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U-pass system shows signs of use

Student use of bus pass system shows promise after first semester
By Joe Pisciotta
News Reporter

The U-Pass system is showing a significant increase in student use after one semester in existence.

According to tallies taken by bus drivers, student use of the U-Pass system has increased from 3,304 rides during the program's inception month of September 2004 (with the last two days of August included in that tally) to 5,144 rides taken in December 2004.

Each month has brought an increase in utilization, with a sharp increase of over 800 rides

by students from November to December. The increase "comes from getting the information out to the students," said Tom Carroll, operations supervisor for the Stevens Point Transit Department.

The transit department and the UW-SP Student Government Association (SGA) have spread the word about U-Pass over the past few months by utilizing Student Message of the Day and by printing up and handing out brochures to new students during the orientation period in January. The goal is to continue to make students aware of the U-Pass system.

Lisa Bahr, Student Life Issues Director of SGA says that the U-Pass system is doing "good, so far." She looks forward to future developments for U-pass, page 2

The Normal Pointer was established in 1985 by the Press Association. The Stork first appeared in 1902 and continued to grace the cover for the following year.

Campus groups combine efforts to raise money for humanitarian relief in devastated region
By Adam Mella
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The majority of the campus population was away on break when a massive tsunami devastated vast portions of nations in the Indian Ocean region. Although student and community response to the event was hindered by this fragmentation, an all out effort to garner monetary donations was immediately organized once the spring semester convened. The bulk of tsunami fundraising will occur Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Stevens Point chapter of WISPERG has assumed the leadership for the effort on campus. Karen Rodgers, chapter president, also attended the planning meeting, said, "I know this campus cares. The faculty, students and staff will do anything they can to help. The most effective way for us to accomplish this task is by sending money."

In order to gather the funds, several donation-based events have been scheduled for this weekend. Additionally, dozens of area businesses agreed to donate food or money for these events.

WISPERG has donation booths ready for all UW-SP basketball and hockey games this weekend, as well as the Point Brewed Talent performance at the Encore on Thursday evening.

On Friday, a movie and food event is planned for 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the Encore. Team America, pizza and other goods for sale are on the menu. A donation of $5 is appreciated.

A dodgeball tournament is in the works for Saturday, from noon until 4 p.m., in the MAC. There is room for 16 teams of five people, with a $5 registration fee per person and prizes for the top finishers.

On Sunday, Superbowl XXXIX will be shown on the big screen in the Encore, with doors opening at 5:30. For a donation, you can enjoy free food while watching the game.

There is additional fundraising activities in Thomson, Knutzen, Baldwin, Watson, and Pray-Sims halls by way of penny wars that will contribute to the overall goal. The total project's monetary objective is set around $7,000 for the weekend.

Numerous student groups have reacted strongly to the human toll of the epic tsunami and are working together to help ease some of the suffering in affected areas.

On Sunday, Superbowl Party will be shown on the Encore during the orientation period in January. The goal is to continue to make students aware of the U-Pass system.

TCUNAMI FUNDRAISING EVENTS
Thursday, February 4:
8pm in the Encore, Phase Three, Point Brewed Talent (contribute as you head into the show)

Friday, February 5:
Movie Night – Come see "Team America" at 7pm or 9:30 in the Laird Room. The movie is free, but for a $5 donation, you can have pizza, cookies and other food while you watch the show!

Saturday, February 6:
Dodgeball Tournament – noon to 4pm at the MAC (room for 16 teams of 5 people) $5 to play – PRIZES
Collection tables at the Basketball and Hockey Games

Sunday, February 7:
Superbowl Party – 5:30pm in the Encore, bring a donation and enjoy free food

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Since the launch of the U-Pass system last semester, city bus drivers have noted an increase in student use. Credit is given in part to an aggressive ad campaign.

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Tsunami relief drive this weekend

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Office life becomes art work

Last semester, students of Prof. Susan Morrison's Art 103 class unveiled their homage to office supplies in an attempt to take routine supplies used on a daily basis and turn them into a work of art. Prof. Morrison remarked that the project came together due to the "quality interaction between students and their willingness to try new things."

Budget could have impact

State finances could have potential impact on affordability of higher education for students

By Martin Grosse

On Feb. 8, Governor Jim Doyle will release his budget proposal. This is a document of great importance to the faculty and students of the University of Wisconsin System, as well as all Wisconsin residents.

There is no way to predict what this will mean for UW-SP students, but Gov. James Doyle did give some insight in his State of the State Address on Jan. 20th. When commenting on the status of the UW System, Doyle said that though money is tight, he plans on "adding faculty, and increasing financial aid".

Previous comments on the budget have pointed to the potential of a 4-percent increase in tuition for students in the next budget, a small amount compared to the double-digit increases of previous tuition hikes.

This could result in more jobs in the system, and make it easier for students to afford college expenses. Also, to help ease the cost of tuition, he plans to increase the amount of money that families can deduct from their taxes from $3,000 to $5,000 per year.

Doyle concludes his college concerns by saying that "the UW system is the best in America, and we need to keep it on top."

In response to the State of the State address, Kevin P. Reilly, president of the UW System, states that he is pleased with the Governor's allocation of funds to the UW system. He praised the Governor for recognizing the wisdom of investment in higher education, stating that increased spending will provide, "talent, expertise, and ideas to businesses around the state" as the number of Wisconsin residents with four-year degrees increases. Reilly also shows concern for faculty and staff, saying he hopes the Governor and legislature will increase funding for faculty and staff compensation.

Lauren McGrath, the SGA legislative issues director agrees with Reilly, emphasizing that money provided to colleges produces highly trained graduates to benefit the state's workforce.

She also notes that at this time, Wisconsin's prisons receive more funding than our colleges, yet, needless to say, produce a much less employable output. McGrath is concerned that the Governor may try to pay off the state's $3.2 billion deficit by, "not raising taxes, but cutting [funding for] higher education."

The Student Government Association is providing ways for all students to voice their budget concerns to the state legislators in Madison. Government officials feel that students are not vocal about their costs and experiences in the UW system. This is a great opportunity for students to get their opinions heard by officials.

On Feb. 24, students may attend a rally in Madison concerning the budget. Before the rally, SGA will show students how the budget affects them, and the current status of the state's budget.

The students will attend the rally, be trained by an official lobbyist, and then meet with state legislators to discuss the budget's effect on the UW system.

All students are urged to attend these events and speak their mind. The chance exists for not only their own college experience, but that of future generations. Students are encouraged to contact SGA and be heard by the people who control your money.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, contact the Student Government Association at UC 028, call at 715-346-3722, or email Lauren McGrath at lmegr565@uwsp.edu.
So I know what you are thinking: I just spent a fortune converting my VHS collection to DVD, and now I have to buy them all over again! Although I have watched a film that was broadcast, or watch DVDs on an HD TV set, or watch DVDs on HD DVD players and discs uses a laser that operates in a blue spectrum. The Blu-Ray discs use a laser that operates in a blue spectrum. This means that the discs can store data more closely and in a more precise manner, meaning that the Blu-Ray format will allow the discs to store high-definition video. This format allows the discs to store high-definition video from the version. Although the Blu-Ray format allows the discs to store high-definition video, it is not clear whether the manufacturers have learned this. The competition between Blu-Ray and HD-DVD has clearly not been resolved. However, studios and manufacturers have clearly not learned their lessons from the Betamax vs. VHS fiasco. While both formats are superior to a VHS cassette, manufacturers have clearly not learned if you have a High Definition television, or watch DVDs on an HD channel, you have seen the difference in picture quality between that broadcast and DVD version. However, studios and manufacturers have clearly not learned their lessons from the Betamax vs. VHS fiasco. While both offer a high-definition picture for someone with a plasma TV, the differences stop there.

The Blu-Ray format, pioneered by Sony, Pioneer, HP, Dell, Samsung, and most of the other major manufacturers of DVD players and discs uses a disc that comes in a translucent blue protective cartridge that protects the disc from scratches and general wear and tear. The Blu-Ray discs use a laser that operates in a blue spectrum (hence the name blue-ray) reads the smaller data pits of the disc with more precision, resulting in an error-free read of the disc and a storage capacity upwards of 50 GB. This could allow for discs to carry over 20 hours of standard-definition video and 4.5 hours of HD video. The super high capacity means while the format is likely to cost more, the storage capacity will be around far longer than the current generation DVD. Since the disks can store high amounts of data, a film or TV box set that occupies multiple disks with current technology could be condensed onto one or two Blu-Ray discs, which could result in savings for the consumer.

Unfortunately, for players to read current generation DVDs and CDs, a separate laser would have to be installed, which will result in players that will cost more than the HD-DVD format. Some players could be equipped with just a blue laser, but to have serious consumer support, the players will have to support current DVDs. On the plus side, Sony has announced that their upcoming PlayStation 3 console will be based upon Blu-Ray technology; this could be good news for gamers and people who side with this format. Sony has also recently purchased MGM studios, and its film catalog which will release exclusively in Blu-Ray format. The HD-DVD format uses technology based upon the current Blu-Ray HD format, resulting in players that will cost far less, initially, than the Blu Ray format players. HD-DVD enjoys the support of many of the major studios, such as Warner Brothers, Universal, New Line, and Paramount, all of which have pledged to release their films in this format. Unfortunately, HD-DVDs will be plagued by problems of their predecessors such as scratches and a lower capacity than the Blu-Ray format.

Both formats are expected to enter the market later this year, and nervous videophiles will have to take their chances and choose one format over the other, while the rest of us who don't have $600 to spend on the first generation HD-DVD players will have to play the waiting game to see who wins. Sony is counting on avoiding a repeat of its Betamax fiasco of the early 1980s, where despite the technical superiority of the Betamax format, the cheaper VHS won the cassette format war and consumers had to live with a sub par format for 20 years. Here is a sincere hope that we will have to use to watch the next three Star Wars box sets that Lucas will throw at us in the years to come.

Don't be confused by this disc's appearance; you may be watching all of your movies on Blu-ray discs soon.
The Pointer Editorial Policies

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

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

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Letters to the editor 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.

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

John T. Larson
News Editor

The Dao of Homer: The threat posed to the republic by ignorance

"Are they getting louder or just dumber?"

-Mayor Quimby

"I think both sir."

-Adams of Mayor Quimby

"What we need right now is a doer, not a thinker."

-Vigilante Leader

Homer Simpson

In the long running series The Simpsons, the town of Springfield has come to represent the collective thoughts and emotions of the American public condensed into a half-hour of people acting rashly towards situations that they do not fully comprehend, and create rushed solutions that, while based on good intentions, often create more of a mess than the original problem did. (The quotes provided above are pulled from two episodes where the citizens of this troubled slice of the American experience react to separate situations, taxation and escalating crime rates, and react in ways that do little to alleviate the actual problem. In these instances, blaming illegal immigrants and forming a vigilant group that actually causes more crimes than it solves.) A similar attitude seems to be forming amongst the youth of the nation:

Amongst the youth of the nation: There is something that we don't understand or know a lot about, it must be bad. A recent study undertaken by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation identified a disturbing set of attitudes formulated by high-school age students towards the First Amendment. According to the study, a significant number of students thought that the amendment goes "too far" in the protection it offers to the media and citizens to report on or speak against acts of the government they feel are not in the best interest of the republic. Some students felt that government censorship of the media is not the worst thing in the world and some protest actions, such as flag burning, should not be considered protected speech. In defense of the students, the study illustrated that indifference towards the First Amendment has much to do with a lack of education of what the actual text of the amendment consists of and what freedoms it provides. In this instance, the fault of ignorance about this cornerstone of American democracy lies with an education system that is more concerned with standardized test results than with creating minds that are trained to come to logical conclusions. The articles don't relate to student interests.

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**Your College Survival Guide: The new deal**

**By Pat "Punctual" Rothfuss**  
With help from Games People Play

**Dear Pat,**

Spring semesters finally here and I was wondering what you were planning on doing for your girlfriend for Valentine's Day. Even more I'm wondering if you can give me some advice on what I might do for my girlfriend. I don't have any real good ideas and I'm worried that if I don't come up with something good she'll ditch me.

Nate

"I know what your girlfriend probably wants for Valentine's Day, Nate? Punctuation. I bet she wants, like, a question mark, a couple apostrophes, and a whole bunch of commas. Chicks love commas dude, you know what I mean.

But all mocking you aside, Nate, I'm not doing a thing for Valentine's Day. Nothing. NoTHING. Nada. Don't misunderstand me, I'm not one of those lonely sad-sacks that hates V-day because he's single. No indeed. I got me a girlfriend. A sweet, honey-limed lovely.

Neither do I hate Valentine's Day because it is a pointless, contrived holiday designed to sell Hallmark like, a question mark, a couple apostrophes, and a whole bunch of commas. You see, it irritates me that when Feb. 14 rolls around I'm suddenly obliged to prove I love my girlfriend with the attention and respect they deserve. Damnation By John Lason and A.M. Mella

Most importantly, I can punctuate. Hell, I know all the grammar rules. In fact, when it comes to flat-out mastery of the English language, you'd be hard pressed to find a more cunning linguist than me. Women just like that sort of thing, Nate. But hey, don't take my word for it. Just check out these rave reviews from some of my ex-girlfriends:

"Unbelievable!!!"

"..: an emotional roller-coaster..."

"He's... like an animal..."

"Refrain from... physical contact with Plaintiff. Remain at least 300 yards from... Plaintiff. Refrain from contacting Plaintiff..."

But seriously folks. My biggest beef with Valentine's Day is that guys get consistently screwed by the arrangement. I'm tired of it. It was fun for the first 10 years, but now I'm thinking it'd be nice if someone bought me flowers and candy for a change.

I'm not saying that no one's ever given me a Valentine's Day present. And I'm not implying that you ladies are just using this holiday to score free meals and obligation-free backrubs. But hey, I'm on my way. My dating history, Valentine's Day has mostly been about me giving, and only slightly about me receiving. I know I'm not alone in this, and I know I'm not the only guy who feels like he's getting the short end of the stick.

But these days are at an end. This year we're going to do things Sadie Hawkins style. Ladies, "you* plan the date. You take *us* out for dinner, and bring some flowers and candy while you're at it.

WHA... screw that. I don't want any of that crap. Ladies, tailor the date to your boyfriends, give them the sort of evening they'll enjoy. Bring over some tacos and let him beat you a couple times in Halo 2. Or buy a pair of cat ears and have a friendly yiff. Ladies, tailor the date to your boyfriends, give them the sort of evening they'll enjoy. Bring over some tacos and let him beat you a couple times in Halo 2. Or buy a pair of cat ears and have a friendly yiff. Ladies, tailor the date to your boyfriends, give them the sort of evening they'll enjoy. Bring over some tacos and let him beat you a couple times in Halo 2. Or buy a pair of cat ears and have a friendly yiff. You could rent The Ring and then spend the next six hours trying to coax him out of his hiding place under the kitchen sink. Whatever floats your boat.

Personally, I think the perfect romantic evening involves Season 5 of Angel, a quesadilla, some sushi, and some spooning on the couch. Hint, Hint.

Hell, throw in a bottle of wine with a little backrub and who knows, you might even get some.

Located next to Family Video, Games People Play (JadeCo Hobby) provides a valuable community service. By giving various geeks, freaks, and strange persons unfettered access to the games they crave, they keep these people off the streets and away from our children. I, personally, salute them in their quest to protect our nation's youth, and encourage you to show your thanks by patronizing their lovely establishment.

The evolution of The Pointer

Fifth-year seniors and faculty members on campus will most certainly recognize a distinct evolution of The Pointer as the years wiz by. Younger students may not see such a distinction, however, they will in time. The truth is, your Pointer is being constantly remade, year after year, cyclical in nature. Kind of like the universe.

Style, leadership, staff, student input and direction are constantly undulating on a mysterious circuit. And while the staff determines a great deal of that evolution, it is the community input that best controls the direction and content.

In my first semester as editor-in-chief, I oversaw several changes - an overhauled staff and style among them. But my biggest goal was to increase student and community input.

"What can I do to be a good community member?" you may ask. Good question.

Send more letters. The Letters and Opinion section is more than a Pat Rothfuss column and a poorly drawn political cartoon. The heart of the section is the letters we receive from the readers. And the kicker - they can be written about almost anything. If you read some of the madness we printed last semester, you'll instantly absorb what I'm saying. My policy on letters boils down to this: If you send us one, I'll do everything in my power - which includes cleaning up the pages and changed the Features section name to Pointlife - it seems a better descriptor of the content after all. "Penthouses" is more of a writing style.

Then comes the big enchilada - The three-year-old baby of our driven Managing Editor, Liz Bolton - The brand new Science and Technology section. As seeing as how we don't technically have a budget for this section, we're making many stylistic changes this semester. For starters, we've changed some fonts, cleaned up the layout, added editorial essays from all Pointer staff members.

Most of them are intelligent and harbor differing opinions from myself, so they can only benefit the community to manifest that diversity on paper. We will also be courting guest columnists to lend their valued opinions on various pertinent subjects as seen fit. If you, or someone you know is well-learned in a particular field - science, medicine, technology, voodoo, politics, religion, economics or anything else worth reading about - give us a hoot. We'll do our best to work them into the section.

So remember, the evolution of The Pointer is in all hands, and things are only moving in the right direction. Personally, I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a hairless, telepathic, hydroelectric super hero by 2019. That'd be lucky-duck.

A.M. Mella
Editor in Chief
Tackling that mid-winter slump

Students put snow football at the top of the list for fun winter activities

By Adam Rodewald
Pointlife Editor

It's cold, it's slippery, and those little hairs in your nose freeze within seconds of stepping outside.

Welcome to winter in Wisconsin.

We are all too familiar with the trials that this season puts us through, and, in a stance of defiance, we are often tempted to secure ourselves indoors with the companionship of soft blankets, radiating heaters, and steering mugs of hot chocolate or coffee.

As we watch in post-holiday nostalgia at the snow piling up outside our windows, the notion of putting our lives on hold and following the squirrels into hibernation becomes excruciatingly inviting.

Nasal hair alone is guilty of such innate lethargy at some point or another. Sticking to the indoors during the winter is, in general, a preference whether you are a musician, a social butterfly, an athlete, a writer, or anyone else.

Many people, however, have overcome this passiveness by engaging in winter activities. In particular, snow football ranks right up at the top of the list of backyard winter sports. One needs only to take a single glance at the football field behind the Health Enhancement Center to know that restless students have adapted this sport to the silver fir trees. There are footsteps fossilized into the frozen snow leading up to the locked gate, a short gap, then a chaotic mess of prints and divots embedded in the ground.

"It's the perfect leveling field," said sophomore Dave Fredrick, a frequent player of snow football. "I usually play ... probably, once a week. It's a fun workout."

Fredrick gathers anywhere from 10-20 guys at a time to play during the late afternoon or on weekends when nothing else is going on. It has a tantalizing element to it that many people find hard to resist.

Andy Wagenbach, a self-proclaimed winter sports enthusiast, shared one of his most memorable experiences with enthusiasm. "I was on a team from Burroughs Hall, and we were playing against Knutzen Hall," he began, eyes ablaze with excitement as he recounted his tale.

"My buddy Seth shouted, 'Andy, go deep. We're going to loft it out to you,' and let me just say that I am not a quick person, so I took off as fast as my little legs could take me! I got to the end-zone, and he lofted it way, way too far. So, I just dove straight out, stretching to my limit, but I totally didn't get there.

"The funny part about it was that we were playing in the field in the middle of all four halls in the North Debot quad, and I landed on the sidewalk. This is when there was like, six or seven inches of snow. It was like in the movies when someone hits the ground. They just stop, and their feet fly over their head."

"I came to a skidding stop because the ground doesn't give way, but all the bones in my body did ... That was all pretty insane."

Walking in someone else's shoes

A lesson in diversity well-learned

By Valerie Polacek
Pointlife Contributor

Multiculturalism is a difficult concept to grasp for many people. However, no one understands it better than DuWayne Brooks, the director of multicultural student services at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill.

"Multiculturalism means walking in someone else's shoes," said Brooks.

Brooks held an interactive, informative presentation to a small crowd in the Alumni Room in the University Center on Tuesday, Dec. 1 in celebration of the 'Take Affirmative Action Week.'

"I had heard that DuWayne's style was to do participatory workshops, and I was delighted when that was the direction he took," said Karlene Ferrante, a UW-SP professor and audience member for Brooks' presentation.

Brooks had an energetic demeanor as he shared his passion for multiculturalism with his attentive listeners.

"I am not a minor; I am not less than you. Do not refer to me as that," said Brooks to his audience during the workshop.

Brooks continually stressed the importance of keeping a broad perspective when it comes to multiculturalism.

"We do not judge. Everyone has a right to their decision, whether we feel it is right or wrong," said Brooks.

He included many interactive simulations that allowed his audience to explore themselves as individuals. Most of the activities were to teach people how they can have so much in common with someone, even if they don't necessarily look the same or have the same cultural backgrounds.

"You've got to get below the surface to see who the Lexus's are and who the wild flowers are," said Brooks in response to an activity he developed for the workshop.

In this exercise the audience was to identify one of two inanimate objects. Then they were to explain why they thought this way as Brooks chose some participants to share their feelings.

There was one game in particular that stood out among audience members like Ferrante.

"I was most impressed by one exercise in which participants all stood in a line in the back of the room and stepped forward momentarily if our answer to the question posed was 'yes,'" said Ferrante.

The game included a series of random personal questions to the audience. They were simple 'yes or no' questions that were designed to set the audience apart by personal experiences, not by their cultural differences.

"It was amazing to see who stepped up when you did, and how much more aware you could become of shared experiences, with people who may look so different," said Ferrante.

The popular sport undergoes a powerful transformation when fresh snow is brought into the picture. It acts as a cushion that alleviates the pain of brutal tackles, and it adds a significant handicap to even experienced football players.

"It evens out the playing field," explained Fredrick. People who can run fast find themselves hindered by the thick snow. Athletes with high endurance find themselves weighted down, and nobody can obtain satisfactory traction.

Many people prefer playing football in the snow as opposed to the grass, but it is difficult to put a finger on why. "You know, it has that appeal ... like the Polar Plunge," commented Ben Morris, a resident of Burroughs Hall.

No matter what your reason for enjoying games in the snow is—be it the even playing field, the soft ground, the change in atmosphere, or the opportunity to expend that store of excess energy—a consensus seems to agree that it is an enjoyable pastime.

DuWayne Brooks may return this spring for another eye-opening workshop on multiculturalism.

"The participation of the crowd was great; however, the turnout was disappointing. The Alumni Room was filled with chairs, but only seated a crowd of roughly 20-30 people."

The Alumni Room was certainly not a very busy time of year, and I'm not sure there was enough advance publicity on campus.

see Brooks, page 7
The female orgasm comes to Stevens Point

Sex education is covered in an entirely new and comedic way

By Alli Himle

Pointlife Reporter

The topic of discussion: the female orgasm. A topic neither frequently discussed nor acknowledged resulted in an overflowed Laird Room Tuesday evening. Laughter and comedic light came to the forefront as the subject of human sexuality, specifically, female arousal, was discussed openly and freely.

Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller - two married sex educators who have given over 150 presentations around the country covering an array of topics from sexuality, relationships, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender issues - were the evening's presenters. Both Solot and Miller became interested in the subject of sexuality while students at Brown University. What began as a women-only event has transpired into an event encompassing all genders, as men began to express their interest in the program as well. Together, their topic of the female orgasm has encouraged countless students across the country to no longer shy away from an issue that they are frequently taught to repress.

"Orgasms are a fun topic to talk about in terms of sexuality as well as for health reasons."

"Orgasms are a fun topic to talk about in terms of sexuality as well as for health reasons," Solot said as an intro into their presentation. By beginning so openly, Solot and Miller had captivated the audience with a simple, yet true, phrase. In fact, the subject of the female orgasm is a topic of interest to a great many, as was evident by the over 700 students in the audience at this event.

In order to understand the female dimension of sexuality it must first be realized that sex and sexual stimulation is not something to shy away from. Girls are often taught how to say no. Frequently girls are educated on sexual assault and negative and/or unwanted sexual experiences.

Yet, it is often never mentioned to these girls that sex can also feel right and be enjoyable for them. Eventually these women get to the point when they want to say "yes". And it is at this point that a woman must embrace her body and realize what it is that she needs in order to feel sexual fulfillment, whether that be by themselves or with a partner.

Towards the middle of the presentation, Solot and Miller separated the males and females by relocating the males into the Encore. It was at this point that both genders where given an open forum in which to discuss their own personal experiences and misconceptions related to both masturbation and the female orgasm. After a period of roughly 15 minutes, the audience reconvened to discuss what had been brought up in the two forums. Hands began to rise as members of both genders wanted the opposing gender to hear them out in regard to their misconceptions.

The males seemed to come to a consensus that communication and honesty are the fundamentals in a successful and sexually fulfilling relationship. Women, on the other hand, seemed to emphasize the importance of what takes place prior to intercourse, as one woman voiced in the crowd, "Foreplay, foreplay, foreplay."

Solot and Miller concluded their presentation by detailing the phases of arousal in addition to Solot detailing her own helpful steps to the perfect female orgasm. As they mentioned, it is of particular importance that males and females realize that both reach orgasms and sexual fulfillment in entirely different ways. The average male takes two to five minutes to reach an orgasm. On the other hand, the average female can take upwards of 20 minutes. Often what is depicted on television and in movies in terms of both partners reaching orgasm at the same time is generally not the case. Yes, it can occur, but both partners are stimulated in different ways. Partners need to take the initiative to be open and discuss what it is that their partner needs to do or, better yet, what they are doing right.

As Jam I Kaiser, a senior at UW-SP said, "I don't think there is enough information for women on orgasms. It is commonly a hush-hush subject."

"Solot and Miller are well-known and highly respected speakers. They bring new light to a subject that most do not even acknowledge," said Christopher Johll, president of the Gay/ Straight Alliance, one of the organizations sponsoring this event.

It goes without saying that human sexuality was certainly covered in a new light at this program. Students felt comfortable in sharing their own experiences and raising their own questions in hopes of gaining insight into a topic that is often avoided.

Miller had one final wish to offer to the audience members upon leaving, "Good health and plenty of orgasms." For, in the end, all forms of sexuality became embroiled - from those that would be practicing what they learned that very night, to those that were waiting for marriage.

"Preaching to the choir is not a bad thing. It lets me know there are interested people out there and that makes me feel like I'm doing my job," said Brooks.

For those of you interested in learning more about diversity and multiculturalism, plans for Brooks' return were discussed for this spring. He expressed his thanks to the audience and hopes to see everyone back in the Alumni Room this spring along with those who missed his presentation.

"The Female Orgasm was sponsored by Centerentertainment Productions, Gay/Straight Alliance, the College Feminists, the Women's Resource Center, and Infinity Syndicate.

Dorian Solot speaks to the hundreds of men and women eager to discuss their sexuality. Solot, along with Marshall Miller encouraged them not to shy away from the subject.

Students packed themselves into the Laird Room by the masses to discuss orgasms.

Check out next week's Pointlife page for full coverage on hot events such as The Seven Deadly Sins, Centerentertainment's Fear Factor based challenge.
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****PROUD SPONSOR OF SAFE RIDE HOME****
Super Bowl Preview: The odds are stacked against virgin eagles

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

With the Super Bowl this Sunday and all the game footage broken down, Adam Wise analyzes the Philadelphia Eagles' chances of defeating the New England Patriots.

Why they will win:
Congratulations Philadelphia Eagles, the hard part is over. That's right, after finally getting past the NFC Championship game after a fourth try, the Super Bowl should be a piece of cake. Wrong. While it may not be the popular pick, there are several ways for the Eagles to become victorious on this night that isn't expected to be overshadowed by anyone's right breast.

On the heels of his best effort yet, the 04/05 season was one to remember for Donovan McNabb. His 3,875 yards passing, 64.0-completion percentage, and 31 touchdowns are all career bests. Add to that, he threw only eight interceptions that was a main reason for such an ascent for McNabb this season. Just because Owens might walk onto the field wearing the proper padding and protective gear that is required to battle the Eagles' chances of winning, Owens must compete at a high level to become the difference maker he proved to be so many times during the regular season. If he runs a couple routes on one foot and it is visible to everyone he isn't near 100 percent, then Bill Belichick and Romeo Crennel will be able to concentrate on other facets of the Eagles offense.

That other facet being the Eagles' offense. Brian Westbrook. There are already reports coming out of Jacksonville that Westbrook might be placed into one of his old positions and will return punts during the game. While Westbrook hasn't returned punts for a few years, this is the Super Bowl and you have to compete with your most talented players.

Why they will lose:

There are probably many things I could single out as leaning towards favoring the Patriots in this battle between the NFC and AFC, but lets stick to the basics.

The New England Patriots have won two out of the last three Super Bowl's. This is a fact that cannot be disputed, but what is interesting is that in each of those successful seasons, the teams' starting running back was Antonio Smith.

While Smith proved to be a serviceable running back (he does have two rings, doesn't he?), you could say the Patriots locked up a return to the Super Bowl soon after last year's season finale when they completed a trade for Corey Dillon.

Dillon had career highs in attempts (345), yards (1,635), and touchdowns (12) this past season on just what was the NFL's best returning team. Some of the personal accolades can go to Tom Brady as well.

I've been a University of Michigan football fan since I was a child and I never saw this kid amounting to so much so quickly in the NFL during his career. A man that can make the 40-yard dash against some of the larger defensive linemen in the NFL seem like high drama doesn't grade well into becoming an accomplished quarterback at the next level.

Yet, the man is undefeated in the playoffs and proves his critics wrong every single time they bet against the kid. Beyond Dillon and Brady, the team is littered with talent that just seems to max out and produce every single Sunday.

But, the Patriots go farther then just individual players playing a team's game to perfection. It is all about the system. How else can you explain it?

When a team inserts a wide receiver into their defensive backfield due to a rash of injuries to the position and still annihilates the greatest offense the NFL has ever seen (they proved that they were on a completely different level of execution when they played the Colts a few weeks ago), somebody knows how to study game film and prepare their team to play each and every week.

Prediction:

I'm a believer. I picked against the Patriots three years ago and again last year, but I won't make that mistake again. The Eagles have a very good blitzing defense, but a blitz doesn't help if the other team is able to run the ball. I believe Corey Dillon will take control of this game and the Patriots begin cement their places in history (with possibly a few more Super Bowl victories on the horizon as well). Also, Tom Brady will draw even more comparisons to Joe Montana as one of the game's best clutch performing quarterbacks in the history of the NFL.

Final score: New England 10, Philadelphia 27
Pointers keep on rolling with two non-conference wins

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

The UW-SP women’s hockey squad is no stranger to success. With a trip to the Frozen Four last year, the Pointers know what it takes to win.

Women’s Hockey

More recently, UW-SP has been on a tear, going 8-2 since Jan. 1. At 7-0 in the NCHA, the Pointers remain unbeaten in conference play.

Last week, the Pointers squared off in two non-conference games. The first contest was a match up with Augustsburg College at Ice Hawks Arena on Jan. 29. Three of the Pointers’ four goals came on the power play, as UW-SP pulled out a 4-3 win over Augsburg.

Ashley Howe collected two goals against the Aggies, her 12th and 13th of the year. Howe’s goal at the 18:18 mark in the third period was the game-winner for the Pointers.

Kim Lunneberg and Lisa Goergen assisted on two goals apiece for UW-SP as well. The Pointers out-shot the Aggies 38-15 in the game.

In the second game over the weekend, UW-SP took on rival Gustavus Adolphus College. The Pointers defeated the Gusties last year in the NCAA quarterfinals, but lost to them on Jan. 9, 6-4. The two teams ranked as the best two programs in the West region.

The Pointers took the lead early in the contest on a goal by Goergen at the 11:25 mark of the first period. Both teams were held in check through the rest of the first. In the second, the Pointer offense erupted, accounting for three scores in the period. Jackie Schmitt and Katy Lankey each scored a goal and noted an assist in the second period, and Howe collected her 14th goal of the season to round out Pointer scoring in the second frame.

Kelly Crandall scored the only Gustie goal of the game in the third period and the Pointers added a score as well to take the win by the score of 5-1.

The Pointers moved to 17-2 overall with the victories and move up one spot to fourth in the USCHO Division III poll. The Pointers look ahead to this weekend’s home battles with conference foes UW-Superior and UW-River Falls. Superior is currently ranked ninth in the nation and UW-RF is currently placed second in the NCHA standings.

 Kemp Lunneberg sends away from the opposing squads in the West region. Photo by Holly Sanders.

Senior on the Spot

Nick Bennett - Basketball

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

Chelsea Kranz
Women’s Basketball

Kranz scored a career-best 15 points against UW-Stout. She was six-for-seven from the field, and made three of four free throw attempts. She also had three rebounds, one block and one steal.

Joel Burdick
Wrestling

The junior defeated Larry Silva of UW-Parkside 9-3 in the Pointers’ dual meet victory on Wednesday. He then edged sixth-ranked Nick Karls of UW-Whitewater 3-2. Karls had defeated Burdick twice last season.

Pointer Athletes of the Week

Chloe Kranz
Women’s Basketball

Bennett

Men’s Basketball

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

Three days after relinquishing the second-most points of the season (73, Marquette scored 78 in the exhibition opener) against UW-Platteville where sharp-shooter Brad Reitner scored 31 points, UW-SP had to square off against the other team they were tied with in the WIAC.

Having already beaten UW-Stout once this season, the Pointers figured to have the psychological advantage heading into the game. That advantage seemed to take 20 minutes to show up.

The game, which featured seven ties and four lead changes, was close for the majority of the game until the midway stages of the second half when the Pointers took the lead for good on a Kyle Grusczynski jump shot with 12:28 left in the second half to obtain a 43-41 lead.

UW-S, who shot nearly 47 percent in the first half, was only able to convert on 27 percent of its field goals in the second half.

Ryan Stengel and Adam Chandler, UW-S’s leading scorers this year, were held to 9-25 from the field for only 26 points.

Meanwhile, the Pointers were led by 27 points from Nick Bennett and 21 points from Jason Kalsow. Eric Maus tied for his season high of 11 rebounds to go along with eight points.

The Pointers have a week off before their next contest against UW-Eau Claire this Saturday at 5:30 p.m. This will kick off a two-week homestand for the Pointers which will contain four home games before ending the conference season against UW-Oshkosh on Feb. 16.

Ryan Kalsow
THE Pointer

The Pointers moved to 17-2 overall with the victories and move up one spot to fourth in the USCHO Division III poll.
After dropping a pair of games on the road to St. Norbert and Lake Forest College, the UW-SP men's hockey team was able to come away with one win this past weekend in a home series rematch to improve to 2-0 on Saturday night. St. Norbert and Lake Forest 3-2 on Friday night.

UW-SP's Vernelli was able to get the Pointers on the board in the second period.

The tempo of the game shifted early in the third period with fights breaking out between the two teams, resulting in a total of 50 penalty minutes being issued in the third period alone. Ryan Kirchoff was able to notch a second goal for UW-SP midway through the final period, before freshman goaltender Bryn Davies gave up SNC's final goal with 18 seconds remaining.

UW-SP remains in fourth place with nine points, just one point ahead of Lake Forest in the NCHA standings. The team looks to improve on this past weekend as they close out their regular season home schedule this weekend hosting the College of St. Scholastica on Saturday night.

By Kelly Vant
SPORTS EDITOR

Women's Basketball

As the Pointers embarked on last week's schedule, senior forward Amanda Nechuta set her sights on becoming the leading scorer in UW-SP's history. In last Tuesday's contest against UW-Platteville, Nechuta, needing only seven points for the record, earned the top spot as the Pointers clinched victory with a 68-48 win.

The Pointers dominated the post in the game, scoring 50 points in the paint. UW-SP shot an impressive 57.1 percent from the field in the game compared to the Pointers' 27.6 percent. Nechuta notched 19 in the contest, as well as eight rebounds while Natalie Lechault also finished in double figures for the Pointers with 10 points. Nechuta is also competing for the all-time WIAC scoring crown. She trails the current record held by UW-Eau Claire's La Crosse's pool. The Pointer men's team emerged with a 145-96 victory, but the women's men's team emerged with a 14-56 victory, but the women's women's team emerged with a 14-56 victory, but the women's.

The Pointers held a 14-point lead in hostile territory with just over 10 minutes left in the second half, but couldn't hold off the persistence of the Blue Devils. A last second shot by UW-S's Molly Hendricks took the game into overtime, where the Blue Devils connected on 9-13 shots from the charity stripe to pull away and collect a 76-68 triumph.

Cassandra Schultz and Chelsea Kranz earned 15 points each for UW-SP in the losing effort.

The Pointers rebounded from the WIAC loss with a convincing victory over the Northland College Lumberjills. UW-SP responded by rolling over Northland with a 33-point win, 78-45.

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The Pointers now stand at 155 points. Meinholz played for the all-time WIAC scoring crown. She trails the current record held by UW-Eau Claire's La Crosse's pool. The Pointer men's team emerged with a 145-96 victory, but the women's men's team emerged with a 14-56 victory, but the women's.

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

Diving

The UW-SP women's basketball team started off strong last week with a WIAC win and a personal accolade, suffered a tough loss against a ranked conference rival, and bounced back with a commanding victory over a non-conference foe.

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By Matthew Inda
SPORTS REPORTER

Swimming

The Pointer swim and dive teams were in rough water this weekend in conference rival La Crosse's pool. The Pointer men's team emerged with a 145-96 victory, but the women's men's team emerged with a 14-56 victory, but the women's.

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Super Bowl Preview: Experience alone may lead Pats to another title

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

The word ‘dynasty’ has been thrown around a lot after the New England Patriots routed the Pittsburgh Steelers in the AFC championship game to earn their third trip to the Super Bowl in the last four years.

Many of the key players on the previous Patriot squads, like Tom Brady, Adam Vinatieri and Tedy Bruschi, are still members of the team and are looking for the third title in franchise history.

While dynasties of old may have a more nostalgic aura about them, the New England Patriots have the experience and talent to claim the Vince Lombardi Trophy once again in Jacksonville this coming Sunday evening.

The strength that the AFC champions possess over the Philadelphia Eagles is the fact that the players and coaches from New England have been down this road before and will be able to handle the pressures and media that surround Super Bowl week. Patriots quarterback Tom Brady has two Super Bowl MVP awards under his belt, while kicker Adam Vinatieri has drilled two game-winning field goals in past championship games.

The Patriots also have more overall talent than their opponents, something that usually gets overlooked. The Patriots are often viewed as a great team with players who mesh well together, but lack the talent to excel in another system. This argument can be debated with stats alone. Brady has passed over 3,500 yards in the last three seasons, collecting 79 touchdown passes and only 40 interceptions in that same span.

The off-season acquisition of running back Corey Dillon has given the Patriots a balanced offensive attack. Dillon, in his first year in New England, piled up career-highs in yards with 1,635 and rushing touchdowns with 12.

Off-the-field, the Patriots are guided by some of the best coaches in the game today. Bill Belichick heads a staff that runs a very successful system and keeps his players in order. Coordinators Romeo Crennel and Charlie Weis are both heading to head coaching jobs this off-season. If the staff can keep their minds on the game and off of new opportunities, the coaching advantage leans toward the New England Patriots.

The glaring weakness for the Patriots is the injury-depleted secondary. Corners Asante Samuel, Ty Law and Tyrone Poole are both on injured reserve. Their replacements, rookie Randall Gay and Asante Samuel, have performed well in past weeks, shutting down the high powered Indianapolis Colts in the divisional round of the playoffs.

Still, the inexperience of the corners will be tested once again, especially if Terrell Owens is able to compete at a high level for the Eagles. The more T.O. spoke as the week wore on, his confidence in being that playmaker he sees himself as is wavering. He seems to be a little concerned about how the team will use him if he is, in fact, available for the big game.

Many people in the media are claiming that Super Bowl XXXIX will be highly contested and may come down to the wire. If the game is a nip-and-tuck battle, the Pats won’t mind: That is how they won their last two titles after all.

The Patriots look too tough to beat and are more experienced than the Eagles. Owens’ leg has been talked about more than anything else in Jacksonville this week. Despite being seven point favorites, the Patriots seem to be an underdog of sorts in this game. After the final whistle sounds, however, the “underdogs” may become the “dynasty.”

Prediction: Patriots - 31 Eagles - 16

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New semester offers new “Edventures”

By Joel Borski
OUTDOORS EDITOR

UW-SP outdoorsmen and women, fear not! The fun of winter break does not have to be just a distant memory. Though classes may slightly slow our ability to get out and enjoy the second half of the season, there are a multitude of opportunities for fun right at our fingertips. As been reported in previous issues, Outdoor Edventures is a great place to start. Veteran Pointers are likely already aware of what “Edventures” offers, but for any new students, allow me to shed some light on the subject.

Located in the lower level of the Allen Center, right here on campus, Outdoor Edventures offers UW-SP students and faculty a multitude of outdoor rental equipment, courses and trips to choose from and partake in. If you’re looking for anything from skis to skates, or tents to canoes, you’re likely able to find it there.

Here’s what’s on the agenda for the upcoming weeks:

Ice Skating
Feb. 5, 1-3:30 p.m. Learn how to ice skate, and spend a relaxing afternoon ice skating at the Allen Center Rink. Price includes skate rentals, and refreshments.

Price: $3 with skate rental, $1 w/o skate rental.

Sign-up deadline: Feb 4, 6 p.m.

Snowshoe Weaving
Feb. 10, 5-9 p.m. and 16, 7-9 p.m.

This hands-on experience will teach you how to weave your own snowshoes! Choose from Bearpaw, Alaskan, Ojibwa, or Huron styles. Price includes the snowshoe kit of your choice, instruction, hot beverages, and a warm atmosphere.

Price: $130.

Sign-up deadline: Feb 11, 6 p.m.

Porcupine Mountains Winter Camping
Feb. 11-13

Come along on an adventure into the snow-covered hemlock and yellow birch forest of the Porcupine Mountains! We’ll be instructing y’all on how to stay alive in nature’s worst (or best?) while camping in and snowshoeing through the pristine wilderness of “da U.P.” The trip will be physically demanding, tolerating the extreme winter weather conditions. No previous winter camping experience necessary.

Price: $65

Sign-up deadline: Feb. 9th, 6 p.m.

Granite Peak Snowboarding
Feb. 24, 5-10 p.m.

Enjoy an evening on the slopes. Perfect your 270 and rail, or enjoy cruisin’ the long, winding trails. Experience is required as we will not provide formal training. The price includes van transportation. Lift tickets ($2 for 1 price at $72) and rentals ($38) are extra.

Price: $50

For more information e-mail Ashley Atkinson at aatkil22@uwsp.edu or call 346-3843.

193,000 permits issued for 2005 spring turkey season

DNR Press Release

MADISON - More than 193,000 permits have been issued for the spring 2005 Wisconsin wild turkey season. Postcard notifications to successful applicants are in the process of being mailed. Only successful applicants receive notification of their permit via postcard. Hunters who do not receive a postcard by mid-February can check the DNR web site or call a DNR Service Center to find out the status of their permit application.

The spring hunting season will run from April 13-May 22. The season is divided into six, five-day (Wednesday through Sunday) time periods. A total of 43 zones, 15 state parks and Fort McCoy will be open for hunting.

There were 185,369 permits issued for the 2004 spring season; Hunters harvested 17,477 turkeys for a success rate of about 25 percent.

Hunters are reminded that Fort McCoy runs a separate spring turkey hunting season, Postcard notifications to successful applicants are in the process of being mailed. Only successful applicants receive notification of their permit via postcard. Hunters who do not receive an authorization to hunt turkeys in a Wisconsin turkey hunting zone for the spring 2005 season are eligible to apply for a spring permit at Fort McCoy. Applications can be obtained from Fort McCoy by calling (608) 388-3337 or visiting their Web site: http://www.mcco.army.mil.

“Winter survival should be good this year,” said Andrea Mezera, assistant upland wildlife ecologist for the Department of Natural Resources. “Snow cover and cold have been moderate and as long as there is access to ample food supply, turkeys can handle nearly any Wisconsin winter.”

Mezera says turkeys can remain in roosting areas for up to two weeks during especially severe weather and can lose up to 40 percent of their body weight before dying of starvation.

“Biologically,” she said, “artificial feeding is not the best approach to helping wild turkeys. Long-term habitat management aimed at increasing the suitability to turkeys year-round as well as during extremes of winter is the best investment.”

Three new state park properties will again be open for this spring’s turkey hunting season. This includes Interstate, Willow River, and Newport State Parks. Successful applicants for the spring 2005 drawing in zones 34 and 37, time periods A-C are eligible to apply for a second drawing by March 1st for a limited number of access authorization permits. Eligible applicants will be mailed drawing information. If selected, they will be allowed access to the park during the time period in which they hold a valid permit/carcass tag. This does not authorize the harvest of an additional turkey.

For more information check out the DNR web site or call Andrea Mezera at (608) 261-8458.

Mercury - The "new lead"

By Hillary Bulger
OUTDOORS REPORTER

In November, Joel Borski wrote an article about the dangers of mercury contamination. In the fabulously written article, Borski reported that both the Department of Health and Family Services and the Department of Natural Resources recommended limiting fish consumption, the main source of mercury in human diets. The recommendations are based upon safety guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA’s current safety guidelines are largely based on data from an extensive mercury study in the North Atlantic’s Faroe Islands. A recent, more sophisticated analysis of the data from the study has raised questions about the EPA’s guidelines.

Scientists have long known that people who eat a lot of fish generally have higher levels of mercury in their bodies, but it was only recently that they became concerned about it. The increasing mercury levels exist because of industry, especially coal-burning power plants. Though mercury does exist naturally, levels have more than doubled over the last 200 years. Microbes found in water react with mercury emissions to form methylmercury, which is the most toxic type of mercury. The methylmercury is then passed up the food chain until it reaches humans.

Once in humans, mercury affects the brain, as lead does, leading some scientists to dub mercury “the new lead.” Like lead, mercury impairs intelligence and brain functions and the effects are permanent. Mercury can also cause hair loss, headaches, difficulty concentrating and cardiovascular problems. In developing fetuses, mercury causes lower IQs and learning disabilities. The EPA reports that in the United States as many as one in every six children is exposed to more mercury than the current safety levels recommend.

The current safety levels may not actually be safe at all. The more scientists study mercury, the more they are finding that it subtly affects the brain at lower and lower levels. A re-evaluation of the Faroe Study data found that substantially lower amounts of mercury can cause fetal brain damage than previously thought. Dr. Philippe Grandjean, head of the Faroe Study, thinks the EPA should cut its recommendation for the amount of mercury a person can ingest each day in half.

Two members of the National Academy of Scientists also recommended that the EPA consider changing its guidelines.

There is a proposal on the table in Washington that would reduce mercury emissions 70 percent by 2018, but the EPA reports that compliances will delay results until 2025. Other critics of the proposal say it would be possible, with existing technology, to cut emissions at least 70 percent by 2010.

Until emissions are reduced significantly, be aware of how much and what kind of fish you eat. Shark, swordfish, some species of tuna, and other larger, predatory fish contain the highest levels of mercury and should be avoided. The EPA recommends eating no more than one can of “albacore” tuna a week, though the Environmental Working Group recommends no more than one can a month. Canned “light” tuna has less mercury than canned “albacore” and is a much better choice.

Weekend Weather Outlook:

Friday: Partly Cloudy
High: 40
Low: 22

Saturday: Partly Cloudy
High: 40
Low: 31

Sunday: Rain/Snow Showers
High: 38
Low: 20
Wisconsin's “new” state forest

By Hilary Bulger

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is currently in the planning stage of a state forest project. This planning is coordinated with the adjacent Governor Thompson State Park, which is also a new addition to the state parks and forests system.

Located about 60 miles north of Green Bay, Peshtigo is over 9,000 acres of land, with 3,000 acres of water, and 70 miles of shoreline. Peshtigo is made up of the waters and islands of the Peshtigo River, including the Caldon Rocks, High Falls, and Johnson Falls. The river flows and surrounding forests.

The main trees found in the forest include aspen, northern pine oak, red pine, white pine, and maple. These particular trees dominate the forest because they can all thrive in the dry, sandy soil that Peshtigo offers. Aspen and northern pine oak make up approximately 60 percent of the forest, but is the red pine that usually steals the attention. Red pines offer a respite and are very large and are beautiful, stunning trees.

The master planning process includes defining park and forest areas and developing special use areas, amenities, campgrounds and marked trails. The DNR is paralleling planning of Peshtigo and Governor Thompson to ensure the forest and park are compatible and complimentary. The master plan for Governor Thompson was approved by the Natural Resources Board in September. The DNR's goals in development include: managing the shoreline zones to maintain and enhance their natural, undeveloped scenic quality, especially those visible from the Peshtigo River and its inflows, protecting the mainline of the rivers and the lands down river from any future development; and guaranteeing that the area will be maintained in its predominately natural condition.

Peshtigo is open for hunting deer, bear, turkey, grouse, and waterfowl, as are most state forests. There are sixteen boat landings which make the river accessible for fishing, water-skiing, rafting, canoeing and kayaking. Horseback riding is permitted on forest roads, and ATVs are allowed on some of the forest's snowmobile trails. Until the planning is done and campgrounds built, camping is not allowed on forest ground except for at the few canoe campsites along the river. There are several private and public campgrounds nearby that day users of the forest can stay at.

The DNR property manager for Peshtigo, Dan Mertz, reports from the Peshtigo River that the special use of wilderness in the forest is reminiscent of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness of Minnesota. The BWCA, Mertz said one of the best ways to enjoy the forest is through canoe or kayak travel on the river. Peshtigo offers both quiet and white water, as well as some of the most scenic fly fishing in the state.

Peshtigo is a great addition to state land and will be a treasure enjoyed for generations. The river stretch through the forest is free of development and the DNR will make sure it stays that way. Take some time later this year and go check out the newest addition to the parks and forests, especially deer hunters looking for that trophy buck. Just make sure to remove all stands at the end of each hunting day and do not damage or cut any of the beautiful trees.

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"The idea that people can ever be themselves in an authentic and verifiable way just doesn't hold water."

By Andrew Burt

TV on the Radio: Desperate Youth, Blood Tired Babes

Hands down—the most original record of the year. TV on the Radio has ambient fashions! such as Mission of Burma (loops, fuzz, etc.), but backs them up with an amazing sound sensitivity. Leonard Cohen sadness permeates this recording. Tunde Adebimpe’s vocals sound far away, but still immediate, luting the listener into a false sense of security. But maybe it isn’t so false. His cracking voice-echo parts Tom Waits and Otis Redding seems young, yet wise beyond his years. David Sike and other musicians provide the background vibe. Guitars and keyboards meander throughout this recording creating a satisfying musical feeling that has you humming long after the record is over.

Post punk meets 60’s Motown shouldn’t work, but TV on the Radio makes these disparate styles seem like best friends. The listener is left with deep, dark landscapes that are more friendly than scary. Lyrically these songs are simplistic, but that is why they work. In “Dreams,” Adebimpe sings “all your dreams are over now and all your wings have fallen down.” This isn’t true for TV on the Radio. Their dreams and uniqueness are just finding a foothold. The lyrics, next to the rich, thoughtful music, project a stark and not so positive reality. Our country is falling inward on itself and our generation is trying to find a place in the post 9/11 world. “Staring at the Sun” and “You Could Be Love” both deal with the sadness and confusion and utter hopelessness of modern life. Politically charged songs are prominent on Desperate Youth. Blood Tired Babes, but personal politics are the focus. “Oh my own voice cannot save me now,” Adebimpe confesses in “Staring at the Sun,” but in the next song he reminds us gentle listeners that (We) “could be held so warm in these arms” that are so ultimately strong.

Maybe there is hope for the future, but there is definitely hope for the future of music, when it is in the hands of capable and truly original artists like TV on the Radio. I can’t wait to see where they go from here. They have already carved a niche for themselves. Now they just need to find the audience that they so richly deserve. “Bomb your country; indeed.”

Sparta-Porcelain Porcelain is a great record, because it transports the listener back to a simple time before The Used sold out stadiums and Dashboard Confessional was on TV. Sparta’s blend of guitars, Jim Ward’s all too familiar vocals, and muscular time shifts harkens back to the time when these songsmiths and band, At Drive-In, were kings of the hill. Back to that penultimate point before ATDI toured with Rage against the Machine and exploded all across the map. ATDIs did explode, and separated to form separate bands: Sparta, Youth That Hasn’t Already Been Slaughtered, Blood Thirsty Babes, and exploded all across the map. There was a deep, dark sadness in the audience that they so richly portrayed a world in which these arms” that are so ultimately strong.

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Sonic Nurse.

Sonic Nurse.

A Wilhelm Scream-Motor Print
This is the kind of record that kicks you in the teeth, helps clean you off, and then kicks you in the teeth again. A solid musical upercut to the jaw leaves you reeling and senseless, but still wanting more. A Wilhelm Scream makes the kind of punk that should be more popular these days. Sure, they like to have screaming followsed by singing parts, but there is no whiny emo progression here. They have developed an amazing synthesis of good lyrics combined with technical parts that are slightly metallic, but don't really verge into the metal core territory. The rhythm section moves the songs along. Sing-along choruses, catchy anthems that don't lose their appeal, and a defining蕙e of Water by way of D.B.S. feel instills their post-hardcore with new energy. It also doesn't hurt that Bill Stevenson (of the mighty All) produced this record.

The songwriting is so good that it creeps out everywhere. What does this mean? The angst of the 90's, the punk movement, the kids who listen to Blink-182 and the Ataris. Actually, it makes you wonder why bands like A Wilhelm Scream aren't considered the greatest bands in the scene today. According to their website, their name comes from a high-pitched film sound effect that originated in the 50's for the film Distant Drums, in which a character is dragged underwater by an alligator. If you haven't already heard me rave Grant Lee Buffalo, this re-release makes Grant Lee Buffalo's first solo record, (of the Almighty All) produced

Virginia Creeper

Virginia Creeper

by Rebecca Conn
ARTS AND REVIEW EDITOR

This Joel Schumacher-directed film adaptation of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's famous stage musical of the same name could have been a decent piece. It has everything a big Hollywood movie should have: a simple but pithy plot lifted from a popular novel, fancy sets and special effects, and an eager, largely unknown young cast. In fact, several Phantom movies with most of these elements have been made over the past eighty years, some of them quite good. Yet Schumacher somehow misses the mark. The Phantom of the Opera is stilted and joyless, a coldly commercial bid to wrench some more cash out of Lloyd Webber's show that is vacuous at its best, unwatchable at its worst. The rather diffidently-handled plot tells the story of Christine (Rossum), an orphaned young singer at the Paris Opera of the late 19th century who is given voice lessons by a disenchanted presence she thinks is an angel but others call a ghost. Of course, it's the Phantom (Butler), a dis-figured musical genius who hides away in the bowels of the theatre. His obsessive love for Christine incites the ire and concern of her tin soldier of a childhood sweetheart, Raoul (Wilson), and trips to the Phantom's New Romantic hair, a highly anachronistic sword-fight, and overweight mask-and-rose symbolism ensue. Through it all, Rossum pours and sings all the beauty and calmness of a bisque doll, while Butler, an unnervingly pretty Phantom, snors and furls his cape.

There is some good in all of this. The film does a fair job of highlighting Christine's confliction between her religious and professional obligations and her personal desires, and some of the musical numbers, like "Prima Donna," are genuinely fun. Even the Phantom's disappointing makeup helps promote the idea that Christine rejects him not because of his looks, but because he's a dangerously obsessed stalker. This doesn't do anything to preserve the coherence of the second act, or to make anyone care about what happens in the end. The film is too calculated, right down to the crushed chandelier. Better to shell out for the musical, or read the book and stay home.

Butler, Patrick Wilson, Minnie Driver

The Phantom of the Opera

This Joel Schumacher-directed film adaptation of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's famous stage musical of the same name could have been a decent piece. It has everything a big Hollywood movie should have: a simple but pithy plot lifted from a popular novel, fancy sets and special effects, and an eager, largely unknown young cast. In fact, several Phantom movies with most of these elements have been made over the past eighty years, some of them quite good. Yet Schumacher somehow misses the mark. The Phantom of the Opera is stilted and joyless, a coldly commercial bid to wrench some more cash out of Lloyd Webber's show that is vacuous at its best, unwatchable at its worst. The rather diffidently-handled plot tells the story of Christine (Rossum), an orphaned young singer at the Paris Opera of the late 19th century who is given voice lessons by a disenchanted presence she thinks is an angel but others call a ghost. Of course, it's the Phantom (Butler), a dis-figured musical genius who hides away in the bowels of the theatre. His obsessive love for Christine incites the ire and concern of her tin soldier of a childhood sweetheart, Raoul (Wilson), and trips to the Phantom's New Romantic hair, a highly anachronistic sword-fight, and overweight mask-and-rose symbolism ensue. Through it all, Rossum pours and sings all the beauty and calmness of a bisque doll, while Butler, an unnervingly pretty Phantom, snors and furls his cape.

There is some good in all of this. The film does a fair job of highlighting Christine's confliction between her religious and professional obligations and her personal desires, and some of the musical numbers, like "Primadonna," are genuinely fun. Even the Phantom's disappointing makeup helps promote the idea that Christine rejects him not because of his looks, but because he's a dangerously obsessed stalker. This doesn't do anything to preserve the coherence of the second act, or to make anyone care about what happens in the end. The film is too calculated, right down to the crushed chandelier. Better to shell out for the musical, or read the book and stay home.

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I guess not sir.

High-CLASS-Living

I always wanted an indoor fountain.

Resident'S Evil

By Joy

Hey! You're that Andre guy's roommate, right?

"A in speed. A in accuracy. A in pranking. And in reaction! Here's your diploma, congratulations!" (Good luck on your finals everyone!)

How does he do that?!!!

The Old Man

Do you have a thoughtful question for the old man?

Theoldman@email.com

Thanks to Games For Today's Question

Welcome, Youngone! Don't you have a question for me?

Sitting on cold stone day after day, the biggest problem as I see it is... hemorrhoids.

Yes, Old Man. Can you tell me what the biggest problem is today?

But this inflatable donut really helps!
### Classifieds

#### Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Lake</td>
<td>Apartments 2005/2006 3 BD Apts for grps of 3-5, 1+ BA, App., A/C, Extra storage, On-site laundry, On-site maintenance, responsive managers. Starting at $690.00/mo. 340-9858 (Brian)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing Available for 2005-2006 Close to Campus. Some with garages. Can accommodate 1-8 people. Contact Pat at Anda Properties 715-343-1798</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Available Now! 1209A Franklin St. 3 Bedroom upper near Campus Only $800/semester/student 342-9682</td>
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<td>1 Bedroom Furnished Apts. 1233 Franklin St. Includes heat-water-AC-garage. Available June and Sept. $445/month 344-2899</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Rent 2005-2006 Nice Housing, 2 blocks from campus. 4 bedroom, max of 6 students. Parking available. Steve of Cara Kartenbach 1-866-346-3590 (toll free)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>House for 2005-2006 4-6 People, 6 bedrooms. Laundry, Dishwasher, Parking. Close to Campus 715-342-0309</td>
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<td>2004-2005 School year Newly remodeled house on Division for 5. Parking, Laundry, 2 bath. Must See! 341-0412</td>
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<td>Sonstra Apartment yearly or school year leases available. 1 bd. plus loft, some summer units available. 340-7047</td>
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<td></td>
<td>College Ave Duplex Close to campus 3 Bedrooms up, three bedrooms down 343-1798</td>
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<td>Cozy, comfortable and clean mobile home for sale. 2 bedroom/one bath, Stove/fridge and 8 x 10 storage shed included! Pets are accepted! 5 minutes from campus. 347-1512</td>
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<td>1 block from campus Affordable Properties Available Call 341-8242</td>
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<td>Apartment for Rent Available Immediately 2 Bedroom, very spacious, washer/dryer hook-up, parking, water/sewer, close to campus Call 344-9484</td>
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<td>FREE RENT Nov. and Dec. FREE Great Location! Nice 2 Bedroom apartment near UWSP and Downtown. $500 a month. Water included. Available Now! 715-343-1798</td>
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<td>Duplex on Main for 2005-2006 4 Bedrooms Up, 4 Bedrooms Down. Each unit includes 1 Garage. Close to campus. 343-1798</td>
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<td>Spacious House on Division for 2005-2006 Very close to campus 7 bedrooms (Licensed for 8) Large Parking lot. 343-1798</td>
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<td>1 Bedroom Furnished Apts. 1233 Franklin St. Includes heat-water-AC-garage. Available June and Sept. $445/month 344-2899</td>
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<td>SANDHILL APTS. New apartments for 2005/2006 3 &amp; 4 BD apts. for grps of 3-5. All appl., A/C, W/D, 2 BA, Patio, pre-wired for all conveniences. $200.00-$365.00/mo/tenant. 340-9858 (Brain)</td>
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<td>Campus 715-342-0309</td>
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<td>Off-Campus Housing list. offcampushousing.info Hundreds of Listings</td>
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<td>Spring Break -- Mexico From $499 Reps go Free (800) 366-4786 <a href="http://www.mazexp.com">www.mazexp.com</a></td>
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<td>Scholarships Available The School of Education announces the availability of scholarships of the 2005-2006 academic year. Application forms are available outside CPS 470. Deadline: February 21, 2005</td>
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<td>609 4th Ave. 5 bedroom house, 2 bathroom, W/D 1 stall garage available ($10/month). 1040/month + utilities available - June 4th 2005 (possible early move-in) call Tom 1-262-367-0897</td>
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<td>MVP Property Townhouses 3 Blocks from Campus 5 Bedroom, 2 Bath 9 &amp; 12 Mo. leases available. Laundry, Dishwasher, Microwave, Parking On-site Leasing for 2005-2006 Call Bernie at 341-0289</td>
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<td>Now Renting for 2005-2006 Student Housing For 1-4 Students. Many Affordable Properties Available <a href="http://www.mrmproperties.com">www.mrmproperties.com</a> 342-9982</td>
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<td>Anchor Apartments Now Leasing for 2005-2006 1 block from campus 1-5 Bedroom new and remodeled units Also: 1 Bedroom unit available January 1, 2005 Call 341-4455</td>
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<td>Housing 2005-2006 School Year 4-6 people Good location, Parking Available Call 341-8242</td>
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<td>Student Rentals Large selection of houses Also 1,2,3 &amp; 4 Bedroom Apts Within walking distance to campus Most will fill in on first showing Call today (715) 445-5111</td>
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<td>2124 Lincoln Ave. 1 block from campus, 4-5 students, 4 bedroom house - 1 br is large, private upstairs loft, 1 bathroom, W/D, 1 stall garage available ($10/month). 1040/month + utilities available - June 4th 2005 (possible early move-in) call Tom 1-262-367-0897</td>
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<td>Across from Campus Beautiful 3 story house 4-5 people 2005-2006 Sept - Aug. 341-1912 292-6319</td>
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