body at large to represent student issues. The UWSP Student Government is considered by most to be the state’s strongest student government. SGA is responsible for sending representatives to Faculty Senate committees and University committees, allocating funding to student groups, passing legislation affecting student, campus and academic life and serving as a liaison between the students and the city and state governments.

The current President is Nick Crawford and the Vice President is Renee Steive. They appoint a cabinet of Directors to work on specific issues. The Speaker of the Senate is currently Sara Stone. Each of the colleges, including Letters and Science, Fine Arts and Communication, Professional Studies and Natural Resources, has a number of Senators in proportion to the student population in each.

Quite simply put, SGA has something for everyone in it. Every issue which affects students can be and often is brought before SGA, either by its members or students at large, and is decided upon by the Senate. I encourage anyone who is or has ever been concerned with issues affecting students to apply for a place on the Senate. Positions are currently available, so stop on down at the SGA office located in the University Center in Room 026 — and pick up an application.

I would also encourage everyone to attend weekly SGA meetings at 6:20 p.m. on Thursdays in the Legacy Room of the UC, and to direct any questions or issues to a SGA member.

SGA is the voice of the students, and the involvement of UWSP students is essential in making our university the kind of college we can all be proud of.

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**Looking to get the word out about your organization?**

Email All Hill

ahmi618@uwsp.edu

**UWSP The Pointer**

**The road construction is driving me crazy**

And other random thoughts from a cranky student

By Geoff Pyfe

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

**LOOKING TO GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION?**

Email All Hill

ahmi618@uwsp.edu

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Weekends from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Deep fried, baked or lemon pepper cod,

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Vanilla, chocolate and twist soft-serve ice cream,

Flurries

and other ice cream treats!

-open daily until 10 p.m.-
Pointers hit the ground running

Strong team showing keys double firsts for team
By Tony Bastien
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP Cross Country men's and women's teams both placed first at the Hanover (Ind.) Invitational this past weekend. The Hanover was the teams' first competition of the year and they couldn't have done any better.

**cross country**

The men beat out 19 other schools and the women topped 17 others on the surface they hope to be having the same luck on in Hanover.

Strong 4-5-6 finishes by senior Curt Johnson and juniors Mark LaLonde and Andy Bednarek helped lead the way for the men. Two others, seniors James Levash and Andy Bednarek helped lead the way for the men. Two others, seniors James Levash and Brad Wick, also placed in the top ten to give the Pointers half of the top finishers.

Men's coach Rick Witt was very happy with Wick's race, "Brad has really improved from last year. They say that your team is only as good as your fifth guy. Brad ran great at that fifth spot."

Also, no UWSP runner finished outside the top 60 of the field of 207 with a team average of 26:09 completion time for the 8K run, besting second place Rend Lake CC by 25 seconds.

"We were very pleased with the team as a whole," said Witt. "Our goal with this meet was to get the pack to run together, and they did just that. Our front guys helped out our back of the pack."

Points are awarded to the top five runners on each team with the lower finish/score being better. UWSP had 33 points, followed by Rend Lake with 72 and Washington University in third with 78 points.

As for the women, they had a more difficult time holding off the field, outrunning second place Gustavus Adolphus by just a team average of nine seconds. With just one runner in the top ten, Teresa Stanley who came in ninth, the Pointers relied on their top five runners all placing inside the top 25.

"Teresa ran very well," said women's coach Len Hill. "The team effort is what really stood out, though."

Stanley ran so well at the Hanover Invite that she garnered WIAC Runner of the Week honors.

Junior Megan Craig and sophomore Jenna Mitchler paced each other finishing eleventh and twelfth. Rounding out the scoring for the women were senior Isabelle Delamay in 24th and sophomore Ashleigh Potuznik in 26th respectfully.

"We expected coming into this meet to possibly place third," said Hill. "We had a few injuries, so some of our top runners were out. To take first like we did was great. Our team looked like it had ran a few meets already."

Coming up this week is the Pointer Invite/Alumni Meet at Lake Pacawa in Plover. This is the first home meet of the two that will take place this season in the eight-meet schedule that the teams will take part in this year before the WIAC and NCAA Championships.

Levash is the lone conference award winner from a year ago. "We finished eleventh last year, but we think we are stronger this season," said Witt. "We like to think that we are a top ten caliber team."

The women, on the other hand, have three returning award winners from last year. Junior Leah Herlache was a first team WIAC performer last year and senior Kara Vosters and Mitchler were on the second team.

"This team has the talent to make nationals and take home a top ten finish easily," said Hill. "We're gunning for a top four.

The final NCAA rankings from a year ago had the men's squad ranked tenth in the nation, while the women were unranked.
Big plays key in Pointer opener.

The Pointers' Jason VanderVelden gets his facemask grabbed by Augustana's Adam Guy while making a first-quarter tackle Saturday afternoon at Erickson Field in Rock Island, Ill. VanderVelden was to go to a more wide-open attack. "They were stacking the line against us, trying to stop our running game. It freed up our receivers," said Miech.

The Pointers tied the game with 8:35 left in the third quarter when Krause hit junior wide receiver Kurt Kielblock for an 87-yard touchdown pass. However, the Vikings blocked the extra point and Matt Furlong returned it for two points and an 8-6 Vikings' lead.

The back and forth game swung back the Pointers' way with 12:28 left in the fourth quarter when Krause hit Kielblock for another 25-yard touchdown pass on a fourth-and-18 play for a 12-8 lead.

The Pointers forced the Vikings to punt on their next possession, but then fumbled the ball on the first play, giving Augustana the ball on the Pointers' 35-yard line. Wendell hit running back Anton Steinhart for a 31-yard touchdown with 7:36 left on a fourth-and-six play to give the Vikings a 15-12 lead.

After trading punts again, the stage was set for Krause's and Childs' late game heroics. Miech is excited about having Childs, a transfer from Wisconsin, on this year's team. "Cody was a outstanding back in high school, but was buried as a walk-on in Madison. He just wanted to play. He's got great hands and is very quick. It's a good situation for both of us."

Besides Krause, the offensive hero of the game was Kielblock. Making his first start at wide receiver after playing two years as a halfback, the junior from Scandinavia had five catches for 174 yards.

The defensive effort was led by senior end Josh VanderVelden, who recovered two fumbles and kept the Viking running game off balance all day. VanderVelden, a transfer from Michigan Tech where he was the defensive MVP last season, brings an attitude to the defensive line that it's supposed to be played, said Miech.

Up next for the Pointers is Tri-State University in Indiana. Tri-State, a NAIA scholarship school, is a team in transition right now. Head coach Bob Fry was just hired in July, and the transition has been a tough one for the 0-1 Thunder. However, Miech anticipates Tri-State being ready to play on Saturday.

"They will be at home in front of a big crowd, so our kids are going to have to play at a certain level. Our schedule this year is tough. There is no little sisters of the poor on there. We can beat any team on our schedule, and any team can beat us."
Point falls hard to Green Knights

Young team falls to 1-6 during the early season
By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The UWSP women's volleyball team hosted the St. Norbert Green Knights Wednesday night in the Berg Gymnasium. The Pointers, in their only home match in the month of September had a lively crowd supporting them in a well-played, competitive match.

After dropping the first game 24-30, the Pointers started strong and never looked back in the second. The powerful balanced attack of the Green Knights was countered by the finesse of the young Pointers. Effective use of tip kills and the strong play in the frontline by junior Nichole Stahovich helped Point jump out to an 8-4 lead. The Pointers extended their lead late, 20-15 behind a couple of aces and some great blocks. The Green Knights would not go down, cutting the lead to two, but senior Katie Zellner ended the Knights comeback hopes with a spike to end the game 30-28.

After evening the match at a game apiece, the Pointers looked to take control. Point had St. Norbert on the ropes early with a couple of big kills by junior Jessica Parker. The Knights clawed back into it, however, and raced to a 9-6 lead behind their powerful front line. The lead grew to seven before the Pointers made their move behind the strong serving of sophomore Kim Gilbank, getting the lead down to three, 21-18. St. Norbert took control from there with Janie Jansen leading the way with some dominant play at the net extending the lead again 24-19. The plucky Pointers wouldn't go away, but couldn't get any closer than two the rest of the way as St. Norbert went on to win game number three 30-26.

The fourth game was a nail-biter to the end with neither team able to take control of the game. Point started strong once again, taking an early 10-5 lead behind the pinpoint serving of freshman Katie Stephenson and a couple of kills by Parker, but St. Norbert made a run and tied it at twelve. The rest of the game was a back and forth thriller as neither team was able to get more than a one point advantage. The Green Knights finally pulled away at the end to beat the Pointers 30-27 and take a hard fought match 3-1. The Pointers fall to 1-6 on the season while St. Norbert improves to 7-2.

Head Coach Stacey White seemed pleased with her young team's progress. "Compare the last couple of weekends to where we are now, we've improved by leaps and bounds as far as our intensity and teamwork go and we're going to grow from here. A lot of newcomers have stepped in and done a nice job for us. (Freshman) Tony Johnson has done a nice job for her first year with us. (Freshman) Laurie Martin was a red-shirt last year, she's playing in a new spot this year, and stepping into a leadership role."

Next up for the Pointers, a trip to Hamline University (MN) to take part in the Hamline Invitational.

Pointers roll out early season hot streak
Great start gets team 16th ranking
By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The UWSP women's soccer team is off to a hot start this season as they continue to solidify their dominance of the WIAC. The Pointers return this season trying to win their fourteenth WIAC title in twelve years.

The Pointers are a veteran team that returns seven starters from last year's team that rolled to great start of the season. The team is off to a hot start this season winning their first three opponents 16-3, including a big win over rival St. Thomas 3-2 in the opener. Women enter this game as our intensity and teamwork go and we're going to grow from here. A lot of newcomers have stepped in and done a nice job for us. (Freshman) Tony Johnson has done a nice job for her first year with us. (Freshman) Laurie Martin was a red-shirt last year, she's playing in a new spot this year, and stepping into a leadership role."

Next up for the Pointers, a trip to Platteville on Friday to take on the Pioneers and open WIAC conference play.
By Craig Mandli
Sports Editor

Let me be...well, by now, probably the last to welcome everyone back to the wonderful little hamlet in the middle of Wisconsin we like to call Stevens Point.

Now, it's not like I really left. In fact, I lived in my wonderful *cough* studio apartment all summer long.

What I did leave was school. Sure, I could still look out my window and see the various buildings on campus, but they had no life in them, save a (random) custodian sweeping up, or a work-a-holic professor scrambling to read up on next fall's curriculum.

Where was I? Well, I was lucky enough to get myself an internship working for the outdoors division at Krause Publications out in Iola, Wis., which is basically the definition of rural, small town America.

What I did have while sitting in front of my computer in my tiny cubicle was a lot of time to think. During most of the school year, I'm so busy with the paper that I don't have time to sit down and reflect. What did I reflect on? Well, I'm a sports junkie, so that's what I thought about. And since UWSP and other college sports were null and void, I thought about pro sports, or more specifically, what is wrong with them. Here's what I came up with.

1. I hate the Yankees. I know it's cliche to hate the Yankees. Everybody hates them. Well, I have a whole new level of hate now. Do you realize that it would take nearly five Milwaukee Brewer payrolls to equal what George Steinbrenner dishes out to his legions every year? That's just not right.

2. Cork can't effectively take the place of steroids. Oh Sammy, how could you? First, you fill your body with supplements, both legal and illegal. Then when you are called on that, you begin corking your bats? I have never been a huge fan of Sammy, although I was pulling for him to beat McGwire a few years back. Now I can't stand him. When Sammy came into the league, he was a 165-pound speedy centerfielder with warning track power. No one can realistically change their body that much in ten years without a little (illegal) help.

3. Fantasy football is America's new favorite pastime. I don't know how many times I've walked over to one of my editor's desks this past summer, only to see them checking on how many touchdowns Peerless Price scored last year. Who needs Vegas? The whole fantasy football underworld takes over more and more men (and women) every day.

4. If I thought sports were my life, I am way off. Most of the guys I worked for had three priorities: sports, family and work (most of the time they are in that order too). There were times I felt like an idiot talking to some of them. These are guys who know who started the opening game of the 1978 season at running back for the Packers. I even worked with a guy who would talk about watching football games every year with his good buddy Pete Rose (!!!). I have so much more to learn.

5. Professional athletes don't have that "something special" that college athletes have. Every athlete that goes to school here plays for the love of the game. You can see it every time they step onto the court, field or rink. I really missed that.

GO POINTERS!

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**The Week Ahead...**

**Football:** at Tri-State University (Ind.), Sat., 12:30 p.m.

**Soccer:** at Platteville, Fri., 4 p.m.; Macalaster, Sun., 4 p.m.*

**Volleyball:** at Hamline (Minn.) Invitational, Fri., 4:30 p.m. & Sat., 11 a.m.; at Platteville, Wed., 7 p.m.

**Golf:** UWSP Invitational (Stevens Point Country Club), Sat., All Day

**Tennis:** at La Crosse Invitational; Fri., 3 p.m. & Sat., 8 a.m.

**Cross Country:** UWSP Invitational (Lake Pacawa), Sat., All Day

* Game can be heard live on 90FM

All home games in **BOLD**

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

**1/2 WAY TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY AT GUU'S**

**GUINNESS**
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Wild matters
Howling at the harvest moon

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
OUTDOORS EDITOR

Well folks, it's that time of year again. The sweet smell of cool September nights, the sounds of acorns thumping the ground and the sight of a rain-stricken landscape starting to turn, always remind me to think of autumn.

Speaking of the fall equinox is only a long week away. If anyone happened to look towards the southern sky last Tuesday night, they were certainly in for a treat. Aside from the scattered cloud cover, the night sky offered a spectacular view of the one and only harvest moon. Brilliantly orange, and seemingly glowing, the full moon lit the darkness from sunset until dawn. Mars followed closely along the ecliptic, making for a fantastic spectacle.

The harvest moon got its name from farmers who used the additional moonlight to work the fields all night long during the crucial harvesting season. It was often thought to be the largest full moon of the year. However, this usually isn't the case. The harvest moon is simply the full moon that occurs closest to the fall equinox on September 21. While this year's harvest moon came early, they can occur as late as October 8.

The harvest moon is often celebrated by way of a festival, barn dance, or shindig to commemorate a successful growing season. While Stevens Point doesn't have a festival, I encourage anyone who harvested a large crop, a small hobby garden or even a single living plant to celebrate sometime in the near future. Here's to you, green-thumbed cultivators of central Wisconsin. Without you, the moon would stop visiting us and those without hatchets would surely die.

Mr. Winters’
Two Cents

Well students, welcome back for another year. Hopefully you saved a few of your brain cells for all that learning in the coming months. I tell ya, we had a hell of a hot summer, and it left this old man reaching for the old lady's special lemonade. Some mornings I'd wake up kind of stupid, but shoot, damned if I didn't feel refreshed! Anyhow, that goddamned sun left me all dried up like a snake sunning itself on the road. Honestly.

Let me tell you something else, I've been around this land for quite a long time, and I haven't seen a drought as bad as this one since '79. The corn and alfalfa and beans are as thirsty as a walleye in a tree. Speaking of walleye, that rascal of a river is mighty low for the beginning of September.

Anyhoo, as far as fishing goes, I don't have too much to say as of late. I reckon I'm going to wait a spell for some rain, pray for the Packers and anticipate that fall snap. Otherwise I'd suggest throwing some big plugs for that always-elusive musky. Until then, dream of precipitation, study hard and let the fish come to you. Then, set the steel and go on and Geet! !

-Mr. Winters

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Send adventures to Amell889@uwsp.edu
Let the hunt begin!

By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

The Wisconsin mourning dove season is officially underway, and I can’t think of a better invitation for hunters to get an early start on their fall hunting endeavors. This is a special opportunity for the entire state of Wisconsin that should be recognized by anyone who enjoys the sport of hunting. If you haven’t had the chance to participate in

Mourning Dove Chillin’ on a branch
submitted by author

this unique opportunity I would like to encourage you to give it a try. To begin this new tradition you will need a small game license that costs $14. Because the mourning dove is a migratory game species, you will also need the Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification. This is a free and simple process that entails the question of whether or not you intend to hunt migratory game birds this fall. Be sure to answer “yes” to this question, because if you answer “no” you will not be legal to hunt migratory game birds, including mourning doves. Once the licensing process is complete, you will need the right gun for the job. A 12-gauge will work just fine, along with some inexpensive low brass number 8’s. Just remember to keep it light and simple. There’s no need this problem, by simply inserting more than three shotgun shells into the magazine. This is illegal to use. You can correct it’s illegal to use. You can correct

Another great season of hunting and fishing starts now
By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

September 13th is not far away, and I hope all of you sportsmen and women are as excited as I am for the upcoming season. This is a time that I wait in anticipation for all season long. It’s also a season where I question my sanity. Seriously folks, how much hunting can one person take? We’ve

got deer, grouse, squirrel, ducks and geese just to name a few. Not to mention some of the hottest walleye, musky and catfish action there is to speak of.

In celebration of the weekend events I would like to salute all of you out there who take part in the fall harvest. In a state that has guaranteed hunting, fishing and trapping rights it would be a waste not to enjoy what this wonderful state has to offer.

Deer Baiting
Banned in 22 counties
By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

The state Department of Natural Resources has issued an emergency ban on feeding and baiting deer in 22 counties. The state board voted in a 6-0 landslide decision on Monday, just in time for the highly anticipated bow hunting opener this weekend.

Although this is a temporary ban, many hunters will undoubtedly be disturbed by it. This is a sudden decision. Much of the reasoning behind the ban is due to the state’s ongoing battle with Chronic Wasting Disease. Some of the affected areas in this ban include Juneau, Adams, Washara, and Portage counties.
The Wildlife Society at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has been named National Student Chapter of the Year. The award will be presented to chapter representatives at The Wildlife Society’s 10th annual conference in Burlington, Vt., this month. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., the society has a mission to promote excellence in wildlife stewardship through education and science. Its student chapters are specifically designed to give students hands-on experience with the tools and techniques used by wildlife ecologists and managers.

Since the award’s inception in 1994, UWSP’s College of Natural Resources chapter has won national honors four times. There are more than 80 student chapters throughout the United States.

“Experience is one of the key requirements for getting a job in a wildlife field or for going on to graduate school. This organization provides a rich breadth of experiences that students just can’t get in a classroom,” said Professor Eric Anderson, wildlife researcher in natural resources, who is the faculty adviser to the student chapter. “This award is particularly remarkable since nearly all the organization’s projects were created, planned and executed by students with little or no faculty assistance. A student organization continues to raise expectations for future academic classes,” said Anderson.

“Were delighted to have been selected best in the nation and these students are certainly deserving of the honor.”

The society also hosted a student conclaves of 120 students who represented 132 universities from eight states at the Lion’s Camp for a weekend of workshops and activities. Students participated in a wide variety of opportunities including trapping banding birds, trapping wildlife, identifying tracks and more, radio collaring white-tailed deer, teaching elementary students about wildlife management, and more.

UWSP is also eligible for a travel grant of up to $1,000 to send a student delegation to the society’s annual meeting this fall. The Wildlife Society’s past officers were: Louise Venne of Stevens Point, president; Mandi (Huntington) Reiman, of Stevens Point, vice president; Gina Rosetti, of South Milwaukee, treasurer; and Sarah Gomoll of Green Bay, secretary.

The primary focus is to give students hands-on experience with a wide variety of aspects of wildlife ecology and management,” said Anderson.

The 605-acre park is one highlight of an area littered with glacial formations of native Wisconsin limestone. The name Roche-A-Cri is French for "crevice in the rock." And what a rock it is! The limestone mound stands 300 feet clear above the surrounding countryside, and is equipped with a rustic wooden staircase built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The view from the top observation deck makes the climb well worth the effort. A panoramic view of the old glacial landscape complete with informative signs and descriptive pictures gives the newly baptized mountaineer a better understanding of the Roche-A-Cri, along with the entire glacial undertones of the greater Wisconsin Region.

The park also offers 41 lovely campsites scattered around the base of the mighty Cri. During the Civil War, Wisconsin troops assembled here and left their mark in graffiti on the sheer sandstone cliffs. Native American petroglyphs and pictographs dot the very same rock outcroppings. Once again we find history blending with beauty.

The Roche-A-Cri also offers a good trout stream with Carter Creek passing south of the great rock. A buzzard viewing trail passes through a wild prairie, reminiscent of pre-logging Wisconsin. The turkey vultures are quite a magnificent sight.

For the short drive, cheap park admission, rad-super views and history, the Roche-A-Cri State Park is an excellent choice. Let me tell you, there really is nothing like climbing 300 feet above the earth with a jug of shine, a sturdy walking stick and good friends at 3 in the morning. But don’t take my word or quiet-hour breaking behavior folks. Please, please, experience this splendid one for yourself.
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RIAA lawsuits approaching ridiculousness

By Steve Seamandel
ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

Within the past few days, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has brought the first arm of justice down on 261 Internet music swappers. The biggest headlines lately have concerned the RIAA’s lawsuits against the high profile downloaders and file sharers—the people who possess and share thousands of illegally distributed audio MP3’s and bootlegged movies. The RIAA tracked the users to their Internet service providers and, through a subpoena, collected the names of the heaviest users of music downloading programs like Morphus and Kazaa.

The case that’s receiving the most attention is the lawsuit against 12-year-old girl who was downloading illegal MP3’s and sharing them. Her parents and lawyer ended up settling out of court for a $2,000 payoff.

Without debating the pros and cons of downloading MP3’s, the RIAA is policing this in all the wrong ways. This is a battle that they simply cannot and will not ever win.

The first major problem stems from the fact that this music is so easy to obtain, yet so difficult to regulate and track. The RIAA has had minimal success in tracking heavy users lately, but there are so many users that if one remains low-profile, the RIAA probably won’t invest too much energy investigating someone who downloaded “Shake Ya Tailfeathers” and a few other lame-o tunes.

As of now, the RIAA’s main focus seems to be placed on the sharers, not the downloaders. Therefore, when you download a CD of Pink, or whatever your favorite illegal downloading program may be, as long as you uncheck the “share all files” box, you should be golden. In time this may change, but if you don’t share, it seems as if you’re safe enough.

Of course, the downside to not sharing is that if too many people don’t share, the quality and selection will severely decrease, making the concept of downloading and sharing MP3’s null and void.

The RIAA has had minimal success in tracking heavy users lately, so they have no legitimate case. The RIAA just won’t be able to keep up and compete with the practice has become and how lax the rules are. The problem comes from the fact that it’s not illegal to possess the technology. By law, consumers can make one capable of committing these illegal acts.

The RIAA has been nothing but a waste of time in the past until a lawsuit was brought up against the RIAA for offering false and deceptive amnesty. Apparently it served as more of a trap than a deal for downloaders.

My guess is that the fight against downloading MP3’s will go the way of the war on drugs and the war on terrorism: simply un赢nable.

Consumers can buy blank CD-R’s for a dime apiece and a decent burner for as low as $60 at Best Buy. Downloading the program to download MP3’s takes less effort than actually getting Internet service at your house. The RIAA just won’t be able to keep up and compete with the speed and ease with which consumers can download MP3’s.

However, with an estimated 60 million members, the MP3 trading community has a long way to go before demand outweighs supply.

Furthermore, the RIAA has dropped lawsuits against MP3 player manufacturers because they have no legitimate case against the players. By law, consumers are allowed to make backup copies of music and movies. Since the technology is available in VCR’s, CD-R burners and the latest craze, DVD burners, it’s nearly impossible to make people use these machines for illegal reasons.

Downloading MP3’s is no more illegal than burning a friend’s Cozy CD or recording a movie that you rented from the video store. Nearly everybody has illegally reproduced a video, tape or CD of some sort. This doesn’t make it acceptable, but it does prove how widespread the practice has become.

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Wisconsin Concert Calendar

Friday, 9/12: Natty Nation, Wiz Ender, Stevens Point
Saturday, 9/13: Umphrey’s McGee, Barrymore Theater, Madison
Tuesday, 9/16: Leftover Salmon/Deb McCoury, Barrymore Theater, Madison
Sunday, 9/21: Mudvayne, Powerman 5000: The Rave, Milwaukee
Thursday, 9/25: Red Hot Chili Peppers, Bradley Center, Milwaukee
Thursday, 9/25: Brothers Past, Thai Joe’s, Milwaukee (21+)
Friday, 9/26: Lake Trout, The Rave, Milwaukee
Thursday, 10/2: Robert Walter’s 20th Congress, Thai Joe’s, Milwaukee (21+)
Friday, 10/3: Saves the Day, The Rave, Milwaukee
Thursday, 10/9: Keller Williams, The Orpheum, Madison
Wednesday, 10/15: Umphrey’s McGee, Wiz Ender, Stevens Point (21+)
Thursday, 10/16: Umphrey’s McGee, The Studio, Oshkosh
Saturday, 10/18: Martyr’s Massacre, The Rave, Milwaukee
Friday, 10/24: Particle, Luther’s Blues, Madison (21+)
Thursday, 10/30: Steve Kimock Band, The Annex, Madison
Friday, 10/31: moe., Aragon Ballroom, Chicago
Friday, 10/31: Spiritualized, Barrymore Theater, Madison
Saturday, 11/1: moe., Aragon Ballroom, Chicago
Wednesday, 11/5: Less Than Jake, The Rave, Milwaukee
Thursday, 11/6: Yonder Mountain String Band, The Orpheum, Madison
Saturday, 11/8: Primus, Eagles Ballroom, Milwaukee
Wednesday, 11/12: Robert Randolph and the Family Band, The Rave, Milwaukee

Upcoming DVD releases

Sept. 16
-Anger Management -Confidence
-All I Want
-Monty Python and the Holy Grail (2-disc collector’s edition)

Sept. 23
-Daddy Day Care -Holes
-Babe

Film review: The Order

By Geoff Fyle
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Really, hasn’t the Catholic Church suffered enough these days? As if the endless spectacle of “Priests Behaving Badly” wasn’t enough, now they have to be the subject of horrid films like The Order? Pity the Vatican, for The Order should be renamed The Ordeal. Brian Hegeild’s flick strives to be like The Exorcist, but is instead one long snooze fest.

Alex Bernier (Heath Ledger) is a morose priest whose spirits are dampened even more when his old mentor is found dead in Rome of an apparent suicide. The decease was the head of an arcane Catholic order called the Carolinians, the only surviving members of which are now Alex and his old friend Father Thomas (Mark Addy). Upon the news that their mentor’s death was under mysterious circumstances, the duo head to Rome, accompanied by Mara (Shannyn Sossamon), Alex’s ex flame.

Alex’s investigation leads him to his mentor’s killer, William Eden (Benno Furmann), a dapper young man who turns out to be 500 years old. William, it seems, is the Sin Eater, a renegade priest who has the power to absorb a person’s sins, thus allowing them to enter Heaven no matter what their crimes were. William, though, is growing tired of his role and wants Alex to take over. And he’s not about to take no for an answer, especially when he plans to help orchestrate a revolt for control of the Vatican.

Watching this film, you’d never know Hegeland won an Oscar for scripting L.A. Confidential. The film’s plot is so much religious and supernatural hokum, much of it is swiped from other, better films. Editing is poor, with many scenes having little or nothing to do with the ones preceding them and with numerous plot threads left unresolved. The special effects are laughably ludicrous.

Lodger, Sossamon and Addy all starred previously in Hegeland’s enjoyably silly A Knight’s Tale, so you’d think they’d be familiar enough for him to get decent performances out of. Of no such luck. Lodger’s charisma is non-existent, as he mopes through this role as though he knows it’s a groaner, but with the added knowledge that he can’t get out of his contract, Sossamon, who, with her wistful-like figure and mournful eyes, looks like a B-grade Winona Ryder, is stuck with a colorless, one-dimensional role. Addy (The Full Monty), is always a hoot for a few laughs, but doesn’t get much to do. And when Peter Weller arrived on screen as a corrupt cardinal, all I could think of was, “Hey, since when did Robocop get religion?”

The Order was not screened for critics before it opened, usually a sure sign that a studio knows a film sucks and that they want to squeeze a few dollars out of it before everyone finds out how awful it is. The Order fits the bill to a T. Ludicrous, schlocky and, worst of all, boring, The Order is one lousy film. If this is what occult films have to offer, perhaps the upcoming Exorcist sequel should have stayed in development hell.
I love this time of year. After three months of vacation everyone is fresh and rested. All the Professors have forgotten how much they hate teaching. They smile and chat with each other in the hallways. They cluster around Xerox machines like lame, tweedy gangs, pretending they're cool despite the fact that they're pushing encyclopedias door-to-door while all the other gangs sell lapdances, PS2s, and cherry-flavored crack.

Returning students are glad to be back, mostly because your summer jobs were tedious and degrading. Three months is long enough so that you've forgotten that most classes are tedious and degrading too. You're full of hope. You're sure your new roommate won't be like the last one who wore tinfoil socks and had a tendency to get confused and occasionally urinate in the refrigerator.

You're sure you'll pass Math 106 this time around, and while you're at it you'll have plenty of time to map out your future career, find true love, attain nirvana, and develop a high-tech cybernetic arm that freely dispenses an infinite supply of orange PEZ. Sure. You'll have time for all that. After all, you've done the college thing before. You've got it all figured out ... Right?

But you freshman are my favorites. I remember what that first semester was like: you've got a new haircut and some of mom's money in your pocket. You're on your own for the first time ever. You have so much freedom that you can hardly keep from shitting yourself with sheer delight.

And you express your near-infinite excitement the same way every freshman has done for the last ten thousand years. You buy posters for your dorm. You order Pizza at unseasonable hours of the day and night. You touch yourself down there in a decidedly impure manner, repeatedly.

Well folks, cherish that delightful innocence for as long as you can. Because soon the horrible truth with start to dawn. You'll realize that freedom isn't all nachos, whippets, and wicked touching of the bathing suit area. Freedom is also credit-card debt, STD's that would blister the paint off a car door, and scholastic performance so shoddy that your Professors have to invent new grades to accurately represent how profoundly you are sucking in their classes. Something like "triple F minus" or "negative B plus."

Some of you, the smarter ones, are already starting to realize how dangerous all this lovely freedom is. Truth be told, your freshman orientation package should include a coil of industrial-strength nylon cord with a label that says: "Welcome to college. Here's a whole lot of rope. Feel free to hang yourself with it."

Unfortunately, the effect would be ruined by UWSP's legal department, which would make sure the rope was actually too short for anyone to hang themselves with. And they would attach a second label, larger than the first, with bright red letters saying: "We mean metaphorically. Dunceball."

Truth is, I can't keep you from metaphorically hanging yourself. And, honestly, I wouldn't want to. College provides you an unrivaled opportunity to screw up in a largely consequence-free environment. Screwing up is half the fun. If you don't make at least one or two really nexa-level mistakes, you're really not getting your money's worth.

What I can do is this. When things get weird, or stupid, or broken, I can offer some advice on how to minimize the damage to your tattered life. If that doesn't work, then at least the rest of us will have a good laugh at your expense.

So, E-mail your questions, sob stories, and mewling pleas for help to proth@wsunix.wsu.edu. I'll do my best to answer them. Exceptionally good letters will be rewarded with fantastic prizes. I promise.

The Pat Rothfuss Consortium will be playing a game on Wed. the 17th. We'll be meeting in the circular turn-around near Baldwin and Steiner hall at 8:00. What sort of game? Show up and find out.
Separation from page 5

ingly secular society is "taking God out of government." I find it difficult to understand why more people don't realize that God was never in our government to begin with.

After all, our legal system was simply not found-ed on the Ten Commandments. When is the last time you saw anyone arrested for coveting his neighbor's wife? And I know a lot of kids who get away with dishonoring their father and mother without serving any time at all. Come to think of it, you can even clink. In reality, only two of the Ten Commandments are actual laws in the United States, and "thou shalt not kill" and "thou shalt not steal" aren't exactly exclusive concepts of Judeo-Christian morality.

After all, our legal system was simply not founded on the Ten Commandments. When is the last time you saw anyone arrested for coveting his neighbor's wife? And I know a lot of kids who get away with dishonoring their father and mother without serving any time at all. Come to think of it, you can even clink. In reality, only two of the Ten Commandments are actual laws in the United States, and "thou shalt not kill" and "thou shalt not steal" aren't exactly exclusive concepts of Judeo-Christian morality.

As for the argument that our forefathers are rolling over in their graves when we separate church and state, one need not look any further than the Pilgrims (for all intents and purposes, the first Americans) to discover that this contention is also rather weak. The Church of England (an amalgamation of religion and government in its most heinous of forms) the soon-to-be Pilgrims so much flak back in England that they chose to leave the life they knew to board rickety ocean vessels and face the uncertainty of the New World rather than live in a society where religion ran the government.

Thomas Jefferson believed that a separation between church and state would protect government from the dogma of religion. Years earlier, the rather liberal Puritan (oxymoron or not) Roger Williams taught that a separation of church and state could protect religion from infringement by the government. In essence, this is what the separation is all about, keeping them from polluting each other as they have throughout history. Political leaders, who already have an omnipotence complex to begin with, love to use God to justify their actions (ahem... George W. Bush). History is full of holy war bloodshed brought about by union of church with the state (remember all those Crusades).

Religion and government just don't mix. To those who argue that religion should be allowed to influence government, I ask you if you'd be so willing to allow government to control aspects of the church? Would so many still tout the inclusion of God in the government if Congress started passing laws and restrictions on the church, or began taxing their tithes? Many Christians want the best of both worlds, allowing religion in government but keeping government out of religion. Religion and government need to be kept entirely separate or they'll inevitably contaminate and undermine each other.

Upon hearing the final verdict on "Roy's Rock," religious demonstrators started parading around with signs reading something to the effect of "You can take religion out of government, but you can't take it out of our hearts." My question to you is: isn't that where religion belongs in the first place?

Josh Goller
 Pointer Alumnus
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