



# THE POINTER

Volume 49, No. 10

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

November 18, 2004

## Code enforcement limits class size

**Limits in classroom sizes might result in earlier sections, earlier mornings for some students**

**By Ben Wydeven**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Classrooms in the College of Letters and Science have recently been pressured to be brought up to par with current federal and state fire codes. The code requirements may result in less classroom capacity and more early morning or late evening classes to accommodate students' needs.

"We're getting the squeeze from the legal regulations and our legal responsibility on the number of students we can fit in our classrooms," said Lance Grahn, dean of the College of Letters and Science. "On the other hand, we have the University of Wisconsin System that's saying that you have to accommodate this many students even if you don't have the space to accommodate them. So we are trying to find a middle ground on that as best as we can."

According to Grahn, the fire codes are in place to ensure the health and safety of people in the classrooms. "The intent of the regulations is good and we all agree that those kinds of laws are worthwhile and appropriate,"

said Grahn.

Many of the Letters and Science buildings, including the science building and the CCC were built before the codes were in effect, making it complicated when trying to satisfy all the codes. "We now have to try to move classes around into rooms that will legally accommodate the number of students needed," said Grahn. "Most of the classrooms in the College of Letters and Science have been affected in one way or another."

Grahn said in some cases it would appear that we have the space but the code limitations on the space are in place to ensure enough space in the rooms so that people could get out quickly in an emergency situation.

"We're finding that classes which have normally had 40 to 50 students in them, we have to work to find space for those," Grahn said. "Because now those classes, for which we've been putting 45 students, are now down to a 35-student capacity."

As a result, more early morning or late evening classes may have to be created to accommodate the capacity of the classes. "Some scheduling issues might have to change so that we can make better use of classrooms that would be available at 8 o'clock in the morning that we have not been using fully," said Grahn. "We need to continue to

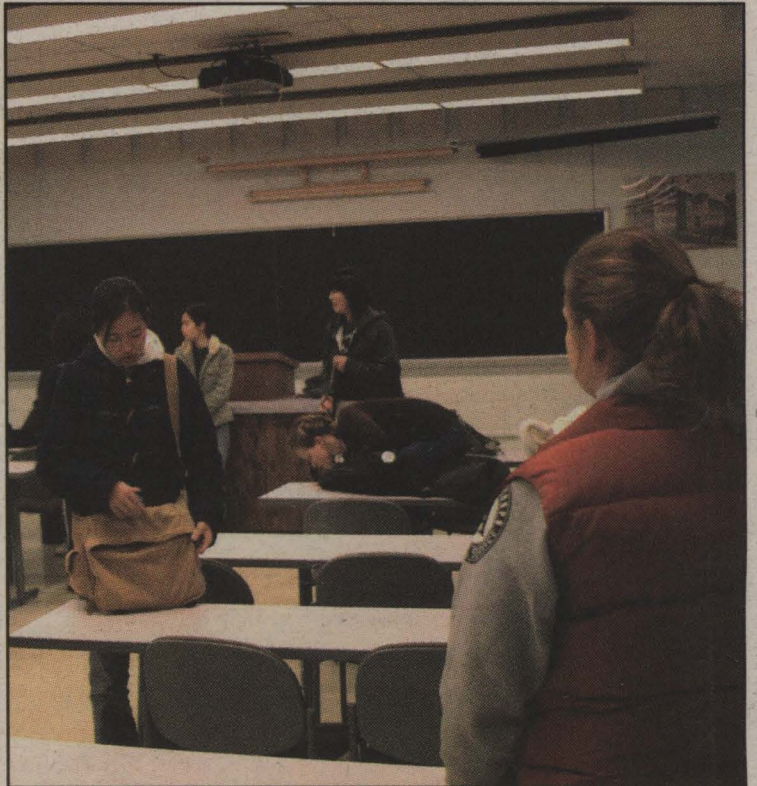


Photo by Liz Bolton

*Some classrooms of the CCC have been subject to reduced capacity, which may result in more early morning class sections.*

offer enough classes to students so that we can get you through to graduation as efficiently as possible."

"Faculty has been pretty good about working with this," said Grahn. "We all realize that there are just some changes that will have to be made. And we will probably see more 8 o'clock classes than we've seen in the past." According to Grahn, the College of Letters and Science has been working closely with

the director of facilities as well as other departments, but Grahn doesn't expect the issue to be resolved any time soon.

"It's going to be a process that goes on for a while, we can't just solve it in a single academic year," said Grahn. "We know in the end that the university is committed to being for students not only a sound and effective education, but a safe and responsible educational experience."



**Women's soccer season comes to an end**  
Sports, page 7



**Reflections of Oktoberfest**  
Features, page 6



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## Muslim student tells all

**UW-SP student Afraa Sumeir delivers presentation on misconceptions of her culture**

**By Adam Mella**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

"Now everyone together ... 'Marhabah!'" says Afraa Sumeir, a UW-SP student. "Marhabah means 'Hello' in Arabic. So now, when you see me on campus, what will you say?"

The crowded room of students and community members collectively shouted "Marhabah."

Part of an ongoing series on the religion of Islam, the UW-SP Comparative Religions Club hosted Sumeir's lecture on Islamic culture and the experience of practicing Islam in Central Wisconsin this past Monday. Sumeir was born in

Amman, Jordan and has been living and studying in Stevens Point for several years now. Her main concern and focus was the stereotypes and misconceptions many westerners have of Middle Eastern cultures.

Sumeir's lecture began with a video on the prophet Muhammad and the formation of the Islamic faith. The educational video was produced in America, which detached it from cultural bias.

During the following slide presentation, she displayed pictures of Middle Eastern culture, many of which were quite different from the images on the nightly news. "Even though we have similarities, there are many differences (between cultures)," said Sumeir. "But there is not a right or wrong. That is the point."

One topic she discussed in great detail is the difference in diversity and change that occurs see **Sumeir presentation**, page 2

## Pres. Reilly comes to Point

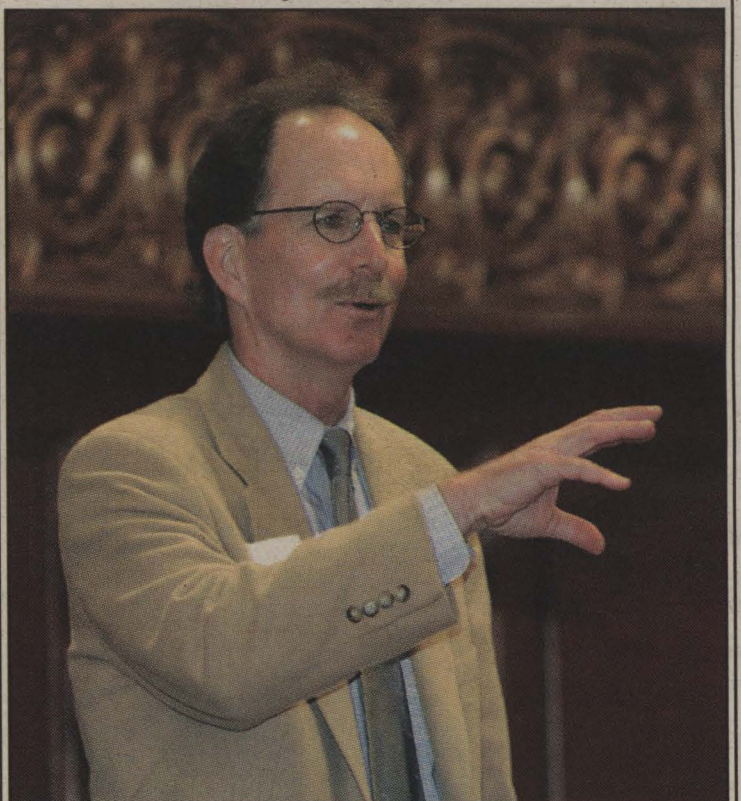


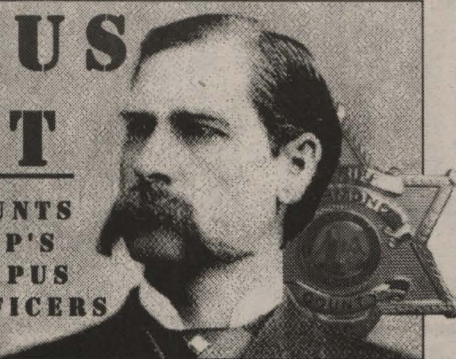
Photo by UW-SP News Services

*UW System President Kevin Reilly pays his first visit to Stevens Point in his new role as steward of the university system. He pledged to work for the affordability of higher education.*



## CAMPUS BEAT

TRUE ACCOUNTS  
FROM UW-SP'S  
FINEST CAMPUS  
SECURITY OFFICERS



### Lot J

Monday, Nov. 8 9:45 a.m.

Type: **THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS**

A male informed Protective Services that person(s) unknown had taken the rear tailgate of his 1995 GMC Sierra.

### Pray Hall

Wednesday, Nov. 8 10:16 p.m.

Type: **BURGLARY**

Protective Services was notified about the theft of a PS2 game from a room. The reported value of the missing game was \$50.

### Physical Education Building

Friday, Nov. 12 9:48 p.m.

Type: **DISORDERLY CONDUCT WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE**

Protective Services officers observed a vehicle operating in a reckless manner on the west side of the Health Enhancement Center.

### Thomson Hall

Friday, Nov. 12 10:53 p.m.

Type: **UNDERAGE DRINKING**

Protective Services officers responded to a call that had been placed to Stevens Point Police, regarding an extremely intoxicated female.

### Lot Q

Saturday, Nov. 13 4:35 p.m.

Type: **CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

Protective Services responded to a vandalism complaint from a female who left her vehicle in the lot.

### Lot Q

Monday, Nov. 15 10:15 a.m.

Type: **ATTEMPTED CRIME**

A male notified Protective Services that person(s) unknown had attempted to take a tire from his vehicle while parked in the lot.

### Lot Q

Monday, Nov. 15 11:01 a.m.

Type: **CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

A female reported that her vehicle had been "keyed" while

## Budget requires student attention

### SGA urging students to contact elected officials to avoid budget cuts

By Ben Wydeven

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

UW-SP students fearing that Governor Jim Doyle will change the next state budget and allow tuition to skyrocket again, are taking action with letters, E-mails and phone calls.

The Student Government Association at UW-SP passed out fliers at Debot food center this week, lobbying students to write to the governor. They also had a cell phone on hand so that students could call and tell their parents to write letters as well.

"Turnout's been good so far," said Paul Logan senator of the College of Letters and Science. "Students are pretty responsive when we talk about keep(ing) their tuition low."

Logan said that students should contact the governor and ask him to pass the budget as it is. "Currently that would influence only a 5 percent increase," said

Logan. "The past two years it has been a 37 percent increase."

The last state budget also saw a \$250 million cut to the UW System, the largest cut in UW history. "Right now there's no indication that we're not going to have the cut in the budget," said Lauren McGrath, legislative issues director for the Student Government Association of UW-SP. McGrath also said SGA has heard of a possible 10 percent administrative cut.

"On all levels of higher education, everyone is being affected from the top down." If Governor Doyle does decide to cut the UW System and cause another tuition increase, the effect could be seen as early as fall 2005.

If tuition increases again as feared, students already struggling to make ends meet may not be able to maintain the costs. "We haven't seen the increases in tuition matching financial aid," said McGrath, who speculates that both middle class and lower class students will struggle with another tuition increase. "Where before [the middle class student was] able to meet the area where their loans provided financing

and then meet that gap by working two jobs to pay for it, now that's not even possible."

"It seems like every time there's a poll on public opinion, the environment and education are always tops. At the same time they always come last. In case of higher education, it comes dead last," said McGrath.

Next week, SGA plans to be at Debot to videotape approximately 50 student testimonials on what individual students are doing to survive the steep tuition.

"I'd say a vast majority of the students do care but don't know what to do about it. Having an understanding of the whole picture of the economy, and the state and welfare issues, funding education is so fundamental."

SGA is urging students to write and call the governor before Thanksgiving break.

Governor Jim Doyle  
State Capitol, PO Box 7863  
Madison, WI 53701-0243,  
Room 115 East

Legislative Hotline: 1-800-362-9472

### Sumeir presentation from page 1

between the two cultures.

"In America, things change very rapidly because of the great diversity, but in Jordan, the culture takes many years to change," said Sumeir.

Jordan's population is 92 percent Muslim, and 98 percent Arab. The main language is Arabic, although many upper and middle-class people speak English.

One stereotype westerners have of Middle Eastern people is their traditional dress. Sumeir showed family pictures to dispel this mistaken belief. While many Jordanian people do wear traditional headaddresses, her mother included, many younger people have sided with more

modern attire.

Sumeir also noted that far too many people get their information about the region from television.

"The Middle East is a huge chunk of the world, with millions of people," said Sumeir. "Yet the only two people the media cover are Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein. There are famous people aside from the politics — authors, actors and poets. The media only covers certain parts of our culture which does not represent the entire Middle East."

Sumeir gave up television four years ago, instead looking to print media and radio for her current events.

Other areas of Middle-Eastern culture Sumeir talked about ranged from art to

geography and the greatness of Arabic coffee.

She stressed throughout her lecture that she "does not represent all of the Middle East or Muslim culture," instead stating, "This is only my perspective and my journey."

As for living and practicing Islam in Central Wisconsin, she asked the audience to close their eyes and "imagine living somewhere far away, completely different from your home, and have people staring at you when you walk down the street." She encouraged people to experience other cultures before passing judgment. Sumeir concluded, "The best way to communicate with someone is to look at them and smile."

## WANTED A FEW GOOD STUDENTS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSI- TIONS NEXT SEMESTER FOR

*The Pointer:*

Business Manager  
Asst. Adv. Manager  
Asst. News Editor

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD  
STOP BY THE POINTER OFFICE (104

## Please Give Blood!

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Wednesday December 1st 10AM-4PM

Laird Room

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## Sarcasm isn't that confusing

I don't know if some people out there understand sarcasm. But I look forward to Pat's column every week. It puts me in a better mood. For people out there who want to express their feelings and not get offended, don't write to Pat. How hard is it to understand sarcasm? I know the Republican party can't be that uptight to get easily offended. I was greatly offended when I realized some of those TV networks were Republican stations and others were Democratic. If this is an equal country why must everyone get their panties in a bunch? We have our freedom of speech (for now). So life goes on and sarcasm is just a way to deal with everyday rustics in a college life.

Sarah J. Liesveld

## Thank you for your generosity

I am writing this letter in response to the enormous amount of donations I received from the campus community in regards to making care packages for the troops. I was overwhelmed by the generosity extended by this event. I never intended for it to generate as much interest as it did and I was simply amazed by the amount of students, organizations, and staffs that responded to this program.

I wish that I could personally thank each and every one of you that donated goods and your time to this event. It is times like this that I realize how much the generosity of one person means to another. Each and every one of the troops deserves our time and thoughtfulness, especially now as the holiday season is upon us.

Thank you once again to everyone that had a hand in making this program a success. Your thoughtfulness and generosity certainly did not go unnoticed.

Alli Himle

Centertainment

Issues and Ideas Coordinator

## I laughed my ass off

In response to the article that Mr. Aaron Michels wrote to the Pointer about Rothfuss, last time I checked everyone had the freedom of press and speech and many other rights. If you may have forgotten about those rights you should refer to the Bill of Rights. It will spell them all out for you. Granted it might take you and a bunch of your Republican friends a succession of time to interpret how our forefathers spoke and wrote. Unless you can prove that Rothfuss was slanderous, there's not much you can argue about. As far as I am concerned, he did nothing wrong but simply used the rights given to him for being a citizen of the United States.

To your problem with the rest of the articles, they too are just exercising their rights. It is not his fault that Stevens Point democratic/liberal students are more prone to take the time to share their points of view then the conservatives/Republicans. Anyone that did get their cars keyed and houses burned down in direct correlation with what

Rothfuss said, then they too should have their cars keyed and houses burned down for being daft idiots. Anyone who reads Rothfuss' column knows that he can't be taken seriously, and just gives us something to look forward to and laugh about.

Being college students, we should all be aware of what is right and wrong. We should also be able to know when someone is just joking and when one is being serious. If you think for even a moment that Rothfuss would even consider doing anything that he wrote, then maybe you don't have the brains to be in college in the first place. If you can't take a joke that was made at the expense of a large group, not just yourself, then you are going to fail miserably in the real world anyway.

If you have a problem with the way the Pointer "favors" the Democrats/liberals, I encourage you to write more articles to the *Pointer*. I know I love reading them.

Alise Lynn

UWSP student that gets jokes

## The SGA update

Welcome to the SGA Corner, the cozy little spot where you find out weekly what's happenin' in student government. After which, hopefully, just hopefully, you will get so enamored and/or outraged that you'll become more involved in the student government process, change things, shake things up, and the system and the world as you know it will be better off. All because you read this article...wow! I mean, WOW!

But first there is still that eternal question that remains for the majority of the readers out there: "Who or what the hell is SGA?!"

Ah, good point, good point.

Despite rumors to the contrary, SGA is not a liberal love fest where all members hold hands while chanting "Ban the Bomb! Ban the Bomb!" and speak of how you can't hug your children with nuclear arms. Nor is SGA a shadow government established in an effort to spawn a neo-conservative base among the bastion of liberalism that is the American college campus. Nope, SGA is, get this, non-partisan! Woot!

SGA is you, SGA is the student body, and SGA is the inadvertent smile on a newborn's slimy face. SGA is everywhere, and while it may not be watching you like Big Brother strives to, you should be watching SGA to ensure it does its

duty in representing your thoughts, ideas, desires, phobias, and whatnot.

For instance, this week SGA will be looking into starting a new path in regards to the off-campus housing list.

In its past incarnations the off-campus housing list has been assembled by Residential Living and put out in paper copies, as of late the list has been compiled and put on the Web by the Communication and Student Life Issues Directors of SGA. This list has become an increasing burden on the workload and time constraints of those in SGA, with updating and landlord relations, and SGA believes it has found a viable and exciting future for the off-campus housing list in 'findaplacetoive.com'

Utilized at UW-La Crosse, UW-Whitewater, Duke University, and Winona State University, 'findaplacetoive.com' is a concise Web site that allows future renters to search and sort potential places of residence under many different criteria. Plus, hey, it lets the landlord show you a picture! Now, I'm no expert, but that sounds darn nice.

The Senate meets weekly at 6:20 p.m. in the Legacy Room of the University Center. If you have ideas or just want to come see what goes on, hey, come on down, all are welcome!

Eric Krszjanek

# THE POINTER

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The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 4,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

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

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# THE POINTER

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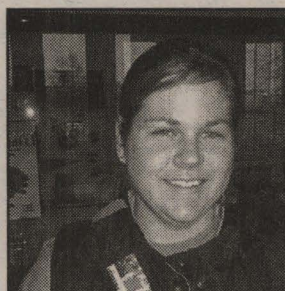
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## Pointer Poll

Photos by Trendelina Spahija

### What is your favorite Thanksgiving meal?



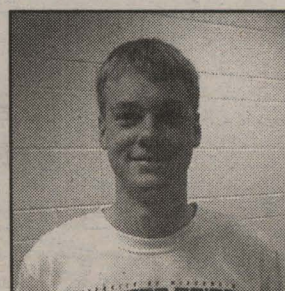
Karen Fiecko, Jr. Int. Architecture.

Turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing.



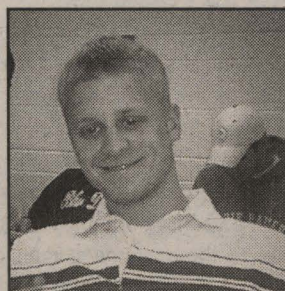
Ashley Fritz, Soph. Undecided.

Turkey with mashed potatoes.



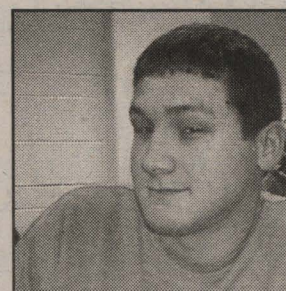
Alex Smith, Jr. Water Resources.

Stuffing with gravy.



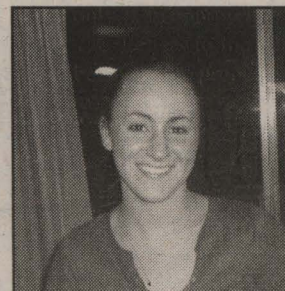
Erick Kranski, Soph. Paper Science.

Turkey with gravy.



Nick Grode, Fr. Pre-Engineering.

Turkey with everything.



April Londo, Fr. Undecided.

Sweet potatoes, corn and cranberries.



# Your College Survival Guide: Variations on a Theme

By: Pat Rothfuss

WITH HELP FROM: GAMES PEOPLE PLAY.

Dear Pat,

This is my first year at UWSP. After reading your column for the first time it is of my opinion that you seriously rock, man! I got two questions for you man. Firstly, do you have a legion of fanatically devoted groupies at your beck and call? Secondly, why does most of the food at Debot suck so bad?

Rev. James M. Wendler, Knutzen Hall

First off, let's be fair. It's been a while since I've eaten at Debot, but I expect the food isn't *all* sucky. Where y'all are really taking it in the shorts is with the service. Back when I started as a student, there were two dining halls open on campus, and they were each open for 12 hours straight every day. Nowadays you're lucky if you can grab lunch in-between classes. And you're paying more. And the food is worse. Basically, you're getting screwed so hard you should be tasting dick.

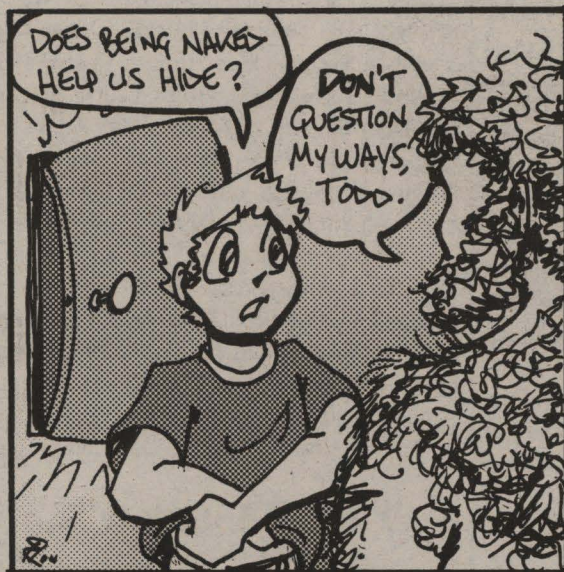
Why? Because the Powers-That-Be know they can get away with it. They know from years of experience that students will generally bitch and moan a whole lot, but they'll never really do anything.

How about it everyone? Want to do something? Drop me an e-mail at [proth@wsunix.wsu.edu](mailto:proth@wsunix.wsu.edu) and we'll go set some shit on fire.... figuratively speaking, of course. Because, you know, *really* setting stuff on fire is wrong... and you shouldn't do it.

Seriously. I just want to be really clear here. The joke I just made in the last paragraph about arson was... a joke. Okay? Are we all good here? Can we move on?

As for your second question, James, I do seem to have a few fans. Thanks for writing in everyone. After last week's little fracas, I was feeling bitter and prickly. But after your letters I'm overwhelmed with joy, sunshine, sparkly glitter, and a euphoric love for all living creatures. It's amazing how a few kind words can improve your mood. The methadone doesn't hurt either. The sweet, sweet, methadone.

Groupies are a separate matter entirely, and, generally speaking, I prefer minions. But I do have openings in both departments. If you care to apply for either position, feel free to drop me an E-mail listing your qualifications.



Pat,

I had this dream Monday night. You were the dean of English at a small Christian College in Wausau where all the students wore suits and ties. You lived in a dorm room on campus, but, being the dean, your room was bigger than average.

I was on the run from some shady people that were out to do me a grievous injury, so I whistled my ass to the college and sought sanctuary. You let me in your dorm room and agreed to hide me. When the shady people showed up on campus we both decided that we need to hide, so we stripped down to our underwear and hid under the covers of your bed. The shady people began beating on your door and in our panic we hugged each other.

In my dream, you had a really hairy back. I mean, like, animal-fur hairy.

What the hell?

Todd

Y'know Todd, I thought I'd heard every excuse in the book: "I didn't call because I lost your number," "I've been really busy lately," "I thought you were dead after I hit you with my car." But "I thought it was all a dream" is a new one. You don't have to call me Todd, but don't deny the magic we shared.

\*Ahem\* seriously though. Thanks for the letter, it's been years since I've got the chance to do a dream interpretation column. I think the last one was that sexual lego dream from back in 2001.

Okay, the first part of this dream is easy enough. In your dream I'm the Dean because you think I'm awesome and powerful. At the same time, I'm still student-like, living in the dorms. But my room is bigger than others, so effectively I'm a super-student. Pretty straightforward.

The people in suits chasing you probably represent your fear of the growing conservative elements in our government. Your strange, magical ability to move from place to place by whistling with your ass probably comes from playing too much Legend of Zelda on the N64. Your desire to hide in my bed, naked, hugging me symbolizes.... hmmm... I'm stumped on that one. It might have something to do with your concerns about the FTAA damaging our economy. Yeah, that's probably it.

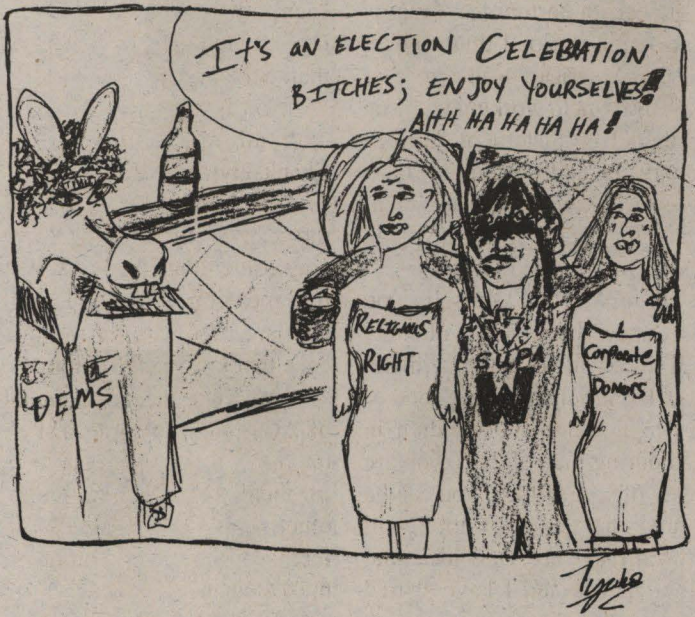
The fact that you picture me covered in hair shows that you regard me as a bestial, primal force.

In fact Todd, I think this might be more important than a simple dream. It's a vision. In all likelihood, I'm your spirit animal. Don't be surprised if I occasionally appear in your room late at night. Fear not, I bring the wisdom of the ages coupled with tender, furry hugs.

The holidays are fast approaching and Games People Play has everything you need to satisfy your gift-giving needs. Why not stop by their store next to Family Video, congratulate them on finally getting up a sign, (Note: the sign reads "Jadeco Hobby") and pick something up for the pale, geeky, gamer on your Christmas list?

Thanks James and Todd for writing in. The rest of you could learn a thing or two from them. After this, I think the weirdness bar is set so high that none of you need to worry about your your problem seeming strange. So send in your questions/problems/mewling pleas for advice to [proth@wsunix.wsu.edu](mailto:proth@wsunix.wsu.edu).

## DAMNATION BY JOHN T. LARSON AND ADAM MELLA



Hey folks. 90 fm is streaming live on the internet. Go on, check it out while you're in Bangladesh over the holidays.



\$70,000 dollars means quite a bit to me, as it should. Money, after all, is the reason for living. And what is life worth anyways?

We might as well enjoy ourselves. Who knows, I could fall into a spiralling vortex at any moment.

That's why I'm for spending money when I have the opportunity.

Like the other day, I splurged for some buffalo wings.

And then today, I saw this old, half-eaten sandwich on Ebay, with the image of the virgin Mary burned into the crust.

I thought, *what the shit?* You only live once. So I placed a \$60,000 bet on the mystical marvel. Yet I got outbid.

WTF?

On a serious note, this story makes me both laugh and vomit. How greedy can someone be to actually bid that much money on a goddamned half-eaten sandwich? I just hope they send a letter to the orphanage later on that simply says "F-U." That'd show those stupid orphans.

- A.M. Mella  
EIC

## MELLA'S GOT THE CONCH

THE GRILLED  
CHEESE VIRGIN.  
HONESTLY.

This sandwich cost more  
than my entire education.  
Go figure.



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# 2004 marks 26th year for *Barney Street*

Local literary magazine is now accepting submissions for 27th issue

By Adam Rodewald  
FEATURES EDITOR

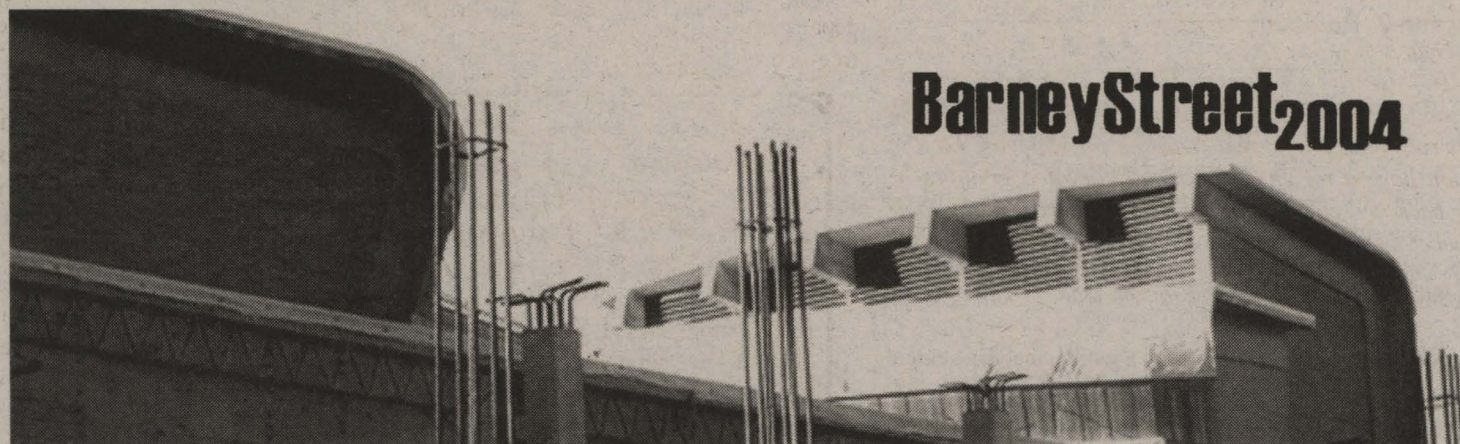
Local aspiring writers and artists will have the chance to get their work published in a literary magazine this coming spring.

Since 1978, *Barney Street*, a local literary magazine, has been an outlet for talented students to display their artistic accomplishments. The magazine is produced by a section of University Writers, a campus organization which promotes literature and the arts.

*Barney Street* is currently taking submissions for the 2005 issue. The staff will be considering poetry, fiction, non-fiction, essays, drama and black-and-white artwork.

Callista Kearney and Travis Peterson, co-editors in chief for the magazine, stressed the importance of receiving many submissions to ensure a quality publication. "Last year we had over 300 submissions to look at and about 50 of them made it in the book," Kearney said.

The primary method of keeping the number of submissions high is to increase the awareness about it. Kearney said, "We want everyone to have the chance to



submit, so we have to make them aware of it... I think the book is something really unique and special thing that we do, and it's cool. We really want people to hear about it."

Peterson urged students to keep an eye open for good writing and artwork, and then tell the authors about the opportunities available through *Barney Street*. "If you know anyone, spread the word," he said. "Mention the club (University Writers) to people."

One of the goals Kearney and Peterson have for the magazine is to make it more diverse in the various genres of art and literature. "We'd like to make it a little bit more well rounded. We'd like to have a really well-balanced

book with many different pieces that have a variety of different types and styles. We haven't had as many art submissions as we'd like in the past," Kearney said.

"In the past there has been a lot of art submissions, but not so much anymore," added Peterson. "I'd say that probably 80 percent of [*Barney Street*] is poetry.... One thing unique about this year is I've received a bit more that's out there – essays about the election and stuff."

Both Kearney and Peterson were adamant that every single submission will be thoroughly looked over to give contributors a fair chance at publication. "Every submission is read, and every submission is talked about. I can't speak for past years, but that will be the case for this year," said Kearney. "We argue and we fight about it because that is what

writing is all about."

The staff encourages contributors to send their submissions via e-mail to ensure that they are read by everyone. Kearney explained that when they only have a hard copy of a submission, not everyone is able to get hold of it for review. On the other hand, an e-mail can be sent to everyone simultaneously.

Kearney explained that the magazine is for everyone. "We exist primarily to get students published, but we do accept submissions from non-students. People from anywhere can submit." Among the non-college student authors were several teachers and high school students.

According to Peterson, *Barney Street* isn't just for writers, either. There are many opportunities for people to get involved including fundraising, clubs and

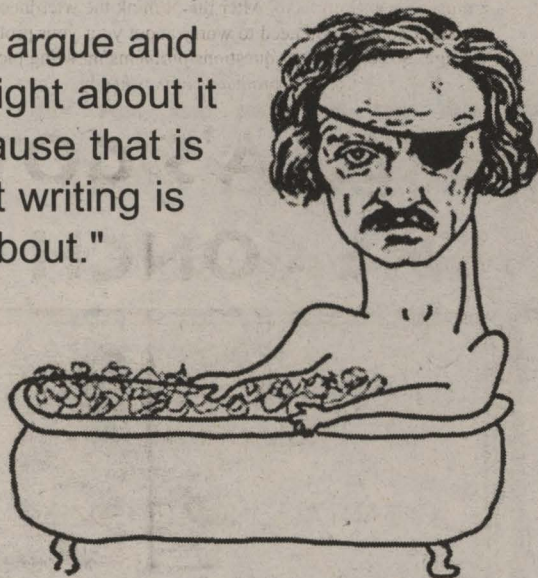
just reading what is out there.

*Barney Street* will be distributed around the community for free in the spring. This is made possible by the donations received from SGA, the English department, communication department and art department as well as other contributions and fundraisers.

There is a release party for the magazine in the spring during which it will be distributed, and whatever is left over will be handed out in the concourse area of the University Center, the library and local bookstores.

"We have a lot of really talented artists on campus – writers and artists. As the editors of *Barney Street*, I think that we are really lucky to be able to be an outlet for these people," Kearney said.

"We argue and we fight about it because that is what writing is all about."



Poe in the Bathtub was the theme of *Barney Street's* 2004 online publication of additional poems, stories, and artwork.



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## Discovering holiday giving

The importance of volunteering during the holidays

By Allie Himle  
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

As Thanksgiving is fast approaching, many of us find ourselves counting the days until we can feast on a scrumptious home-cooked meal and enjoy a well-deserved couple of days off school. For others, Thanksgiving serves as a reminder that Christmas is just weeks away and that slowly our shopping days to find the perfect holiday gifts are dwindling.

Yet we often fail to think of those in need during the holiday season. Studying for finals, shopping and decorating consume more and more of our time, and, before we know it, we fail to acknowledge the simple things we can do to make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

Many of us tend to think that one must have money in order to make a difference during the holidays. We are false in our assumption. There are so many ways that we can give during the holiday season that do not cost us anything. From volunteering at a nearby soup kitchen serving families hot, delicious food on Thanksgiving, to ringing

the bells for the Salvation Army kettle drive, it is evident that one does not need money to give of themselves and their time.

In Stevens Point alone, the number of volunteer opportunities is high. The campus organization ACT (Association for Community Tasks) is involved in promoting volunteering among students. By searching on their Web site, one can find numerous volunteer opportunities ranging from being a blood donor caller for the American Red Cross in Stevens Point to working with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Portage County. In addition, many holiday-specific activities are mentioned for people to get involved in as a group or individually.

In giving of yourself, you do not need to actually volunteer with an event to make a difference. By simply donating food or toys to families and children in need during the holidays, you are giving of yourself and you can be assured that your donation will be well-received. One idea that my boyfriend and I have shared the past two years is shopping together and selecting toys for Toys for Tots in our hometown rather than spending money on

each other.

In doing this we have come to realize that Christmas is not about the number of presents under the tree; it is about finding it within yourself to make Christmas more memorable for those who would otherwise be unable to afford it. My boyfriend and I have since come to appreciate the feeling we have from knowing that we have put aside our own gift-giving to each other in favor of giving presents to those more deserving than ourselves.

So, as you fill your mouths with all of the goodness that Thanksgiving entails, may you find it within yourself to give to those in need. In doing so, you may come to realize just what the true meaning of the holiday season is while learning the difference that one person can make.

As Katy Steeno, a member of ACT, said, "People just need to know that other people care for them, and spending time with other people can make a big difference in their lives. Volunteering makes our world a better place."

For more information on getting involved in the community, check out the ACT Web site at <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/act/>



## Culture in the countryside

A reflection from Gunne, DE

By Robin J. Hillestad  
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

After our study tour to Vienna, Prague and Berlin, I began to wonder if a country's culture and identity are really represented in big cities.

Every large city I have been to seems to be in a hurry to develop in the same directions: economics, fashion, money and materialism. Riding the train from city to city, I felt like I was missing the most important point of cultural experience.

Perhaps a culture's visual story can be made out a bit more obviously among a city's buildings and furniture, yet I feel the fast pace of a city has diluted the old culture which I was under the impression we were supposed to be experiencing during our time in Europe. I feel we are soaking in some of the last morsels of culture left in the world's cities before they become as uniform as plastic factory outputs.

Despite my dismal comments, I am compelled to share that it feels like culture is bursting from the front doors just outside the city limits. I think many of my fellow students have felt this as well.

During our one-week break, blessedly amidst the peak of autumn colors, I drove up to

Niedersachsen, a state in northern Germany, to spend the week on my companion Axel's family farm. This was where culture was most distinctive — walls adorned with elk racks from hunting days in Poland, a bear rug aging in the barn that dates back to the 16th century and a picture of Goethe hanging in the bedroom.

I felt Germany as we creaked down the old road on rickety bikes. Axel used to know every crack and bump as a little boy, but the road seems shorter to him now. This was before seven in the morning, and we were on a little adventure to get some milk from the neighbor. I harbored the old milk can in my coat, and my mind jarred into wakefulness as the bike tires hit cobblestone.

We were headed to Bokel, a village composed of five houses and a dairy farm, and were met with the burning amber of the season's oak leaves. We were too late for milk, but were invited in for a typical breakfast: breads with a variety of homemade jams, cheeses, sausages, strong coffee with fresh milk and a few other fascinating forms of meat.

We listened to the local chatter and talked about current farming issues. As I sat there, taking in both words and food, I felt astonished at the way this community of people kept in touch

through the years. Perhaps that is country life, perhaps that is more German than American, but I found it very fulfilling to be a part of it.

On our ride back to the farm we stopped by an older woman's house to catch up with more news. She was full of witty zest and, before I knew what was happening or she even knew who I was, she greeted me with an enormous hug and kiss.

The following week was lazy for the most part, and I delighted in physical tasks that contrasted with the mental emphasis of school and city. I helped take down some problematic trees; chopped wood, shooed kittens out of the kitchen, washed mud off my pants, tended the fire and learned how to cook Kartoffelknödel (potato dumplings).

German culture seems to remain in the cobblestone and war stories, afternoon Kaffee und Kuchen (coffee and cake), the persistence of closed doors and linguistic expressions like "now it goes around the sausage" when a card game gets serious. Such examples can be read about in books, but to feel the subtleties of culture... That's what turns experiences into memories.



Photo submitted by author

A young boy enjoys the delicious ice cream of Oktoberfest, one of the world's biggest fairs that takes place in Germany. The celebration was first held in the year 1810 in honor of the Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig's marriage to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. The festival has since become an annual tradition.



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## Season ends on failed attempt for late comeback

By Adam Wise  
SPORTS EDITOR

When the UW-SP football team looks back at the 2004 season, they will most likely see a team that was plagued by inconsistency, but driven by heart.

### FOOTBALL

After winning four straight games, the last three of which contained last-minute drives to win the contest, the Pointers couldn't manage one of the best turn-arounds in WIAC history in making a bid to share the conference title after beginning the season 2-3.

Having pulled out commendable victories against Whitewater, Stout, and Platteville on their current win streak, the Pointers must have thought finishing the seasons against UW-River Falls would be easy. Unfortunately for them, they were wrong.

Fueled by their rushing attack which saw John Peterlik rush 24 times for 168 yards and Nathan Anderson rush 31 times for 122, UW-River Falls only attempted two passes on the day to beat the Pointers 24-22.

The day began on a trick play when River Falls attempted an onside kick on the opening kickoff, but they did not recover it. Given the short field, sophomore quarterback Brett Borchart worked the Pointer offense down the field for a 52-yard drive which was capped by a three-yard touchdown run by fellow sophomore running back Cody Childs.

The lead didn't last long as two drives later the Falcons took the lead on a 21-yard touchdown run from Anderson. UW-RF took the lead when Peterlik completed a pass to Corey Strinmoen for the two-point conversion.

UW-RF tried their onside kick once again on the following kickoff and was able to recover this one, but the drive ended with a missed 41-yard field goal as the Pointers dodged a bullet.

River Falls increased their lead to four in the second quarter on a 26-yard field goal from Spasimir Bodurski, his second attempt on the day.

On the following drive, UW-SP worked their way to UW-RF's eight-yard line. On fourth and two, Head Coach John Miech elected to attempt what would usually be considered a chip shot field goal, but John Ryan missed the up-right's wide left and the Pointers went into halftime down 7-11. This was not the only special teams miscue of the day for the Pointers.

After UW-RF punted on their first drive of the half, Ryan was able to redeem himself quickly as he converted on a 32-yard field goal to bring the Pointers back to within one point.

This sense of accomplishment was short-lived. After Ryan's ensuing kickoff was returned 42 yards by Peterlik, UW-RF's running game chipped away at UW-SP's defense on several short runs until Peterlik struck again on a 30-yard

scoring dash that increased their lead back to eight.

On the following drive, sensing a

decrease the margin to 16-24. UW-SP also missed the extra point.

After both teams traded each other on failed fourth down conversions and a fumble from UW-RF's Anderson, UW-SP started its next drive on a short field and went 32 yards on eight plays. The drive was completed on an 11-yard slant pass from Borchart to senior receiver Tony Romano to make the score 22-24. UW-SP attempted the two point conversion, but Borchart fumbled on the play and the Pointers were unable to tie the game.

The teams traded punts and UW-SP didn't get their final drive until there were just 29 seconds on the clock and they were unable to make a comeback in their most important game of the season.

The defeat, which featured several special teams miscues, including a botched punt, a blocked punt and a missed field goal, kept the Pointers from earning at least a share of the conference title and a shot at the NCAA playoffs.

The Pointers should be able to use this season as motivation for improvement and should expect big things to come as they only graduate 12 players from this year's roster.

The Pointers, who will lose receivers Tony Romano, Kurt Kielblock and Ross Adamczak, are still young at several other key positions and will likely be able to improve upon this season's 6-4 record.



Photo by Tredelina Spahija

Brett Borchart (17) looks for open space. The Pointers' season came to an end with last week's loss to UW-River Falls.

need to keep the game's scoring streak intact, Borchart completed several passes down to UW-RF's 33-yard line. On the next play, he went for the big one and was intercepted at the 10-yard line.

Noticing this rapid change of momentum in favor of his team, Peterlik took the very next carry for a 57-yard gain to the UW-SP 12-yard line.

Despite an illegal procedure penalty, Peterlik finished the drive on two carries for 15 yards to increase the score to 24-10. UW-RF missed the extra point.

Making amends with his team after his previous interception, Borchart took control of the game on the following drive, going 4/6 for 55 yards, which also included a five-yard pass interference call on a deep attempt to Kurt Kielblock, capped by a 20-yard score to freshman Dustin Robinson to

### A LOOK AHEAD AT POINTER ATHLETICS

**CROSS COUNTRY** - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS (AT COLIFAX) - NOV. 20 - 11:00 A.M. (MEN) - NOON (WOMEN)

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** - VS. SOUTHWESTERN (TEXAS) - NOV. 20 - 8 P.M. (IN CHICAGO)

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** - HOME VS. CONCORDIA (WISC.) - NOV. 19 - 8 P.M.

**MEN'S HOCKEY** - HOME VS. CONCORDIA-MOORHEAD - NOV. 19 - 7:30 P.M. - HOME VS. AUGSBURG - NOV. 20 - 7:30 P.M.

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY** - AT LAKE FOREST - NOV. 20, 7:30; AT ROBERT MORRIS - NOV. 21 - 2 P.M.

**SWIMMING** - WIAC RELAYS (AT EAU CLAIRE) - NOV. 20

**WRESTLING** - AT OLIVET (MICH.) DUALS - NOV. 20



## Pointers' season ends while recognitions continue

By Steve Roeland  
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's soccer team entered last Saturday's NCAA second round contest against the 15th-ranked University of Chicago with confidence, thanks in large part to the nine-game winning streak the Pointers were currently riding.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

In their eighth straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament, the Pointers looked to overcome the Maroons, who defeated UW-SP 4-1 earlier in the year and were the national runners-up in 2003. The Pointers easily handled the Concordia (Wis.) Falcons in the first round and were hoping to get past the second round for the first time since their Final Four trip in 2000.

UC's dominant offense took center stage very early on in the match. The Maroons' All-American Renee Neuner started the show for UC. Neuner scored

her 19th goal of the year at the 15:15 mark and opened up a 1-0 lead. The other nine shots the Maroons took in the first half all missed their mark.

After a scoring shortage throughout the rest of the first half, the Maroons struck again at the 53:40 mark. Elise Aiken, who assisted on the first goal of the match, found the net herself and put the Maroons up by two.

After UW-SP handed UC an own goal at 81:04, Marianna Kerppola finished the scoring for the Maroons at the 86:32 mark. The end to the second round couldn't come soon enough for the Pointers, as they bowed out of the tournament with a 4-0 loss.

The Pointers were out-shot by the Maroons 21-5 in the match. Of UW-SP's five shots, only two were shots-on-goal.

The four Maroon goals were the most allowed by UW-SP in 21 NCAA tournament matches. The Pointers have now lost in the second round for four straight years. UW-SP finishes the 2004 season with a 16-5-1 overall record.

The post-season may be done for the Pointers, but the accolades continue for the WIAC champs. Tara Schmitt, a senior midfielder, earned WIAC Player of the Year honors, as well as her fourth first-team All-WIAC spot. Schmitt led the Pointer defense, which gave up only 23 goals all season.

Schmitt was joined on the All-WIAC first-team by fellow Pointers Megan Frey, Melissa Becker and Alyssa Souza.

Frey notched nine assists this year, ranking fifth in the WIAC. Becker collected five goals and seven assists in the regular season for UW-SP. Souza was second on the team with 10 goals and earned five assists in the regular season. Souza ranked 10th in the WIAC with 25 total points.

UW-SP is also home to the 2004 WIAC women's soccer Coach of the Year, Sheila Miech. The award has been given to Coach Miech six times in her career, dating back to 1992.



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# Purple storms back to overtake gold in scrimmage game

By Adam Wise

SPORTS EDITOR

Sometimes people say a basketball game can be a tale of two halves. Tuesday night, Head Coach Jack Bennett couldn't have scripted the story any better.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Behind a second half onslaught that saw them outscore their opponent by 20 points, the purple team won bragging rights for the season after defeating the gold squad 72-67 in this year's Purple/Gold scrimmage game.

The teams were evenly divided by Bennett, then coached by his staff assistants while the halves were increased to 25 minutes each to allow the coaches to have more film on their underclassman players, who all played around 20 minutes total.

As for the game itself, the gold team, which was led by Nick Bennett, Eric Maus, and Kyle Gruszczynski, jumped out to an early lead that made everyone figure this game would finish in a blowout.

The trio scored their team's first 15 points of the game and helped lead the gold squad to a 41-26 lead into halftime.

But this game was for the younger players to showcase the potential of this team, and that they did.

Two freshman forwards from Milwaukee, Gbena Awe (Bay View) and Drew Jackson, (King) each had impressive blocked shots on the defensive end for the gold team in the first half that drew cheers from the crowd. While their shooting from the field for the game lead left more to be desired (Jackson was 1-6 and Awe was 3-7) their athleticism and ability to get to the ball cannot be denied.

With a 15 point lead at halftime, gold expected to continue the romp into the second half, but this was not the case.

The purple squad set the tone early by scoring the first 10 points of the second half, six of which came right in a row from three jump shots by Jason Kalsow.

This was the story for nearly the first 15 minutes of the second half, with each team going on runs. When purple would bring it close, gold would extend the lead.



Photo by Liz Bolton

Jason Kalsow (44) attempts to get around Eric Maus (50) in the Purple/Gold game.

This was the case until John Krull's basket with 12:28 left brought the game to a 47-52 deficit for the purple team.

Both teams began trading buckets back and forth and kept the lead to single digits until freshman Brad Kalsow, the younger

brother of Jason, nailed a three-point shot to put the purple team up 59-58 with 6:24 left to go, giving the purple team their first lead of the game since it was 8-7.

The purple team went up for good when sophomore Brett Hirsch converted on two straight jumpers to put his team up 65-64 with 2:43 to go, a lead they would not relinquish.

Some other solid performers from the game were freshman guards Steve Hicklin (3-5 3-PT range, 3 rebounds) and Bobby Kuchta (5 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists) and forward Brian Schmidt, (7 points, 8 rebounds) providing hope that once this year's seniors graduate, there will be some players ready and able to step into their spots.

The Pointers kick off the regular season this weekend when they travel to Chicago to take part in the Midway Classic against Chicago, St. Mary's (Minn.), and Southwestern (Tex.). The beginning of the season will include several capable opponents, including a home game against WIAC rival UW-Platteville on Nov. 30.

## Close competition equals Pointers' third straight win

By Matthew Inda

SPORTS REPORTER

The HEC aquatic center pool was busy again this weekend as the Pointers took hosting duty to challenger St. Cloud State.

## SWIM AND DIVE

Competing against what Pointer Head Coach Al Boelk described as a very good team, UW-SP poured in their win column yet another victory as they defeated St. Cloud State. With their smallest margin of victory yet, 92 points, the men's score was a 191-109 home team win. The women's race was also their closest win of the season with a 161-139 final score. UW-SP took first place in 15 of the 32 events.

"We had a lot of close races," Boelk said, "It was really a fun meet."

Coach Boelk was right as Pointer Tyler Eloranta won the 200-yard freestyle - a 1:46.61 score - by the slim margin of eight one-hundredths of a second. Jennie Roskopf beat out all her opponents in the 100-

yard breaststroke ever so slightly by three one-hundredths of a second with a 1:09.99 final time. Elizabeth Herder took the honor in the 50-yard freestyle with a 0:00.07 second first place victory.

The Pointers had many swim well enough to take victories. There were also those who swam exceptionally well according to Coach Boelk.

"We had many, many people swim some pretty amazing swims! Liz Fenn and Elizabeth Herder (both backstrokers) swam out of their minds," Boelk stated. "Willie Clapp had an amazing meet- and all of our relays were very fast."

Ben Gensler won the Men's 200 IM by three seconds (2:04.60) Matt Grunwald had a five second win in the 200-yard butterfly event and Aaron Marshall won the 50-yard freestyle. The women's 400-yard medley relay team of Elizabeth Herder, Jennie Roskopf, Meghan Walsh and Jerica Crook claimed first place also. The men's 400-yard medley relay team also won. Travis Wolf, Alex Anderson, Garth

Newport and Aaron Marshall claim the third win in a row for the medley relay team. The women's team has also won their third straight medley relay.

The dive competitions showed the closeness of this meet as well - with the advantage to the competition's visitors. The men three meter was won by St. Cloud State as Pointer Jeff Swanson took second place. The men's one meter had a St. Cloud State win as well and three UW-SP runner ups - Jeff Swanson, Jack Riley and David Hayes. The women's one meter had Raenee Bugarske finish fourth behind three of the Pointer's opponents. In the three meter, Bugarske led Pointer women divers with a third place finish. Jen Wood took fifth in both events.

Next weekend the Pointers will be heading to Eau Claire to take part in the WIAC swim and dive relays. The competition will take place on Saturday, Nov. 20.

## SENIOR ON THE SPOT JASON KALSOW - BASKETBALL



Kalsow

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Hit game-winning shot in 2003-2004 National Championship game
- 2003-2004 second team NABC All-American
- Ranks 13th on UW-SP's all-time scoring list

Major - Broadfield Social Science

Hometown - Huntley, Ill.

Do you have any Nicknames? - Kalsow, Jase, Dunk Master Flex

What are your plans after graduation? - Gain weight, cruise beaches and live the rock-and-roll lifestyle.

What has helped you become such an accomplished basketball player? - All the teammates and coaches I've had over the years and jump roping for three minutes a day for four years.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? - Winning the 2004 National Championship and the Las Vegas trip.

What's your most embarrassing moment? - Dancing on speakers.

What CD is in your stereo right now? - Bruce Springsteen's Greatest Hits

What DVD is currently in your DVD player? - Caddyshack

What will you remember most about UW-SP? - All the friends I've made (even my bald ones): Kurt, Eddie, Neal, Clemens and a certain #4.

What are the three biggest influences in your life? - My family, the Ultimate Warrior and Toppers.

INTERESTED IN WRITING SPORTS?  
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@ SROEL908@UWSP.EDU



Photo by Tredelina Spahija

Swimmers take their marks at last week's meet in the HEC Aquatic Center.

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## Two dominating wins open new season for nationally ranked Pointers

By Steve Roeland  
SPORTS EDITOR

Reaching the Frozen Four last year was only the first step for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's hockey team. The rest of the nation felt that the Pointers could get the job done, placing UW-SP at fourth in the national pre-season ranking.

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The Pointers, who finished the 2003-2004 season as national runners-up after a loss in the NCAA Championship game to Middlebury, hoped to start the season off strong last weekend in Moorhead, Minn.. The Pointers faced off against the Concordia College (Minn.) Cobbers last Saturday and Sunday, with the Pointers claiming victory in both contests.

Saturday's match-up was a dominating performance that featured UW-SP's offensive tenacity. The Pointers opened the contest with a furious offensive charge, but failed to record a goal until the 8:29 mark. The first score of the season was earned by Katy

Lankey and went unassisted. The Pointers added two more scores before the end of the first period, claiming a 3-0 lead at the first intermission.

The second period played just like the first, with UW-SP scoring three goals after the halfway point of the period. Liz Goergen was able to find the net twice in the second period. Kim Lunneborg also connected with a goal in the second to round out the Pointers' scoring in the period.

The scoring barrage slowed for UW-SP in the third period, as the Pointers scored only once. Pam Stohr's shot found the mark for her second goal of the game at the 5:14 mark in the third period. The Pointers opened the season in big time fashion with a 7-0 win.

The Pointers' offense was busy in the season opener, out-shooting Concordia 45-10. UW-SP goalie Amy Statz stopped all 10 Cobber attempts and earned her first win and shutout of the young season.

Things looked brighter for the Cobbers in the Sunday game, but the Pointers turned off the

lights and, once again, overpowered Concordia for a 5-1 win. The Cobbers' Ashley Anderson took advantage of a power play and gave Concordia an early 1-0 lead at the 10:30 mark in the first period.

The Pointers never looked back and began their surge in the second period. Goegen, on an assist from Jana Jurkovich, knotted the game up and put UW-SP back on the offensive. Less than a minute later, the Pointers struck again on a goal by Lankey. With a 2-1 lead, the Pointers sat comfortably in the driver's seat.

Ann Ninneman, Jackie Schmitt and Jessie Suter added a goal apiece in the final period to give UW-SP a 5-1 victory.

The Pointers again obliterated the Cobbers in the shots-on-goal column, out-shooting them 57-5. Concordia goalie Jamie Savage made 52 saves in the loss.

UW-SP squares off against Lake Forest College in Northern Collegiate Hockey Association action this Saturday and Robert Morris College on Sunday.

## Seven UW-Stevens Point football players named first-team all-WIAC

UW-Stevens Point had seven players named to the first-team All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference football squad, including five offensive players.

Leading the way were senior offensive lineman Cliff Ruland and senior defensive tackle Clint Bakken, who were both selected for the second straight year. Senior wide receiver Tony Romano, senior center Peter Moskal, senior tight end Ross Adamczak, sophomore running back Cody Childs and senior linebacker Brett Ehret were also honored.

The Pointers had three second-team selections in senior wide receiver Kurt Kielblock, sophomore quarterback Brett Borchart and senior defensive end Craig Johnson. Senior offensive lineman Robb Kolodziej and junior punter Ryan Prochnow earned honorable mention.

UW-SP finished 6-4 overall and 4-3 in the WIAC, rallying with four straight conference wins after an 0-2 start before falling to UW-River Falls in the season finale.

Ruland, a Wonevok native, helped lead the way for an offense that averaged 440.2 yards per game. He was the team's only unanimous first-team all-conference selection and started all 10 games at right tackle for the second straight year.

Bakken, a Boulder Junction native who attended Lakeland High School, racked up 49 tackles, including six tackles for loss. Bakken was a dominating presence on the defensive line, especially late in the season when he totaled 12 tackles against UW-River Falls and nine against UW-Stout.

Romano, a Waunakee native, became the first Pointer receiver since Barry Rose in 1991 to lead the WIAC in receiving yards with 58 catches for 965 yards and nine touchdowns. He ranked 32nd in Division III in receiving at the end of the regular season.

Moskal, a Lodi native, started nine games at center and helped lead the offense that led the league and ranked 12th nationally in passing at 286.0 yards per game. He was challenged with shotgun formations on nearly every snap and also was part of a line that allowed only 15 sacks.

Adamczak, a Stevens Point native, was the conference's top pass-catching tight end with 39 catches for 644 yards and five touchdowns. Adamczak had 20 of his catches in third down situations and ranked fourth in the WIAC in receiving yards per game.

Childs, a Poynette native,

accumulated nearly 1,000 yards of offense with a team-high 608 yards rushing and four touchdowns along with 50 catches for 384 yards and three touchdowns. He ranked seventh in the league in rushing and sixth in receptions per game.

Ehret, a Clinton native, was the team's leading tackler and ranked third in the WIAC with 98 total tackles. He had at least six tackles in every WIAC game, including 23 against UW-River Falls.

Kielblock, a Scandinavia native and Iola-Scandinavia graduate, ranked fourth in the WIAC in receptions per game and eighth in receiving yards with 55 catches for 552 yards and five touchdowns.

Borchart, a Huntley, Ill. native, ranked fourth in Division III in total offense at 324.5 yards per game. He led the WIAC in passing at 274.6 yards per game and 22 touchdowns, while also ranking ninth in rushing at 49.9 yards per game.

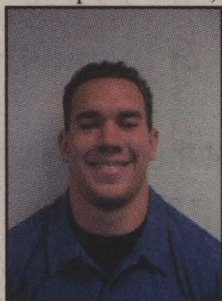
Johnson, a Green Bay Preble High School graduate, led the Pointers in both tackles for loss and sacks for the third straight year. He had 14 tackles for loss to rank third in the WIAC along with three sacks.

UW-La Crosse wide receiver Scott Burnoski was the league's Player of the Year.

Courtesy of News Services



Ruland



Bakken

## POINTER ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

### CODY KOENIG - WRESTLING

The senior went 4-0 to capture the 174-pound Gold Division at the UW-Stevens Point Open. Koenig recorded a pair of decisions in the first two rounds before pinning George Kirgon of Northern Illinois in 5:55 in the semifinals. Koenig then defeated Danny Burk of Northern Illinois 4-3 in the championship match.



Koenig

### DAN FRANCIS - MEN'S HOCKEY



Francis

The junior forward scored two goals, including the game-winner, and added an assist in the Pointers 5-3 victory over Gustavus Adolphus. Francis scored to break a 2-2 tie early in the third period, and then netted the game-winner, putting the Pointers ahead 4-3 with 9:15 to play. He then assisted on a late insurance goal. Francis also scored a goal in the Pointers' 5-3 loss to St. Olaf the previous night.

### LIZ GOERGEN - WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The senior forward tallied three goals and an assist in the Pointers' season opening weekend sweep at Concordia (Minn.). Goergen netted a pair of goals in the second period of the first game, which the Pointers won 7-0. On Sunday, Goergen scored the Pointers' first goal of the game, which knotted the score at 1-1. The Pointers went on for a 5-1 victory.



Goergen

## Four basketball players earn pre-season All-American honors

Preseason expectations are high for the UW-Stevens Point men's and women's basketball teams as each team features two preseason Division III All-Americans as selected by D3hoops.com.

Senior Jason Kalsow is a preseason first-team men's All-American, while senior Nick Bennett is a fourth-team selection.

For the women's team, senior Amanda Nechuta is a first-team preseason All-American and senior Amy Scott is a fourth-team pick.

Kalsow, a 6-7 forward, was a second-team All-American by the National Association of Basketball Coaches last season after leading the NCAA Division III championship team in points, rebounds and assists. He hit the game-winning shot the Pointers' 84-82 title game win over Williams (Mass.).

Bennett, a 6-5 guard, was the Most Outstanding Player at the Division III final four after

scoring 30 points in the championship game victory over Williams. He averaged 25.5 points per game and shot 60 percent from three-point range in the six NCAA tournament games.

Nechuta, a 5-10 forward, earned first-team Kodak All-American honors and led the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in scoring for the second straight year while scoring a single-season school record 617 points.

Scott, a 6-2 center, ranked third in the WIAC in field goal percentage and was second on the team in scoring as the Pointers reached the Division III final four for the second time in three years.

The women's team hosts Concordia (Wis.) on Friday at 8 p.m. in its season opener, while the men play Southwestern (Texas) on Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Chicago Midway Classic.

Courtesy of News Services



# OUR VIEW FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

## New York teams see shake-up at QB position

By Adam Wise

SPORTS EDITOR

Now that we are beyond the midpoint of the NFL season and teams are generally dividing themselves between contending for a playoff spot or a draft pick, head coaches are beginning to put their faith and salaries on the line to develop a back-up quarterback.

When I think of where to begin, my attention turns straight to New York. Both teams are currently in the middle of a quandary.

While both the Jets (with that powerful running game) and the Giants (in the weaker NFC) have playoff aspirations, both are relying on their second string to win games for them.

The Quincy Carter era started last week. While it should be only a brief stay at that position, it is still a pretty big move. With

Chad Pennington out, the Jets need a competent quarterback in there to keep the run for the playoffs going. Curtis Martin is having his best season in a while and the defense is playing pretty well so far. Unfortunately for the Jets, Carter's first game was against the Ravens defense, but look for things to improve this week in Cleveland.

While it was a little bit of an overstatement to label the Jets' current predicament as the beginning of the Carter term, it truly has come time for the enshrinement of Eli Manning.

While many fans dislike the youngest Manning for the escapades he pulled at the NFL draft, people won't deny that this kid has talent.

While I highly doubt he will ever be as good as his brother, and I am still skeptical he will be comparable to his dad, I do believe he can still lead this Giants team to the play-

offs this year.

Even though I could probably manage my way through that offensive line and get a sack or two on the quarterback, Manning won't be nearly as much of a statue as Warner was while he accumulated every one of those 39 sacks in nine games.

It will take quite a performance against Atlanta this week to garner a victory for the Giants, but they still have Tiki Barber and some pretty impressive receiving threats to put up some offensive numbers, something Manning proved he could do at Ole Miss.

Now that Coughlin has made the move to Manning, it will have to be a permanent one barring injury because you can't start and stop the development of a young quarterback.

It'll be interesting to see how well he does now that he is the man in the spotlight.

## BCS troubles again?

By Steve Roeland

SPORTS EDITOR

The college football season is never complete until a few coaches complain that the Bowl Championship Series has ruined their teams' chances of playing for a national title. The BCS, a series of computer rankings which determine the best football teams in the country, is under constant scrutiny for allowing teams into the BCS title game that many agree should not be there.

Last year, the University of Southern California was kept out of the title game, while the Louisiana State University Tigers and the Oklahoma Sooners battled for the BCS crown. The Trojans went on to dominate Michigan in the Rose Bowl, 28-14. The Associated Press honored the Trojans as champions; meanwhile, the LSU Tigers upset the Sooners in the Sugar Bowl and captured the BCS national title. The two-team national champion outcome is not the proper way to end a season.

This year appears to be brewing controversy as Oklahoma, Auburn and USC, three unbeaten teams, are fighting for only two spots. Division 1A college football is the only collegiate sport in which the NCAA doesn't formally recognize a national champion. And all other sports that feature a NCAA national champion have a post-season playoff format. To put two and two together, the NCAA should implement the playoff format into the college football post-season and officially crown ONE national champion.

Most of the teams in college football would like to see the bowl games remain a part of the game, thanks to the large amount of money that programs receive just for participating in the games. To compromise, the major bowl games could be used to serve as the playoff matches. All other bowl games, like the Music City Bowl, for example, could be used for teams that fail to qualify for the post-season tournament.

The national championship tournament should only consist of eight teams, due to time constraints and common sense. A tourney with more than eight could last until February. The current BCS bowls, the Rose, Sugar, Fiesta and Orange, would alternate each year as being the tournament final. There are many options that the NCAA could look at, but they should first stop looking so hard at how to improve the BCS.

My ideas for college football post-season utopia are far from perfect. But with a little work and some brainstorming from the NCAA head honchos, college football's sad excuse for a system of determining a national champion could be turned into an exciting event, much like the 65-team college basketball tournament. The potential for playoffs are there. It's the BCS that shouldn't be.



## Are you Graduating in December?



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



✓ Return your RSVP cards (electronically or by mail)

✓ Purchase caps, gowns, and tassels or rent hoods at the University Store  
December 13-17, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
or until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.  
Order by mail Dec. 1 - 9 at 346-3431.

Questions? Contact University Relations at 346-3811





## Oh, deer!

### Venison is good and good for you

By Joel Borski  
OUTDOORS EDITOR

Tired of the same old meals with the same old beef, chicken and pork dishes? Looking to shed a few pounds or just eat a little healthier? Perhaps, you're looking for a combination of both?

If so, put down the car keys and forget driving to the grocery store for your meat this time. Instead, pick up the telephone and contact a deer-hunting friend of yours. Or, if you're a hunter yourself, get out the bow or rifle and take to the woods. Venison - a fresher, leaner, healthier meat - awaits you.

In culinary terms, venison can be meat from deer, elk, moose, caribou, antelope and pronghorn sheep. In Wisconsin, however, venison is typically considered to be the meat from white-tailed deer. These deer can be found in any part of the state, year-round, and in some areas have actually become nuisances to landowners and farmers. Most Wisconsinites are already aware of this though.

"We have obtained crop damage tags for deer in the past, simply because there were too many of them around and they were costing us lots of money with the damage they were doing," said UW-La Crosse student, and hunter, Tyler Nelson, whose parents own and operate a farm in southern Wisconsin. "There certainly are plenty of opportunities out there to put meat in the freezer."

With plenty of deer around, and with plenty of land to hunt them on across the state, venison is a relatively easy meat to come by. It is also relatively inexpensive, as a deer hunting license costs only \$20 for Wisconsin residents.

As far as flavor goes, venison is unlike anything else out there, both in stores and in the wild. Many venison consumers would consider it to be a delicious change of pace.

"It's a stronger, somewhat different flavor than beef," said avid hunter and venison lover, Ben Preston. "But it's stronger in a good way. There is less fat and marbling to deal with too."

It is the lack of the aforementioned fat and marbling that also adds to the appeal of venison for most people.

According to the USDA, venison has far less calories and fat per serving than does beef, and it rivals the healthiness of even chicken.

(See Deer, Page 12)

## North coyote season closed to protect wolves

By Hilary Bulger

ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

The northern third of Wisconsin will be closed to coyote hunting during deer gun season, Nov. 20 to Dec. 8. The area of closure runs from near Wausaukee to St. Croix Falls and includes northern deer management units and the Menominee Native American Reservation. A map of this area is available in the DNR's 2004 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations pamphlet, which is available at service centers across the state, as well as on the DNR's Web site.

Closing coyote hunting during deer season has been a policy since 1987 to protect northern Wisconsin's wolves. Gray, or timber, wolves are considered a threatened species by the federal government and are protected at the state level. As soon as 2005, wolves may be removed from the federally threatened species list, which would return all management responsibilities to the state.

Coyote hunting is still open during deer season in the rest of the state. Hunters need to be sure it is really a coyote and not a wolf, before firing, as shooting a wolf is punishable by fines of \$2,000 or more as well as jail time. Wolves are significantly bigger than coyotes, weighing between 50 and 100 pounds compared to coyotes' 20 to 40 pounds. Shoulder heights for wolves range from 27 to 33 inches, while coyotes are generally between 20 to 22 inches.

Wolves have longer legs and larger feet than coyotes. A good tip the DNR offers for distinguishing between tracks is to use a 30.06 or 270 bullet. The bullet is about 3.2 inches long. Wolf prints are usually 3.5 inches or more, without claws and coyote prints are less than 2.6 inches. If the print is bigger than the bullet, it is probably a wolf; if it is smaller, it is probably a coyote. In either case, the print could be from a dog, as wolves, coyotes and dogs all have similar tracks.

It is very difficult to tell the difference between wolves and coyotes by color alone as both vary in color and are similar to each other.

Wolves sometimes tend to be darker, but do not attempt to use this as an identifying feature. The tails of both hang down or stick out, but do not curl as some dogs' tails do. Coyotes' snouts are more pointed, like those of foxes, while wolves' muzzles are larger and blocky. Coyotes have larger ears that are more pointed than those of wolves.

It is difficult, especially from a distance when the animal is moving, to distinguish between the two species. Take care and make sure to make a positive identification before even considering firing a shot. Hunters in central Wisconsin, between Black River Falls and Wisconsin Rapids need to take extra precautions as 14 to 15 wolf packs call that area home. According to the DNR, other areas to be on higher alert for wolves include the Mead Wildlife Area in southern Marathon County, the Colburn Wildlife Area in northern Adams County, western Marquette and Washara counties, Door County and western Oconto County. It is important to note that wolves may be found anywhere in Wisconsin.

Besides wolves, Wisconsin elk and moose are also protected species. Both of these members of the deer family are much larger than their cousins when fully grown. Hunters should be aware, though, that a five to six month old elk calf is similar in size to a full grown whitetail, though an elk will be a darker brown color and have a yellow rump patch. Moose are very different in appearance from deer, but the antlers of a yearling bull are similar to those of a buck. As with wolves, shooting elk and moose carry costly punishments.

The DNR requests that hunters report sightings of wolves, elk and moose. This can be done at any DNR office or on their Web site. Please record the date, location and description of the species spotted. This information helps the DNR track population location and numbers. Good luck, and be sure to make a positive identification before shouldering that gun.

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# The Swee' Nimby floats on

## Frigid fall fishing on the flowage

By Adam Mella  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I woke from the depths of a hazy darkness around two in the afternoon. *Damn you HSL<sup>1</sup> and your friend Whiskey Dan<sup>2</sup> too!* The sun stabbed me in the face, luring me from my cozy nest, still wet from a night-sweat that had tormented me for weeks now.

Rose-budistically, I whispered, "Crappie!!!!!"

My coffee mug shattered on the floor.

For two weeks, I had failed to venture toward the fabled fall crappie grounds on the Stevens Point flowage. Those feisty pancake-esque slabs had been feeding voraciously since Halloween, or so I had been told. Still, I spent my hours in a rippling, unsatisfying tide of napping and reading. *Reading!*

"No more," I hollered buzzardly, still half-asleep, at my roommate Gene's door. "Nimby floats again!"

After an hour of persistent hassling, Gene agreed to hit the crappie hole.

The Swee' Nimby is my boat and I tell her all my secrets. She fits in the back on my truck, has a live-well/cooler and can go places most boats wouldn't dare. The only thing is, I never have the time to oblige her rascally chi. Imagine a badger mixed with a swan and a twelver of HSL and the entire Babe Winkelman informative library. That's the Swee' Nimby – or at least the essence of the Swee'.

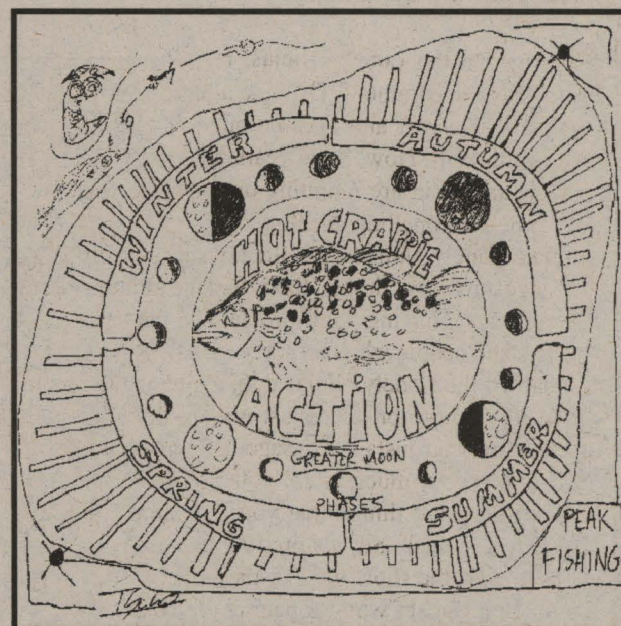
Anyhow, after a stop to sweet Maria, the most lovely bait lady in the world, we splashed into a brown-murk of Wiscanny backwaters around 4 P.M. – which is pretty good for me and Gene.

Great Jupiter! There were boats everywhere, trembling at the sight of ol' Nimby. It did not take long to locate a specimen of *timbera sunkulitis*, and within minutes, Gene had located the optimal depth for hot action. However, the sun was slipping away, carrying with it the light and the oh-so precious warmth. We were freezing for a reason though. The fall migration of the black crappie is fairly easy to follow, and because of the looming frigidity, these fat specklers were gobbling up minnows faster than we could say, "Pass the HSL."

The frigid fall flowage bite relates to the time of year immediately preceding first ice. The internal clock of a crappie's mind follows a pattern similar to that of our moon. Most outdoorsmen agree that the moon has powerful, transcendental powers over all wild creatures – humans included. And while each small moon phase carries its own ups and downs in appetites, the greater year cycle affects living things in a more complex and profound way. So say the spring spawning pattern relates to a full moon – a powerful influence indeed – then it is natural to associate summer with a waning moon, winter with a waxing moon, and thus, autumn with a new moon – a very powerful authority in its own right.

Basically, the mood of the new moon is the force behind hibernation and fortification. For crappies, the urge to fatten up is beyond irresistible. This increased feeding trend usually lasts from the end of October to the first couple weeks of ice-fishing, generally tapering off with the decay of the last green aquatic vegetation and the subsequent depletion of oxygen levels.

The best method for catching these rascals is a small slip-bobber and a smaller hook or jighead, tipped with a minnow. Feeding crappies will relate to remaining weed growth and especially to fallen timber.



A suspending, schooling fish by nature, autumn crappies are most easily located by finding good structure, and then adjusting the depth of your bobber. Often, the difference between a couple and a full stringer is a foot up or down the water column.

So Gene and I eventually froze up and bugged out, but not before we netted a fine crappie dinner. The Swee' Nimby proved once again to be the perpetual link to the hot crappie hole, but it was tactics, understanding the patterns of nature and a willingness to get out of bed super-early, that made the trip a success.

<sup>1</sup>Hamms Special Light.

<sup>2</sup>Not a real person.

### Deer, from Page 11

An average serving of venison has about 140 calories, 5 grams of fat and 22 grams of protein, while an average serving of 85 percent lean ground beef has roughly 215 calories, 12 grams of fat and 25 grams of protein.

Some people contest that the stronger flavor of venison is, in fact, much too gamey for their taste; however, there are ways to combat it.

According to the USDA, the "gamey" flavor can be lessened considerably by completely soaking the meat overnight in a "one tablespoon per quart of cold water," salt solution, or in a "one cup per quart of cold water," vinegar solution.

An overnight marinade can also be used to give the meat a more savory flavor, as well as to tenderize it. Meat should always be kept refrigerated during this time to prevent bacteria growth, as venison does have the same potential for contamination as any domestic meat.

Cooking venison is relatively simple. The USDA recommends that it be heated to an internal temperature of 160 degrees, in order to eliminate any food-borne bacteria. Pink meat is safe to eat, as long as it has reached the necessary temperature.

A basting or roasting process is often preferred for venison. A moist heat is best because of the leanness of the meat. Overcooking can severely toughen it. Fast searing over high heat will also suffice for smaller cuts, such as tenderloin medallions or rib chops.

Whatever the method used in preparation, venison can be a tasty, healthy, and cost-effective alternative to other meats, and it can liven up any monotonous meal schedule.

"I'd recommend venison to anyone out there who's willing to try it," said Preston, who was coincidentally heading home to prepare venison for supper. "It's living off the land, it's tasty, and it's cheap. You can't beat it."

### Your Opening Weekend Forecast:

**Friday:** Light showers expected.

High: 45

Low: 39

**Saturday:** Scattered showers.

High: 50

Low: 32

**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy.

High: 44

Low: 23



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# Successful *Profits* or *Profiting* well?

By Carmen Speich  
ARTS & REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR

What do the Lonely Ninjas, Ben Hacker and The Profits have in common? They are all a group of talented musicians that met and became buds in UW-SP's very own Smith Hall. Now, three years later, they have gone separate ways but are reuniting on the stage for what is sure to be a compelling evening.

The Lonely Ninjas have already successfully graced the stage this year during their first headlining performance, despite having a self-proclaimed fan base "of our mothers and people who feel sorry for us." Ryan Gerlach, one half of the Lonely Ninjas duo, explains the reunion. "This gig is more or less a last minute thing we pulled together over an instant message conversation. J.P. (of the Profits) pretty much said, 'you guys (John and Ryan) have a little band thingy that you call almost music? I HAVE to see this.' So, we pretty much are playing two songs to start the show off. It's the Lonely Ninjas opening for Ben Hacker who is opening for The Profits!"

As Ryan explains the band connections, it's clear to venture that the musical success the lads are all now experiencing is more than coincidence. "It's funny because when we first knew each other we all were just picking up guitars and starting out. We weren't good at all. Now, J.P. has a huge band with an amazing cult following and Ben Hacker has gone above and beyond what a musician can do ... and the Lonely Ninjas are still, well, lonely."

J.P., a former UW-SP student, now attends UW-Madison where he met his other bandmates. The story,

told in the Badger Herald, only strengthens the proclamation of fate. At four a.m. one morning last winter, Matt Johnson drove up to a friend's house and randomly bumped into John Paul Roney (JP) sitting on the front porch. On that momentous morning, the two University of Wisconsin students discovered their shared passion for music in a lengthy, intense conversation about "life and stuff." "Before meeting, we both had our own solo musical experience, but nothing like this," said J.P.

Within a week of sparking their friendship, these two aspiring musicians linked their vocal and guitar talents and formed the band now known as The Profits.

The Profits are causing quite a stir in the Madison music scene, playing their light-hearted acoustic rock at late night bar time jam sessions, sororities and fraternities. Their success now allows them to frequently venture outside Madison to play gigs all over the Midwest.

Just recently, the Madison Area Music Awards nominated The Profits as best new artist, best new acoustic artist, and best new vocal ensemble, for which they took home the prize. They are finding success with their fresh album, "The Sign of the Dollar." According to the Badger Herald, "Although their lyrical and rhythmic influences stem from typical college bands, including John Mayer, Coldplay and Jack Johnson, The Profits have created an unusual hybrid of slow and fast melodies."

John Paul Roney, who kicks on vocals and acoustic guitar, started singing at the age of five in The Madison Boy Choir, and has sung for 300,000 spectators as a soloist. His more than impressive resumé includes a long list of accomplishments, including performing for President Clinton in the White House. He finds time to pursue his

passion while studying law.

Mike Drohomysky, who shakes it on vocals, acoustic and electric guitar, is a UW-Madison film student who has been writing and playing guitar for six years and is entirely self-taught. After an extensive performing background, he was "really confused about whether to pursue school or music." That's when he met J.P.

Jamming on upright bass is Scott Lamps, a recent UW-Madison graduate in music composition, who has an extensive background ranging from classical to jazz, and Latin to reggae.

And last but not least is Benjamin Schaefer, who chills on percussion and rounds out the band as the youngest and newest member of The Profits. While majoring in literature, he has been thumping on the drums for 10 years, and dreams of being the "best conga player in the world." According to those who have seen him perform, the goal is not far off.

As for the performance, Gerlach articulates, "I hope the crowd has as much fun as we are going to have up there. The Profits play the crowd as good as they do the guitars. Our Lonely Ninja motto is still intact: Bring a little sunshine to the crowd, and make the people we open for look even better."

The bands will perform Friday the 19th at 8 p.m. in the Encore. Begin the evening with some comedic ingenuity from the "Lonely Ninjas." Settle back for some smooth solo acoustic tunes with Ben Hacker. And get up out of your chairs to do a capricious dance along with the alternative rock sounds of The Profits. It is sure to be a winning evening. For more information check out [www.theprofits.net](http://www.theprofits.net)

## Upcoming Movies

By Anna Jurovic and Laura Pennings

ARTS & REVIEW CO-EDITORS

### Alexander

Starring: Colin Farrell, Rosario Dawson, Anthony Hopkins, Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer  
Directed by: Oliver Stone



Along the style of *Troy* and *Gladiator*, this epic tale chronicles the extravagant life and tragic death of Alexander the Great, played by Colin Farrell. More interesting than your text book, or your history teacher for that matter, this film is a two hour and 56 minute learning experience without the pain and frustration that the usual college student faces in class. It will keep you interested with lots of action, adventure and Angelina Jolie's lips (make what you will of

that). Needless to say, this movie has gotten rave reviews and will hit the box office nationwide on Nov. 24. If you like movies based on historical events with all-star casts and visually stimulating effects, check out the beautifully done *Alexander*.

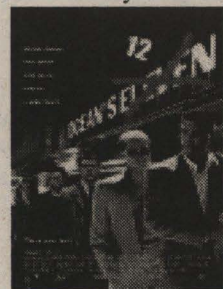
### Christmas with the Kranks

Starring: Tim Allen, Jamie Lee Curtis, Dan Aykroyd  
Directed by: Joe Roth

Based on John Grisham's novel *Skipping Christmas*, this movie shows what happens when Christmas is ignored. Luther and Nora Krank, played by Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis, decide that this year is the year to stop participating in their usual Christmas festivities and travel to a sunny paradise instead. They think they will be better off without all the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, but they soon find out that Christmas means so much more than fruit cakes and egg nog (for those of you who are fans, drink away). For all of you who love the holiday season as we do, the fact that this movie centers around this topic is exciting enough, but it can also be a great movie to get you in the spirit of the season. Take your family to the theater on Nov. 24 (after viewing *Alexander*, of course).

### Ocean's Twelve

Starring: Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Julia Roberts, Matt Damon, Catherine Zeta-Jones  
Directed by: Steven Soderbergh



The long awaited sequel to *Ocean's Eleven* is finally here! Yippee. They're back again and ready for their next job ... and I don't mean as a cashier at County Market! Ha, ha...ha. Moving on. Anyway, this action/adventure is set in Europe and involves three huge heists, each taking place in one fabulous (new cool word: spread around and say often) city after another; not to mention the fact that everyone in this movie is extremely attractive. Mark your calendars for Dec. 10 and check out one of the hottest movies of the season.

### The Polar Express

Starring: Tom Hanks as pretty much everybody  
Directed by: Robert Zemeckis



Is anyone else totally excited for this movie?! We can't wait to see this one. Call us childish or hopelessly devoted to the meaning of Christmas, but what better way to relive your childhood excitement and pretend for just one minute that Santa does really exist? This movie is based on the classic book *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg and takes you on the journey of a lifetime with one little boy on his way to see Santa. Just like the book, the visuals in the movie are breathtaking and captivating. *The Polar Express* has gotten rave reviews from every film critic who has seen it and Tom Hanks does a wonderful job of recreating the magic with his five characters. If there's one thing that you do this holiday season, go see *The Polar Express*, which is now open everywhere. Remember, "This Holiday Season ... Believe."

## Rebecca's CD review

### Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds: *The Lyre of Orpheus* and *Abbatoir Blues*

By Rebecca Conn  
ARTS & REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR

Nick Cave's voice, one moment stark and cold and the next soothing as opium syrup, has been a staple of rock since the late seventies. For approximately the past 20 years, he and his band the Bad Seeds have been the primary creators of what my friend Andy fondly refers to as "mortuary music." Classic albums like *Tender Prey* and *Murder Ballads* are mournful, bloody masterpieces, and their two brief new albums, *The Lyre of Orpheus* and *Abbatoir Blues*, fuse together to make one of their best albums to date.

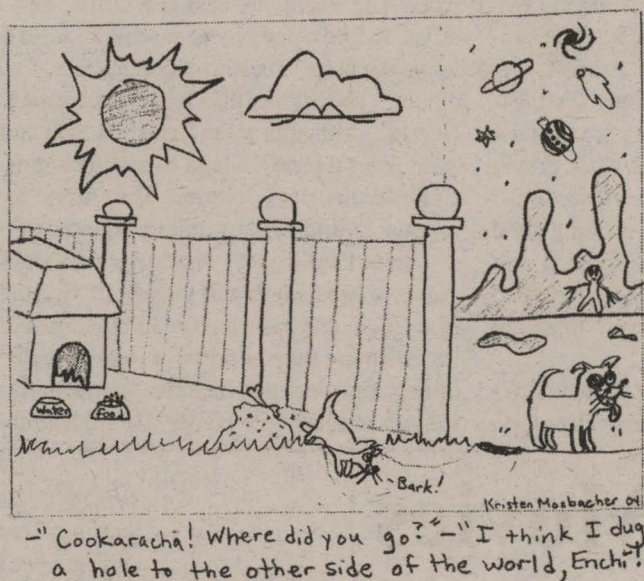
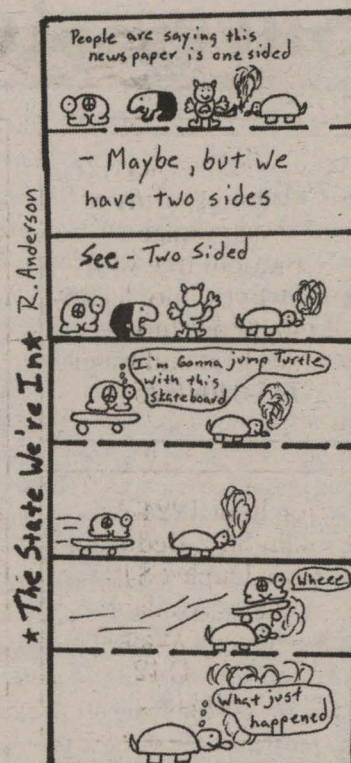
Cave himself writes, composes and sings nearly all of the band's songs, and also deftly mans the piano. His carefully selected bandmates are all accomplished performers, and his lyrics can stand alone as poems. It's clear that he and the Bad Seeds have treated these albums as works of art, and by so doing they have created works of art. This is evident in the carefully worked music, the loving precision with which Cave enunciates every word of his songs, and even the elegantly understated package design.

Though the songs on these albums are seldom as ghoulish as those on his 1996 release *Murder Ballads*, they are characteristically dark. Tracks like "Easy Money" swell grimly into dirges, while the slow-moving seduction song "Babe You Turn Me On" couches sly, even playful references to atom bombs in its chorus. Cave is sharply intelligent and relentlessly inventive, which is why he can rewrite the myth of Orpheus in one song and load another with abstruse references to Philip Larkin and Johnny Thunders.

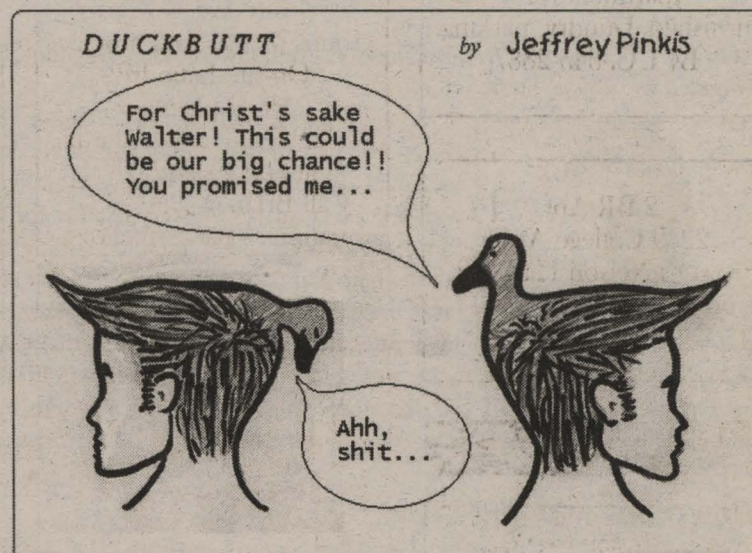
Fans of the Bad Seeds may miss the charming murderers and gallows trees that peopled their previous albums, and they will surely miss guitarist Blixa Bargeld, he of the scream of a thousand dying horses. Other than Bargeld's absence, which doesn't injure the albums, they have no reason to complain. *The Lyre of Orpheus* and *Abbatoir Blues* are great, powerful works, knitted together by a group of skilled and dedicated performers. There is no excuse for not listening to them.



By A.M. Mella



Adam Squiddy





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