Lyall Announces Retirement

System President to stay on until Sept. 1, 2004 or until replacement is selected

University of Wisconsin System President Katharine C. Lyall announced her retirement at a press conference in Madison today (Feb. 4), marking the end of one of the longest and most productive presidencies in the history of the UW System.

Lyall, 62, said she would stay until her replacement arrives or until Sept. 1, 2004, at the latest. In September, Lyall, an economist, will begin a year's appointment as a visiting senior scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in Palo Alto, Calif.

"It has been extremely exciting to lead the world's best university system and a great privilege to serve the people of Wisconsin in that role," Lyall said. "I leave with a great sense of pride in all we have accomplished, especially in the more than 300,000 students who have graduated from our four-year campuses during my tenure.

Lyall was named president of the UW System in April of 1992 after serving for eight months as acting president, replacing Kenneth Shaw who went on to become chancellor of Syracuse University. She served as executive vice president for five years under Shaw, having come to the UW System as vice president for academic affairs and professor of economics from The Johns Hopkins University in 1982.

"Our university community cannot thank her enough for what she's accomplished, including putting virtually all our current UW leadership in place," noted Toby Marcovich, president of the UW System Board of Regents. "She has led the UW with wisdom, integrity, wit, common sense and a wonderful collaborative spirit and our campuses are the richer for it.

"I know she had hoped to retire a year ago, and I appreciate that she was willing to stay on this year to help our regents chart a future course for the UW System and prepare for the 2005-07 state budget process," Marcovich said.

Lyall's tenure has been marked by many firsts and financial milestones.

During her presidency, UW System sources of revenue diversified; though the university's state budget grew $200 million, its budget from other sources more than doubled to $2.3 billion annually. This growth enabled new majors and programs, growth in research, including at the undergraduate level, new study-abroad programs and many new campus facilities. She also cheered the Badgers through several Rose Bowl wins during her presidency.

Lyall became the first woman ever to serve as UW System president. Her 12-year term as president represents one of the longest tenures of any university system president in modern times. The average tenure in such posts nationally is now less than five years.

During her presidency, the university forged new partnerships with Wisconsin's technical colleges and K-12 community, helped to revitalize the university's 13 two-year campuses, instituted many technological innovations including online courses and degrees and instituted the first annual accountability "report card" to citizens, measuring progress in important areas like access to the university, graduation rates, retention rates and progress toward achieving a more diverse student population.

"Wisconsin has no more skillful, accomplished or dedicated public servant than Katharine Lyall," noted Wisconsin Governor James Doyle in a prepared statement.

"I have known her and worked with her for more than a decade, and she has my deepest respect and gratitude for her contributions, including her work to

See System President, page 3

MYDOOM worm attacks UWSP email accounts

Email worm stages largest internet slowdown since SOBIG worm

By John T. Larson

The MIMAIL/MYDOOM worm has made its way to UWSP e-mail servers. Over the past two weeks, students have received messages with the innocent subject heading "Hi" or "Hello" with an attachment that has been deleted as the message contained a file infected with the MIMAIL/MYDOOM worm.

The worm, also known as the Norwarg worm or the Shimagi worm, infects the computer of the user that opens the attachment carrying the worm, and then forwards itself to every user in the user's e-mail inbox.

The worm also infected peer-to-peer networks, such as KAZAA, and infected computers through the downloading of an infected file. The worm does no damage to the infected computer, but can clog network servers with thousands of messages and make email and web servers function slowly, if at all.

Microsoft and computer software group SGO Group were targets of a variation of the work known as MYDOOM.B. Microsoft's website survived the attack and was still functional, but the SGO Group's website was still down as of Tuesday, Feb. 3.

The worm forges the e-mail address of the sender, making a direct trace of the origin point of an infected file and the true sender difficult.

"There were 94,000 copies of MIMAIL, disinfected from our email system," says UWSP Email Administrator Jane Dumke. "The vast majority of which are MIMAIL.R variants or later starting on Monday, 1/26/04 at 5:00 pm.

When asked how UWSP was combating the virus, Dumke stated that, "At UWSP we not only disinfect the mail before it is delivered, but if the virus is an uncleanable virus, such as this one, we remove the original infected message altogether to avoid the intended recipient from having to wade through potentially hundreds of disinfected copies of messages."

Due to the sheer volume of messages that have been deleted, and the unreliability of the sender's address being a correct address, the sender and recipient of the virus will not notice that an infected message was removed from the user's inbox.

According to data provided by the UWSP IT department, 94,269 attachments carrying the virus have been deleted.

See MYDOOM worm, page 3
Blood Drive coming soon to UWSP

The Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin will launch its UWSP blood drive on Monday, Feb. 16 and on Tuesday Feb. 17.

The event will take place in the Laird Room of the University Center from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The donation comes at a time when due to the recent cold snap, blood donation has decreased, lowering the reserve of blood needed for medical use. "Blood donation helps save lives," stated Vicki Bohem, Account Representative for the Blood Center.

"Blood is a major component of medicine that we cannot manufacture so every donation is of great help, but only a small percentage of the population donates."

Blood collected from donors is used to treat patients suffering from such ailments as bleeding disorders, accident victims, major surgery recipients, severe burn victims and those undergoing treatment for leukemia and cancer.

New Voters Project starts campus voter registration drive

By John T. Larson

The New Voters Project, a grassroots organization dedicated towards increasing voter registration and voter turnout in the 18-24 year old age group began its registration drive on campus during a Wednesday night meeting.

The event, hosted by several state and local organizers, was attended by 20-25 students, along with several interns who had started working with the groups prior to the meeting. Also on hand was Stevens Point City Clerk Victoria Zdroik, who was present to deputize students to grant them the ability to register other students to vote.

The goal of the organization is to do more than just generate awareness of voting, but to get students in their target age group to register and vote. "Young people are often ignored by the political process as they don't vote," stated Monica Groves, the UWSP Campus Organizer for the New Voters Project. "Less than 36% of those in the 18-24 year old age group vote, compared with almost 70% in higher age categories."

The group is focused on data that has shown that since the voting age was lowered in the 1970's, the number of voters in the younger age category has declined every year. Groves also stated that the primary function is not to just create awareness of the voting process, but also to have student members of the New Voters Project assist others in their age group get out and vote.

"Other organizations, such as Rock the Vote, have made students aware that they should vote, but our goal is to register students and assist them to ensure that they are voting."

The students that attended the meeting will be divided into several committees dealing with aspects of the voting drive such as Public Relations, registration and outreach programs to high school students within voting age and coalition building amongst other campus organizations."

"Part of this drive is to combine the efforts of various groups on campus into a single effort to get students to vote," said Jessie Token, the State Campus Director for the New Voters Project, who gave a presentation outlining the structure of the project.

During her presentation, Tolkien went on to stress that other groups on campus had done much of the work that the New Voters Project is planning on doing, but she stated that "By combining the efforts of all groups on campus by way of the unifying efforts of students involved in the New Voters Project, we should come closer to our voter turnout goal."

In addition to unifying the efforts of various campus organizations that are already involved in voter registration efforts, the group plans to blanket areas that students populate, such as sporting events, tables stationed around campus, restaurants, and bars with members that will have the power to register people on the spot. The groups plans to have the registration be totally run by students in a non-partisan manner, with the various committees that make up the core of the group making every effort to unifying efforts of students.

See New Voters, page 3

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Supporters of Howard Dean gathered at the University Center on Saturday to listen to campaign workers about the progress of the efforts of Dean to capture the Democratic Party nomination in the weeks leading up to the Wisconsin Primary

Photo by Patricia Larson
Fine Arts Center reconstruction still underway

By Dawn Ver Haagh

The recent cold weather has put the Fine Arts reconstruction project slightly behind schedule, but efforts are underway to keep the project moving as quickly as possible to its completion.

"[W]e are in a hold pattern," stated Campus Planning Director Carl Rasmussen, "but we are attempting to keep on schedule.

Currently, concrete is being poured for the second floor, and then work will move up to the third floor. Cold weather makes it difficult. Temperatures need to be at or around the 30 degree mark in order to accomplish concrete pouring," said Rasmussen. "During the stretch of cold weather, they proceed with putting in support columns for the third floor.

Approximately 5 months into reconstruction, Rasmussen is certain that "there are a good 12 months left on the project." Plans for completion were originally scheduled for the first week of February 2005. Now, due to the cold temperatures, completion is likely to be a month later.

Although the exterior of the building is not closed in, work has begun on the interior. Remodeling already started in the ceramics & sculpture section of the building, and four studios in the art and design department have been taken out for interior work.

Mimi Johnson, a program assistant, stated that the reconstruction "is a change; we just look at how it will be when it is done.

A great deal of moving, accommodating and creating temporary office space, along with practice and classrooms has taken place. One balcony in the Fine Arts building is now the temporary painting room and temporary percussion rooms have been constructed and insulated to reduce noise and distraction. Several classrooms have been temporarily relocated to the hallways.

development of the state's economic needs and to put the university to work addressing those needs. Maclay led economic development a high priority for the UW System and its 15 institutions in recent years, sponsoring four annual economic summits since 2000 and garnering millions of dollars in federal funding to establish new majors in high demand fields, to provide assistance to small businesses and to energize regional economic development.

President Lyall

"President Lyall recognized that economic vitality of the state is critical to its public higher education and the System's institutions. He believed that the System's economic vitality is critical to the state's economic vitality and thus the quality of life of its citizens," said former UW Board of Regents president Jay L. Smith, who led the four summits with Lyall. During her tenure, President Lyall moved the pride of Wisconsin to the center of the university's mission, said Smith. She "took what had been a small, old department and made it a major university system, and that's a credit not only to her leadership, but also to the campus and system leaders she has appointed."

Challenges of the president's tenure

"President Lyall's tenure has been challenging," said Don Fowler, former UW System chancellor. "He has faced many challenges over his tenure, including a major reorganization of the UW System. The UW System has undergone significant changes during his presidency, including the creation of new majors, the elimination of duplicative programs, and the establishment of a new academic structure.

The UW System is now more efficient and effective, with a focus on student success and academic excellence. The UW System is now recognized as one of the best higher education systems in the country, and President Lyall played a key role in that success."

The UW System is currently working closely with the University of Michigan and the University of Minnesota to develop a new model for higher education in the Midwest. The project is being led by President Lyall, who has been a leader in higher education for over 20 years.

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Musings from Mirman
You can't fool me February, I saw you sneak in on Super Bowl Sunday
By Dan Mirman

The month of February stealthily invaded the calendar this week, but it went largely unnoticed.
It's easy to understand why nobody noticed February, we had the Super Bowl and a costume malfunction to occupy our minds. But now the dreaded month has arrived.

Comedian Lewis Black captured February best by calling it the grayest month of the year. He said everybody becomes grayer until Valentines Day, which is the grayer day of the year, and then the next day is even grayer. (And you wake up that day and think about cutting your wrists to see color.)

So far February has brought sunshine, but a gray streak lies just around the corner. However, if you took the time to outline this month, read this story.

I went snowboarding in Wausau on Tuesday with three compadres. After an hour, one friend went off a jump on her board, but landed on her butt and had to head to the hospital for x-rays.

After checking in, I had to don a lovely hospital gown, it gets better too. I'm pretty sure there was a bleed stain on the gown, but I tried not to think about that. Finally after three nurses all told me that my collar bone was probably broken I now take twice as long to shower and get ready in the morning and it's painful.

But please, don't weep. I want no sympathy. I just ask that you use me to get through this trying month. Any tough situation this month brings up, laugh at my predicament. I'll show you what I mean.

Example: Your car won't start in the morning Normal thought: “This stupid pile, I hate Festivas.”

Revised thought: “It could be worse, Mirman can't even drive his car because it's a stick-shift, ha ha ha.”

So please enjoy this month on me, color is overrated anyway.

Vote for a Pointer

I would like to put in a plug for Eric Krauzman who is running for School Board here in Stevens Point. Eric is a 21 year old Journalism/Political Science major from Madison and has been interested in politics his whole life.

He was Amy Heart's intern for her campaign for mayor and he is co-spokesperson of the College Greens here on campus.

Although Eric does not have children, he is still concerned with the decisions the Stevens Point School Board makes. Eric will bring fresh ideas and opinions to the board.

Even though he is young, he can serve the board professionally and genuinely. A vote for Eric is a vote in the right direction. He will work hard for the children and community of Stevens Point.

Kathy Ligkis UWSP Student

THE POINTER

The Pointer is a student-run newspaper published weekly for the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. The Pointer staff is solely responsible for content and editorial policy.

No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

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Letters to the editor and all material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.

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Pointing the news at you, sort of

By Geoff Frye
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

STV-10, UW-Stevens Point's local cable channel, has never been the most watched of channels. For most of the day, it's just slides and classical music in a never-ending loop. However, there are a few worthy shows put on by the STV staff and on campus. One, in particular, is waiting for you to discover it. If you're sick of the news you get, perhaps you should tune in to STV-10 for some real information.

Newspoint, the show in question, is a satirical news show airing on Wednesday nights at 9:30 p.m. That is, at least, its scheduled time, discover it. If you're sick of the news you get, perhaps you should tune in to STV-10 for some real information.

One day, I was watching Full House,” said series creator and host Rich Hanson. “Something just clicked. Let's invent NEWS! Thus, Newspoint was born.”

The show's format is very much patterned on that of Comedy Central's marvelous The Daily Show. Hanson and his co-host, STV producer Miles Hoschultz, sit at attention behind their imposing desk and read the news. They may not seem like local news anchors, but they are more convincing than those on Fox News.

It's scheduled time, of course, the show range from the absurd to the unbelievable. Sample stories include the Smurfs being revealed as communists and "Smurfling" Smurflute from dusk till dawn, Debot getting a ship to serve as the new centerpiece (argues not too hard to believe), the Packers using an underachieving player as a paperweight and an admission that clowns really do come from Hell (something long overdue). Future stories are under wraps, but we can give you a hint: The new mascot is Gus, the frozen squirrel corpse.

The show's intro is writing and reporting staff is always on the case. You can find Steven Dietelhorst interviewing one of Schmeeckle's freaks at the risk of life and limb or John Larson going all Agent Smith and ranting about humans as "viruses." There's also a typical rant from the show's breakout star Richard Anderson, complaining about why the police have forbidden him from playing with deadly weaponry. We advise you to watch, but be warned.

I must admit my own culpability in this show. Yes, I write and act I've had gabs about Schmeeckle in a troll outfit, portrayed a dumb-as-a-box-of-rocks reserve officer killed by the troll (I kill myself on camera) and threatened my bosses as an angry Cubs fan possessed by Satan. You will forgive me for shilling for my own efforts.

"Newspoint allows me to get my slanted view of the world to the public," Hanson said. He added, "I couldn't do it without my staff. They are the best."

So if you're looking for some quality programming on STV, look no further. At Newspoint, we will provide all your entertainment and educational needs. Remember, we're pointing the news...at you. And hey, at least we're more reliable and truthful than Fox News.

Lee learns in London

By Robin Lee
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hello. I am in London, England. I'm studying abroad, and I've been here for a little over two weeks. Would you like to hear what I've learned so far? If you don't, I wouldn't suggest reading on, but if you do, maybe you'll learn a thing or two about London, England.

In England, they drive on the opposite side of the road than us. (I'm sure you know that.) I've already been hit several times, but luckily I am fast. They don't seem to stop for pedestrians here like we do in Wisconsin; I guess that's something I've always just taken for granted they stop for pedestrians in WI.

Of course the people in London, speak English. But they speak it much differently than we do in Wisconsin. Instead of saying excuse me, they say sorry. I keep on running into people and they keep on saying sorry, and I always want to tell them to stop being so apologetic, but they are really just saying excuse me. Instead of saying "thank you" they say "cheers!" The first day I was here I held the door open for some dude pushing a cart and he said "cheers". They say all sorts of different things here, it's like learning a foreign language.

You only have to be 16 to smoke cigarettes over here, and you only have to be 18 to buy alcohol. I can go to bars now! Well, I can go to the bars without being the shy underdawg kid that's sneaking into the bars. They have so many amazing things here in London! They have some of the best art in the world. Granted, we have spectacular art in Stevens Point, but they have legendary art here. Yesterday, I got to look at art by Leonardo, Raphael, Michelangelo, and Van Eyck

29 Days of Wellness

Get acquainted with the Allen Center

By Alli Himle
FEATURES EDITOR

The annual event of wellness kicks off this week at the Allen Center. Throughout the month of February, students can experience a variety of activities that the Allen Center sponsors either at a discounted rate or for free.

Beginning this week, students can take advantage of a variety of programs. Free stress relief sessions will be offered Thursday through the Student Health Promotion Office. Free juice is being offered this Friday to those working out at the Cardio Center. In addition, the Cardio Center has a variety of group fitness classes for students to experience during the month, ranging from Tai Chi to breathing and relaxation classes.

Outdoor Edventures is offering a variety of activities to take advantage of in order for students to get a taste of all the ways they can experience more while at college. Throughout next week, they will also be offering a selection of merchandise at discount rates.

As Vim Sham, student manager for Allen Center said "This is a chance for us to showcase everything that the Allen Center has to offer. Students can get a taste of new experiences without having to spend a lot." For a complete list of all programs offered by the Allen Center for the month of February, stop by the Cardio Center at the Allen Center or visit the Cardio Center website at www.uwsp.edu/centers/cardiocenter. And remember, this annual tradition has a special perk this year since February has an extra day.

What is the Outpost?

Browse Outdoor Edventure's new store

By Alli Himle
FEATURES EDITOR

The Outpost, located adjacent to the Pointer Express, opened its door to students this semester. Specializing primarily in retail, the Outpost is an extension of Outdoor Edventures, which is located in the lower level of the Allen Center.

The reason for their choice of location is its easy visibility to students who are not as familiar with their sister store in the Allen Center. In addition to offering merchandise, the Outpost also serves as an information center to those interested in discovering the various activities offered by Outdoor Edventures to have to.

In conjunction with the 29 Days of Wellness and Valentine's Day, the Outpost is currently offering a red, white or pink Nalgene bottle, bandana and carabiner for only ten dollars.

Nelli Atkinson, student employee of the Outpost said, "This is a good starting point for students looking to get outside and enjoy the Wisconsin weather. Atkinson is already overwhelmed by the amount of attention the store has gotten thus far, and she hopes that level of interest will continue.

The Outpost is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Since they are conveniences located next to the Pointer Express, I encourage you to check them out the next time you find yourself waiting in the Student Union. This may just give you the starting point for planning your well-anticipated spring break adventure.

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Pointer women hold off spirited River Falls squad

Team able to overcome early game struggles
By Joshua Schmidt
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Redemption. That's what the UW-River Falls Falcons were thinking Wednesday night as they hosted the UW-Stevens Pointers in a WIAC women's basketball conference matchup.

women's basketball

In the first conference game of the year for both teams back on December 2, UWSP pasted UWRF 94-50. The Pointers were looking for more of that for a little redemption. That's what the UWSP women's basketball team was thinking Saturday night they would get it.

The game started out according to plan for UWRF, as they raced out to an early 8-2 lead behind freshman guard Melanie Preiner who scored five of the first eight points for the Falcons. The Pointers then settled in going on a 9-2 run to take the lead, 11-10 five minutes into the first half.

The teams traded baskets for most the rest of the half until coming out of a media timeout. Tied at 23, Pointers went on a 19-6 run which included six unanswered points by Amanda Nechuta within one minute. The Pointers went into the locker room with a comfortable 40-29 lead.

In the second half, UWRF once again came out of the gates firing as they scored the first four points of the half, all by junior forward Erin Effle, cutting the Pointer lead to seven. From there the Pointers put the pressure on, extending the lead to 68-52 on a Cassandra Heuer jumper with seven minutes left in the game.

The Falcons weren't going to roll over in this game and pulled within seven to make the score 69-76 with a little over a on a pair of Chantelle Melgaard free-throws. That's as close as they would get as UWSP converted seven of their next nine free-throw attempts to put the game away with the final score of 88-76.

The Pointers had five players in double figures led by Amanda Nechuta with 19 and Amy Scott with 16. Cassandra Heuer had a good all around game with 12 rebounds and 5 assists to go with her 14 points.

With the win, the Pointers improve to 18-2 (9-2) on the season. Next up, the Pointers host UW-Platteville 12-8 (7-5) this Saturday in the Alumni Game.

Struggling offense hurts Pointers in pair of weekend losses
By Jana Jurkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The UWSP men's hockey team slipped to fifth place in the NCHA as they dropped a pair of games over the weekend by matching 5-1 scores. However, this would not be the third, but it was clearly too little too late.

Despite out shooting the Foresters 30-23, the Pointers were unable to capitalize on their opportunities. The team will be on the road again this weekend as they travel to UW-Superior and St. Scholastica and look to put an end to their three game losing streak.

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- 24th Annual -

UW-STEVEN'S POINT'S
Summer Camp/Recreational Job Fair
Wednesday, February 11, 2004
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Melvin Laird Room
University Center

Over 50 different facilities with 100s of Job Opportunities to gain experience and money!

Types of Job Openings

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- Arts & Crafts Instructors
- and Many Others Jobs

Sponsored by: Career Services Office & Wisconsin Camps – UWSP Student Chapter
White, Hayes set tone in surprising dual victory

**Wrestlers cruise against Lawrence to keep perfect conference mark**

**By Adam Wise**

*SPORTS REPORTER*

Coach Johnny Johnson knew his team would be stiff competition Tuesday night when they squared off against Lawrence University. He just couldn't have known that they would perform as well as they did.

**wrestling**

The Pointers, ranked fourth in Division III play, outfought and out hustled the Vikings. Nearly running the table in their 39-3 victory, they remain undefeated in conference play at 5-0 and improved to an overall record of 7-2.

Coach Johnson said Senior Yan White (197) set the tone in the evening's first match versus Scott Polewach pinning him at 1:15. Yan earned his third consecutive pin of the season improving his record to 13-1.

Senior Yan White puts Lawrence wrestler Scott Polewach in a headlock on his way to pinning Polewach in 1:15 on Tuesday night.

In the heavyweight class, Mike Hayes controlled Kenny Hamm for nearly all his entire bout earning a 5-0 decision.

Next, David Davila (125), Brady Holtz (133) and Jared Esala (141) all earned major decisions in their victories.

Bennett now third winningest all time

Pointers put on show at home on Saturday, but let Melzer's River Falls team drop them Tuesday

**By Craig Mandl**

*SPORTS REPORTER*

They say in the world of sports, "What goes around, comes around." After the UWSP men's basketball team shut down River Falls star forward Rich Melzer to the tune of just seven points in their Dec. 3 matchup, Melzer welcomed UWSP to his gym with 25 points in his team's 70-59 victory.

**men's basketball**

Melzer wasn't by himself, though, as Falcon sharpshooter Chris Becker drained 5-6 three-pointers to give River Falls 15 points of his own. River Falls led from the first basket and got out front to stay with a 7-0 spurt early in the first half. The Falcons pulled ahead by as many as 19 points in the second half.

Leading the way for the Pointers was Jason Kalsow, who threw in 15 points and grabbed 6 rebounds. Junior Nick Bennett scored 13, but the rest of the team's contributions came from the bench. Junior reserve Kyle Gruszynski scored 11 points, his second double-digit effort of the season and highest total since a 15-point night at Platteville on Jan. 10.

The Pointers didn't let up despite a strong showing by La Crosse, eventually taking the game 70-61. The Eagles, coached by former UWSP head assistant Ken Koebel, gave the Pointers fits all game with a methodical offense that just seemed to stay close all game.

La Crosse played UWSP in a 21-all tie with 8:49 to play in the first half before a Kalsow free throw sparked a quick eight-point run.

Freshman Jon Krull scored five of those points before leaving with a sore hip.

The Pointers travel to Eau Claire this weekend to participate in the UW-Eau Claire Invitational.
Sports

Women have perfect weekend
Team doesn’t give up a goal in four games against Lake Forest

UW-Stevens Point won two games last weekend, posting shutouts over Lake Forest by 6-0 and 3-0 scores.

Women's hockey

UW-Stevens Point posted shutouts in all four meetings with Lake Forest this season.

Hilary Bulger and Kim Lunneborg scored two goals in Sunday’s games last weekend, posting a power play goal in Sunday’s win and Lunneborg had two assists.

Men continue great season while women swim tough

The Pointer swim teams split their meet against UW-La Crosse this past weekend with the men winning 146-97 and the women losing 163-80. This was the last meet for the Pointers before they compete in the WIAC championship.

swimming & diving

Some outstanding individual performances for the Pointers this weekend belonged to Bennet Wenzel, Matt Grunwald and diver Chad Pettis. Wenzel won the one thousand yard freestyle with a time of ten minutes and 19.9 seconds. Grunwald took the 200 yard with a time of one minute and 45.05 seconds, as well as the 200 yard butterfly. Pettis won both the one meter and three meter dive competitions, helping him qualify for the NCAA’s.

Both UWSP and La Crosse figure to be highly competitive in the upcoming WIAC championships.

"Both Point and LaCrosse are very strong," said Pointer Head Coach Al Boelk. "The format and scoring system for the conference meet should be to our (UWSP’s) advantage."

While commenting on last weekend's meet and the upcoming conference meet, Boelk added that "we are deeper than La Crosse, especially on the women’s side. Our women’s dual meet loss to La Crosse means nothing going into the big dance, you can win a dual meet with four people, you need twenty to win a conference title."

The swim team will have a couple weeks off to prepare for the WIAC championships, which will be held in Oakkosh February 19-21.

Track team begins to focus early

Witt hopes that veteran runners can lead men’s team heavy in freshmen

By Jana Jurkovich

SPORTS REPORTER

The beginning of the track and field season is similar to most sports. Its about taking the time to put people in the right events, get the best relay teams together and start on the upward climb in the hopes of peaking at the right time.

indoor track & field

Getting everything situated right now is exactly what men’s Coach Rick Witt is trying to accomplish.

"In the beginning it’s not so important whether we win or lose, it’s trying to find where individuals fit in the best at the end," said Witt.

With 25 of the 55 runners being freshmen, many of the older veterans will be looked at to lead the team. Witt also coaches the cross country team and expects those runners to be in their motivation from the previous season.

"My cross country guys are very self-motivated and will lead in that regard. Other seniors have big meet experience and will be looked to be teachers and leaders," said Witt.

Specifically, Witt sees Mark Wierzbta, Matt Legel and Andrew Schleppe rising to the occasion.

For just getting things underway, however, the Pointers are looking pretty good as they placed first in the Pointer Invitational last Saturday. Wierzba automatic qualified for Nationals in the 35-meter runs, the 55-hurdles, 4x4 relay and the high jump.

The Pointers will travel to Oshkosh this Saturday for the Titan Invitational before returning home for the Eastbay Invitational.

"The goal is to really put the team together to maximize abilities by the Eastbay race the 14th," said Witt.

The Pointer women also had a good showing as they claimed third out of six teams over the weekend.

The Pointers were led by Leah Herlache, Jenna Mitchell and Julia Slaboshems, who captured the 800 meter run, 3000 meter run and the shot put respectively.

The Pointers will travel to Monroe over the weekend for the Warren Bowles Invitational before rejoining the men at home for the Eastbay Invitational.
The way I see it... Its basketball time

By Joshua Schmidt ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Now that this year’s Super Bowl is in the books, what is a hard-core football fan supposed to do?

In Wisconsin, there are a lot of activities to choose from: skiing, snowmobiling and ice skating, to name a few.

But, for those of you who, like me, prefer the comfort and warmth of being inside, there is an alternative: Basketball.

We here in central Wisconsin are sitting in the middle of a hotbed of good basketball.

First, look no further than right on campus. Both our men’s and women’s teams at UWSP are performing well and are right in the middle of their conference title races.

The seventh-ranked women’s team is sitting just a game back of first-place UW-Oshkosh and a half game back of UW-Eau Claire in the WIAC race. With games remaining against both front runners, the women control their own destiny. This team also has plenty of talent, led by senior guards Tara Schmitt and Andrea Kraemer along with junior Amanda Nechuta and Amy Scott.

The men’s team is also doing well this season. Ranked 14 in the nation, this team is a game and a half back of UW-Whitewater in the standings and faces key matchups against the Warhawks and UW-Platteville next week. This team is led by junior forwards Nick Bennett, Jason Kalsow and Eric Mann.

If you’re the type who prefers major college basketball, you still don’t have to go far. Just to the south is the Big Ten leading Wisconsin Badgers. Looking for their third straight conference championship, former UW-Platteville coach Bo Ryan has his 11th-ranked Badgers in prime position to secure another title. This team also stars one of the premier point guards in the nation in Devin Harris. Joining Harris is junior Mike Wilkerson, UW-Milwaukee transfer Clayton Hanson, and junior-college transfer Zach Morley.

A n d, if you still want to go even further, the Milwaukee Bucks are halfway decent this year. Once in a while I’ll read about someone being traded or signed as a free agent, but even the Hot Stove League (as Major League off-season good baseball game with my feet

The college team is in the middle of their off-season conditioning program. They won’t start with the real games ‘til the end of March.

The majors are lying dormant too. Once in a while I’ll read about someone being traded or signed as a free agent, but even the Hot Stove League (as Major League off-season good baseball game with my feet

The only star is first time All-Star Michael Redd, who can score 20 in his sleep and is capable of dropping 40 on any given night. Former NBA Slam Dunk Champion Desmond Mason, veteran Tony Kukoc and rookie point guard TJ Ford form part of a solid roster that the rest of the NBA is beginning to notice.

So, there you have it. If you’re looking for a substitute for football, jump on one of these teams’ bandwagons and get ready for some exciting action.

SPORTS

The Man’s Take
Confessions of a total baseball junkie

By Craig Mandli SPORTS EDITOR

As we drove past Miller Park in Milwaukee last week, an eerie silence seemed to resonate from the steel girders and deserted parking lot. It was sort of sad, actually. I had never wanted more to be sitting in the stands, keeping score while trying to balance a bat and a Miller on a warm July afternoon.

But it’s February; quite possibly the worst month of the year for a hard-core baseball fan. Nothing is happening.

The college team is in the middle of their off-season conditioning program. They won’t start with the real games ‘til the end of March.

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Cross-country skiing

Peaceful, relaxing, self-propelled excitement

By Adam M.T.H. Melia
OUTDOORS EDITOR / FRESH EXPERT

Snow is a great gift to the humans from the snow-wizard. Some years the snow-wizard is cranky and does not give the humans enough snow. On good years, however, the snow-wizard blesses us with plentiful snowfall.

During these happy winters, I like nothing better than spending a few hours gliding around the snow on my nimble cross-country skis. The thrill gained from a quiet jaunt through the woods is surely unmatched solitude and relaxation. It is like a walk in the woods had hot sex with a cumulonimbus cloud. Cross-country skiing is almost dream-like with its crazy, fluid gentleness.

And here we turn another corner. While the sport is strangely relaxing, it can be challenging and even cruel at the same time. The greatest aspect of cross-country skiing is that old-fashioned notion of self-propulsion. The benefits of such travel are innumerable. Somewhere on that longest trail, when the wind is whipping and the sweat is coming down my forehead, I can't help but smile, knowing that every inch I've gone from the trailhead has been personally earned. That's called satisfaction, and it can't be found on a chairlift.

Portage County is a great place to enjoy cross-country skiing when the snow-wizard is happy. So next time you are looking for some good winter fun, thank the snow-wizard for the gift and take advantage of the great trail conditions. Satisfaction is out there, and it doesn't cost a dime.

Some places to cross-country ski and snowboard in the area

Standing Rocks County Park, S.E. of Plover.
-Excellent terrain.
-Small park entrance fee. Top rope on main hill. Score: 8 out of 10

Plover River Trail, just east of Point on Hwy. 66
-Cross-country only.
-Connects to Green Circle.
-Several trail loops with skate and classical trails. Score: 6.5 out of 10

Grainne Peak, north on 51 in Wausau.
-Downhill only.
-Lots of new trails.
-Night skiing/boarding. Score: 7 out of 10

Mr. Winters’ two cents

By Dan Mirman
EDITOR IN CHIEF, MOUNTAIN DEW DRINKER

My snowboarding experience has been limited to three trips to a hill formerly known as Rib Mountain. After each experience I felt sore and beat up for about a week following my downhill excursion. But that will not deter me one bit from getting out on the hill again. Though my experience is limited, I still feel hooked.

What separates snowboarding from those other skiing activities are the options afforded to the snowboarders. First you have to get comfortable going downhill without falling. Then you have to get used to the speed. Big deal, downhill skiing has the same problem. But snowboarding adds the aspects of the jumps and eventually the halfpipe.

Never mind the fact that I’m still on the first step; eventually I plan to take on the big jumps, which will lead to even bigger falls.

I have tried the skis and they just don’t offer the same pulse-pounding sensation that the snowboard provides me. The feeling that you should fall and manage to somehow stay up absolutely rocks. Even a hard fall gives a little bit of a rush.

My arm is currently in a sling from an accident that occurred earlier in the week. However, the first question that I had for my doctor was, “Can I snowboard again this season?”

Right now that question is unanswered. I got the runaround and he mentioned something about going on how it feels.

Normally, a big crash on my third snowboarding trip would stop me from future trips. I gave up the yo-yo after it crashed into my forehead. My skateboard became a present to a friend after I got scraped up pretty good. But right now my only thought is for my collarbone to heal in time for a few more trips this winter.
Snow meets art at Flake-out festival

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
OUTDOORS EDITOR

The night before the Flake-Out Festival begins, Wisconsin Dells is a quiet town. It is the tourist off-season, and the biggest thing going on is the 8' tall snow blocks that will soon become works of wintertime art. There are 30 blocks in all, standing tall like a frigid replica of Easter Island.

The annual snow-sculpting competition is the centerpiece of this winter festival, and draws 20,000 people each year. These mysterious snow blocks are the starting points for each carefully planned sculpture. Standing 8' by 6' by 6', the starter blocks are created using plywood forms, a back-end loader and a half-dozen "guys that stomp it down."

Over the course of the weekend, each team will transform these enormous snow blocks into intricately detailed snow sculptures.

One UWSP art student, Jewel Noll, and her family, have participated in this event for the past two years as "Team PsychoSculpters II." Her father Tom is the team captain and a ten-year veteran of Flake-Out Fest snow-sculpting. Brother Dustin is the third artist on the team while Mom cheerleads. This is what snow-sculpting is all about- bringing the family together to create something as a team.

Yet this is no ordinary team, as their name clearly states. The team motto, "Snowsculpting... a few degrees short of sanity," hints at their motivations. Last year the team's sculpture was a set of Harley riders, a favorite activity of Tom and Dustin. This year, the team set out to recreate Horton the Elephant, a character made famous by Dr. Seuss.

The sculpture starts out as a small 6" clay model. The team uses ladders, barbed wire saws and pick axes to carve away a vague figure, and then little by little, add detail to their artwork. This year, the family put roughly 75 hours of work into forming Horton.

On Saturday evening, the public and artists celebrate the height of the Festival with live bands, fireworks and a huge bonfire. On Sunday, judging commences and this year, the "PsychoSculpters" took first in the people's choice category, and fifth in the artist vote.

In the end, the Festival is all about having fun. While the artists are serious about their work, Jewel admits, "It is really just an excuse to get together and party." Anyone who is interested in snow-sculpting can join, as admission, hotels and many other perks are free to the qualifying teams.

Many of the more serious teams, like The Psycho Sculpters, are sponsored. Sherpers Outfitters provides them with apparel, Hanacik Chiropractors bellies up for out of pocket expenses and Club 400 helps the team out with the essential 32 oz. creative juices that won't freeze in the snow.

SLEA to hold ice fishing derby

By Marty Seeger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

The Weather Channel is predicting some fantastic Wisconsin weather for this weekend, with temperatures of 20 degrees possible. As a result, you may want to fuel your competitive drive by participating in the third annual Ice Fishing Tournament sponsored by the Student Law Enforcement Association (SLEA). The tournament will be held on Saturday, February 7 from 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on the west end of Lake Dubay. There will be an array of cash and door prizes in four different categories that will include northern pike, walleye, pan-fish, and bass. Door prizes will also be awarded, and will be given away at the end of the tournament. All prizes will be awarded at the Lake Dubay County Park, located off County Highway E, which serves as the tournament headquarters. The tournament is open to all ages. The only requirement is the possession of a valid Wisconsin fishing license. The cost is $5 per person, and $3 for children 13 or younger. All proceeds will support the SLEA and safety programs such as boating safety, hunters' safety and much more.
The Encore was packed last Saturday for Chicago blues legend Jimmy Johnson. The daytime eatery came close to establishing a so-called mood as it took on a strange, murky, blues kind of atmosphere.

With a slightly older audience in attendance, the lights dimmed; every table was filled with appreciative fans and the show started gaining momentum.

Jimmy and the boys hit on a handful of blues staples before taking a short set break and diving into an energetic final round of electric guitar and impressive drum-driven Chi-Town blues.

Both serious blues fans and newcomers to the scene could, and did, enjoy this concert. It is nice to see a class-act like Jimmy Johnson come to campus, as is seeing a concert that actually brings in a respectful and large audience. A blues concert is just better when the house is packed.

**Events Calendar**

**Saturday, February 7**

Dred I Dread @ Witz End, 9:30 p.m., $5

**Wednesday, February 11**

Rev. Eddie Danger @ Clark Place, 9 p.m.

**Friday, February 13**

Carlos Del Junco @ Witz End, 9:30 p.m., $10 adv/$12 d.o.s.

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**Super Bowl XXXVIII: The nip seen 'round the world**

Reactions to a titillating halftime show and Super Bunk commercials

By Steve Seamandel

**ARTS & REVIEW**

**Page 13 February 5, 2004**

As a media coverage of Janet Jackson's right nipple begins to give way to Democratic primaries and Martha Stewart, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) continues to investigate the unveiling, so to speak, that took place at the tail-end of Sunday's Super Bowl halftime show.

Although no action has been taken against any person, TV station or affiliate thus far, producers of this Sunday's 46th Annual Grammy Awards have already banned Jackson from the ceremonies and will implement a 5-minute delay to catch any slips this time around, intentional or accidental.

Let's be honest with ourselves: Jackson and Timberlake’s steamy dance routine and breast exposure were no accidents. It even matched up with the tune's lyrics, "I'll have you naked by the end of this song." But the reason for the spectacle escapes many.

I've heard dozens of reasons, but getting a matching gimmick for Jackson's newest album, a way for a bitter Timberlake to get back at Britney again, (Tag! You'll be it) and my personal theory is that Jackson was making eyes with Kid Rock, who was drooling over her on the side Despondent-Making...it was a marketing gimmick, not to mention its depiction of the battle between Vegas' old school past and its Disneyfied present version (also touched upon in Martin Scorsese's Casino), not to mention its depiction of Vegas as, in Shelly's words, "a prostitute." Still, Vegas is never boring subject matter. The heart of the film, however, is the relationship between Bernie and Natalie, which comes off as touching, wholly believable and very steamy, with scenes that had to be trimmed to avoid an NC-17 rating. Add in some nice touches of black humor and an ending laced in delirious irony and you have quite the winning combination.

No one could inhabit Bernie better than Baldwin, who was brilliant in his sympathetic walk from the start as the saddest screen character ever seen. You feel for him and cheer when he finally gets some happiness with Bello, who also excels in a tough role that hopefully will win her the stardom she left ER to achieve. An extremely quirky supporting actor is Baldwin himself. But he was up from an oily Livingston to Paul Sorvino as a heroin-addicted lounge singer to Shawn Hatosy as Bernie's no-good son, a pathological liar who adds to his father's misery. Even former swimsuit model Estelle Warren, merely eye-candy in Planet of the Apes, acquits herself well in a shockingly drabbed-down role as Hatosy's pregnant wife.

Despite Macy and Bello, though, the best performance is given by Baldwin as Shelly, who is mastering a difficult role that requires him to be both hero and villain. Shelly can be tender, as when he comforts his wife, but he can be a broken down singer after a bad performance, or hateful, as when he tries to break up Bernie and Natalie's happiness to keep the "cooler" in business. But Baldwin never loses our sympathy for this man, portraying him as a lonely, workaholic faced with the ultimate end of his world and the Vegas he loves. In the end, while Bernie may seem unlucky, Shelly is the ultimate loser and that gives The Cooler's ending a touch of the bittersweet.
By: The Pat Rothfuss Consortium  
With help from:  
The Mission Coffee House  

Pandering is my anti-god.

First, I'd like to apologize. Due to a slight typographical error, there was a little confusion last week. We here at the College Survival Guide do, in fact, have a new sponsor: the Mission Coffee House.

They now supply the coffee that flows through my veins like some dark, sweet, demon harbinger of sarcastic humor. They also provide the tall dollars that enable me to constantly be running amok downtown without any pants, terrifying children and driving our female populace into alternative lifestyles.

Stevens Point a safer place to live. Otherwise, I'd confess to making a profession as a sugar daddy. I mean, I didn't get even ONE last week. Nothing. No questions about how to intimidate/seduce/kill your roommate. No smart-ass jokes about clowns or monkeys. No requests for dream analysis. Nothing. Not even a piece of hate mail.

You see, contrary to what most people believe, all the letters I print in the columns are real. The "make with starcher vs. dolphin with crazy straw" letter: real. Binky the Clown's letter: real. The one asking me to interpret an erotic Lego dream: real. The "My boyfriend is losing interest if you write in some letters, and thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, if I pick your letter for the column, you'll get some free shit from the Mission. And by "shit," I mean coffee. And by "coffee," I mean a gift-certificate good for whatever the hell you want at the Mission.

Okay. Enough of that. The real reason I've been pandering so much this column is that I have a confession to make and I've been putting it off. I recently watched Jackass: the Movie. Before you lose the last, tiny shred of respect you have for me, let me defend myself. The only reason I rented it is because I didn't have any letters to write about in the column, and I needed something to rant about. I was planning on watching it, getting thoroughly offended, and then writing a scathing column about it. I watched it for you. I was ready to take a bullet for you, my loyal readers.

But here's the truth. It was funny. Not just a little funny, either. It's shit-your-pants funny. I laughed for about 80 of the 90 minutes. Now I'm not saying it's clever humor. I'm not saying that I'm proud of the fact that I watched it twice. Once by myself and once with my girlfriend and sister. (Note: These are, in fact, two separate people.) I'm not even saying that you should go out and rent it for yourself. What I AM saying is that if no one sends e-mail, this is the sort of behavior I engage in.

So really, I think you can see it's in everyone's best interest if you write in some letters, and thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, if I pick your letter for the column, you'll get some free shit from the Mission. And by "shit," I mean coffee. And by "coffee," I mean a gift-certificate good for whatever the hell you want at the Mission.

And for those of you who are really into it: Friday the 6th there's going to be some hardcore metal at the Mission Coffee House. America's Current Indie Band and Like Fine Wine. Five bucks at the door is a real bargain if you realize it'll be like an all-you-can-eat metal buffet.

On Saturday Madison Line will be bringing down some of that jazz/funk and progressive rock with Tree of Woe. Woah. You know? Go.

And remember, shows at the Mission are for all ages. So you can go ahead and take that highschool junior you've been dating. Sucks.

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Email Adam. amel888@uwsp.edu.

...but only if you are really funny.
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<tr>
<td><strong>Franklin Arms</strong> Furnished one bedroom apt. Includes heat, water, A/C, garage with remote, laundry. Individual base- ment storage. Clean &amp; quiet. Leases 6/1 or 9/1. 3 blocks from campus. 345/3054.</td>
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<td><strong>2000 McCulloch</strong> Large 4BR/2 bath licensed for 4 students. Available Fall '04 $1150/student/semester 342-9982 mrmproperties.com.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>For Rent</strong> 4 Bedroom next to YMCA. Available May 20, 2004. Some utilities included. Call for showing: 340-1465.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>324/326 Frontenac Ave</strong> Side x side, 3 bedrooms both units $750/mo. + utilities. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, air conditioning, garage, 5 blocks from campus. Available June 1. Call Tom at 262-367-0897.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2004-2005 School Year</strong> 1, 2 &amp; 2+ bedroom units. Ask about our specials! Paramount Enterprises 341-2120.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Downtown Apt for Rent:</strong> Huge 4 bedroom apt. overlooking the square and main street. Laundry room and extra storage room. Available June 1, 2004. All utilities included. Contact Troy at 340-8031.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leasing 04-05</strong> All new Sandhill Apts. 3 BR, 2 BA, groups of 3-4. Private laundry, security doors, dishwasher, microwave, large patios. Conveniences nearby. It's new construction. Call Brian, 342-1111 #104 mrmproperties.com.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EMPLOYMENT</strong> Movie Extras/ Models Needed! 3-5 students Local and statewide productions. No exp. req'd, all looks, ages 18+. Minor and major roles available. Earn up to $300/day! 1-800-818-7520 mrmproperties.com.</td>
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<td><strong>2004-2005 School Year</strong> One block from UC. 4 &amp; 5 bedroom apartments available. Fully furnished, parking, laundry, nice, attentive landlord. Call Roxanne or Mark at 341-2248.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leder Apartments 2004-2005 school year</strong> 3 Bedroom apartments one block from campus Laundry and free parking 344-5835.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>816 Second #3</strong> 2 Large 2-BR upper w/huge bedrooms. $425/mo. + utilities w/1 year lease. 342-9982 mrmproperties.com.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1749 College Ave.</strong> House for 4 students available summer of 2004 and school year. Call 344-0660.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>941 Portage 5 BR house, $900/mo + utilities. Air conditioning, washer/dryer, convenient to campus and downtown. Available June 1, call Tom at 262-367-0897.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leasing 04-05 University Lake Apts.</strong> 3 BR, 1 BA, groups of 3-5, onsite storage and laun- dry, dishwasher, microwave, friendly man- agers, prompt mainte- nance. Plenty of parking, close to Lake Joanis. Summers free. Call Bill, 342-1111 #141.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK</strong> Panama City Beach, FL. Book early and save $$$ up to 12 people, 3 pools; lazy river ride, water slides, etc. Call (715) 367-2345.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1798 #2</strong> Available Fall of 2004. One bedroom available for second semester! Roommate needed ASAP. Dates flexible! Call Pat at 344,0660.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Roommate needed ASAP</strong> to share 4 BR house on college w/ 2 UWSP seniors. Big room with nice closet, 2 BA, washer, dryer, very spacious, w/ lots of free parking! Perfect location. Under $250/mo. already and willing to negotiate. 1618 College Ave. Call (715) 343-0749.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>For Rent</strong> House for 5 students available for 2004, 2005 School year. Call Tom at 262-367-0897.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Have something to advertise? Need a subleaser? Want to get the word out about what makes your business so great?</strong> Call Jason at The Pointer today! 346-5707. Ad deadline: Tuesdays 1 p.m.</td>
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