Changes made to SGA housing site

Web site where students can list complaints about landlords changed under threat of legal action

By Joe Pisciotto
News Reporter

Citing legal issues, the Student Government Association (SGA) has made changes to its "Landlord Compendium," a Web site that allows students to post comments about their landlords.

The compendium was launched this past fall as a forum for UW-SP students to anonymously comment on a number of topics related to their apartments and leases. Any interested party could then browse the site by the landlord's name or company to see the comments. Complaints started to roll in from landlords and the Central Wisconsin Apartment Association (CWAA).

According to Eric Krszjzaniek, communication and public relations director of SGA, CWAA threatened the university and SGA with litigation if the site was not taken down. Many landlords were concerned with libelous entries appearing on the site.

"Landlords were afraid of the open forum," said Travis Haines, CWAA board member.

Krszjzaniek did not want to give in too much. "A lot of us around here wanted to keep it anonymous to protect the students' privacy," said Krszjzaniek, "but we also realized that we could not be held accountable for their comments to worries that people who had never even rented from them might post false information on the site.

SGA agreed to pull the plug on the Web site to make changes. "The decision pretty much came from the top down," said Krszjzaniek. In order to make the change an amicable process, Krszjzaniek has been working with CWAA to find out what would be acceptable to landlords.

The new submission form addresses some of the main concerns. Instead of allowing students to freely comment on each issue related to their lease, the form asks students to assign a letter grade regarding landlord performance under eight different criteria.

Students still have an opportunity to leave an open comment, with the stipulation that their names will be published with the message. A disclaimer has been posted on the submission form that reads, "The SGA, UW-SP, and Board of Regents are not responsible for any content and all comments are assumed to be fact."

Krszjzaniek has been working with CWAA to find out what would be acceptable to landlords.

Social Security reform debate builds

By John T. Larson
News Editor

As part of an ambitious second term in office, President George W. Bush has called for an overhaul to the Social Security program, the retirement fund that many in Washington and elsewhere consider in dire need of change as millions of aging Baby Boomers start to retire and tax the ability of the system to meet its obligations.

"If things are left as they are right now, Social Security will be able to pay 75 percent of the money it owes to retirees by 2042," said Dr. Ed Miller, professor of political science at UW-SP. The controversial plan has met some resistance by congressional leaders on both sides of the political spectrum. "The Democrats are as united as they are going to get. As long as the Senate Democrats are united there is no way to defeat a filibuster on this, and while (Senate Majority Leader) Bill Frist might try to slip in a rule saying you can't filibuster a judicial nominee, he's not going to try that on an important piece of social legislation," Riley said. Some Republican lawmakers have also addressed some concerns about the potential dangers.
benefit concert at Clark Place on Sunday, Feb. 13. The concert Happy Drum Love performs as the opening act of the tsunami semester to raise money for the devastating tsunami that has claimed the lives of over 250,000 people in southeast Asia.

The Campus Beat is taking a week off for some R&R and a redesign. The continuing adventures of the men and women of the UW-SP Protective Services force will return with a fresh new look next week. Until then, pardon our dust and do your best not to

Smoking ban considered
By Marty Grosse
News Reporter

The city of Stevens Point will hold an April referendum deciding whether or not to implement a proposed ban on smoking in all city businesses, including restaurants and bars. Many local business proprietors, especially many of those who own the 55 taverns in Stevens Point, are quite concerned that legislation of this type will negatively affect their business. These owners feel that students and other customers who smoke would take their business elsewhere to avoid the no-smoking policy. Certainly tobacco and alcohol are analogous to peas and carrots, so the question is whether or not customers are willing to travel extra distances to be able to enjoy both at once. If people chose to do this, there is the possibility of there being more intoxicated drivers on the road, and smokers gathering outside bars causing excessive noise, both very undesirable ramifications of the ban.

BreatheFree, the local advocacy group for the ban, feels that the ban would benefit local consumers and employees by limiting their exposure to second-hand smoke. The ban’s supporters have a strong argument aimed at protecting workers such as wait staff and bartenders who may not be smokers, but suffer ill effects from constant exposure to the carcinogenic haze. As it stands, BreatheFree offers a list of smoke-free local businesses available to concerned consumers.

A compromise on the issue may turn out to be the final answer. A possible alternate no-smoking ordinance could only apply to establishments which earn less than 50 percent of their sales via alcohol.

This would allow bars to continue allowing smoking, while removing smokers from restaurants. Neighboring towns, such as Platteville, Whiting, and Park Ridge, are expected to emulate Stevens Point’s actions after the final decision is made. These municipalities feel that autonomously implementing a ban in their areas would be moot.

Housing site
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represent the university.” He believes students will still benefit from the compendium since the purpose of the site has always been for tenants to give an honest account of their living conditions. SGA will continue to monitor submissions for obscenity and obvious defamation of character.

Haines is satisfied with the changes and understands the need for students to have a voice to critique their landlords. While he acknowledges the possibility of landlords retaliating against tenants for comments published on the site, he believes that most landlords in the area make an attempt at running a good business. If there is any retaliation “the landlord can be held accountable in court,” he said.

The revamped site is currently up and running and any student can make a submission online. Members of SGA and CWAA will be meeting this week to discuss the possibility of further changes to the compendium.

Social Security
from page 1
of reforming the aging system, as well as the costs of transitioning some workers to private accounts while paying benefits guaranteed to those that have paid into the system.

Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) has gone on record stating some concerns and hesitination for Social Security changes, and has acknowledged that the reform process will take some time to work out between the two parties.

According to Santorum, “it’s very early in the game here. I don’t think that anyone was expecting after a few speeches by the president and a couple of trips around the country that the other side would flock to support this.”

The stopping point of the debate centers partially on the estimated $4 trillion that is not accounted for in the recently proposed federal budget, a move opposed by fiscal conservatives out of concern the only way the federal government would be able to finance such a move would be to float more public debt, a move that could have the potential to weaken the U.S. economy in the long term.

According to Miller, the money would be required to make the transition for private accounts for those that qualify while paying benefits to those guaranteed money as payroll taxes are diverted to the private accounts.

“People who are eligible for a private account, what (the government) will do is divert some of that money that is supposed to go to the Social Security fund to the private account. For those that are 55 and over, their benefits are guaranteed, and someone has to pay them.”

One way to shore up Social Security in the event reform plans do not fully match the private account vision of the president would be to raise the earnings cap on benefits. Under the current system, only the first $90,000 that an individual earns is eligible to be taxed for the Social Security fund, which generates $5,580 in payroll tax revenue per year. If the cap was raised to $200,000, a high wage earner would pay $12,400 per year into the system.

Dr. Riley said that there is room to maneuver on the issue of how to reform Social Security; it will simply require compromise by both parties. “They could haggle back and forth like used car dealers and eventually come up with a plan that is basically intact and financially stable.”

Regardless of how the negotiation process shapes the final look of any major changes to Social Security, the president remains committed to the creation of an “ownership society.” “I believe the so-called investor class ought to be every American, regardless of his or her background,” said the president.

How much could you collect?
A student born in 1982, retiring at age 67 in the year 2049 earning an average of $55,000 per year since 2006, if adjusted for potential inflation, could expect to draw benefits of $8,414.00 under the current system.

Tsunami concert
Happy Drum Love performs as the opening act of the tsunami benefit concert at Clark Place on Sunday, Feb. 13. The concert was one of many efforts launched since the start of the spring semester to raise money for the devastating tsunami that has claimed the lives of over 250,000 people in southeast Asia.
Where have all the flowers gone?

Recent study finds diversity in Wisconsin plants declining in 50 year period

Fifty years ago, noted ecologist and author of The Vegetation of Wisconsin John T. Curtis surveyed Wisconsin to determine baseline data for different parcels of land in Wisconsin. Recently UW-Madison botanist Donald Walker and students Tom Rooney and David Rogers went back to all of Curtis' sites to document changes, and on Wednesday Rogers spoke to an audience in the latest installment of the CNR-Biology Colloquium series.

Although Wisconsin was less pristine when Curtis made his formal inquiry, the changes we see between now and then are alarming. Diversity, measured by richness and heterogeneity, is considered key for environmental stability by scientists. Richness is the amount of plant life in a given space, while heterogeneity represents the diversity of life. These are two primary characteristics which spell health for a particular forest or savanna.

Wisconsin can be divided into the northern half and the southern half. To the north we experience cool, moist air and forests of maple, hemlock and birch, while the south is home to prairie savannas and diverse forests of oak and hickory. The southern half is generally drier than the northern half. However, the northern half includes both lime and maple forests of southern Wisconsin are under severe threats from overgrazing by deer, and human development.

Although invasive species are a serious problem in many places, this threat takes a back seat to out of control deer populations, logging, fragmentation by roads and buildings, and even recreational usage. Even protected lands are not immune. This study is widely gaining attention in resource management circles, and hopefully measures can be taken to stop the current trends and even reverse some of the damage.

Of course, some of the damage is probably irreversible. The forests of southern Wisconsin are well on their way to environmental ruin, while the north is still in its beginning stages of change. So enjoy the forests of Wisconsin while you can, because they might not always be around.

Forests such as these in northern Wisconsin are under severe threats from overgrazing by deer, and human development.

Laser light show features mind-blowing tunes, hot visuals

For two weeks only, come see the laser light show at the Allen F. Blocher Planetarium. On February 23-26 and March 2-5, a full sky multicolor laser system provided by Audio Visual ImagingInce Inc. will light up the planetarium to the sounds of U2 on Wednesday, Led Zeppelin on Thursday, and Pink Floyd; The Wall on Friday and Dark Side of the Moon on Saturday.

The shows start at 8 and 9 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. These shows are open to the public, and admission is $4 for adults, $3 for students, and $2 for UW-SP students with ID. Any proceeds support educational events at the planetarium.

The planetarium is located on the second floor of the UW-SP Science Building at the corner of Reserve Street and Fourth Avenue. Parking is free in the university lots after 7 p.m. weekdays.

So what kind of research are you doing here at the university?
The main focus of research at the Center for Land Use Education on the actual practices and regulations used to manage land resources in Wisconsin. We cover the entire state, but tend to emphasize rural areas, be it wildlife, farm fields, or lakes and forests. Everyday people are willing to commit a significant amount of time to serve on planning committees and develop strategies for protecting resources. They face a difficult challenge in balancing what's good for the community with the economic needs of individual land owners. Our planning systems work well when there is widespread community agreement on what's important to protect and what's the best strategy, but these vary from community to community, so there are no real hard and fast rules.

Are you looking for assistants?
Right now we have two openings for summer interns in the Center for Land Use Education to help with a citizen survey project in Douglas County. Students will live in the Wascott area, where there are plenty of fishing and recreational opportunities. Contact Eric Olson at colson@uwsp.edu for more information.

Research Corner

Research Corner

Consumer health report for women

Rebecca Conn
ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

Would you use a product that could leave dangerous chemicals in your body, fill up landfills with its packaging, and make you sick? Every day, thousands of women worldwide use mass-produced tampons and sanitary napkins and do this very thing. According to bloodsisters.org, chlorine-bleached tampons contain the by-product dioxin, which, besides polluting rivers, can build up in the body over time and potentially cause serious health problems, including headaches, toxic shock syndrome and cervical cancer. These products are bleached for no reason beyond aesthetics; as bloodsisters states, "tampons are not sterile."

They are also overpackaged, as sanitary napkins, and clog landfills unnecessarily. It was the emergence of this knowledge in recent years that led to the mass-marketing of safer, more environmentally friendly sanitary products. It is now possible to find, even in small towns, products made by Natracare, GladRags and other companies on co-op or sympathetic grocery store shelves. Natracare specializes in 100 percent organic cotton, non-dioxin-bleached disposable sanitary items with minimum packaging, while GladRags features products like reusable pads, sea sponges, which are an organic alternative to tampons; and the Keeper, another alternative that collects rather than absorbs menstrual flow.

The Stevens Point Area Co-Op carries many of these products, but for those without access to such stores, these and other sanitary items can be purchased online at sites such as www.gladrags.com.

It is true that some of these products, especially the GladRags reusable pads, are fairly expensive and outside the range of many student budgets. For those unable or unwilling to pay the price but who still want to use healthier, more environmentally friendly pads, do it the way your great grandmother did: Sew your own. The materials are relatively inexpensive, and bloodsisters even posts free pad-making instructions on its website.

So rev up the sewing machine, hoist the red flag, and get stitching for your health and the world's.

Check out the Vagina Monologues.

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Letters & Opinion

The Editor's Desk

Body Worlds exhibit repulsive, amazing.

German mad-scientist uses actual human bodies in "educational" display.

Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry recently welcomed the Body Worlds exhibit from Los Angeles via Europe. Using actual human cadavers and a special "plastination" technique, German mad-scientist Gunther Von Hagens creates detailed models, accurate to the cell level. In other words, Hagens revolutionized the mummy.

Labeled as "educational," it could just as easily pass for freak show or ethically wrong, depending on who is commentating. This ethical question is both essential and irrelevant. It's here either way. Hagens insists that all of his models willingly apply for plastination. I sure hope so; perpetual modeling is rather perverse.

These mummies go wrap-free, or rather, nude — although I'm not sure nude is the most accurate descriptor. Exposed, perhaps. Or skinless.

And these mummies are active. The centerpiece of the exhibit is a young lad riding a gallant steed, hands filled with brains, human and horse alike. Some are playful, like the fellow contemplating his next chess move — I'd move that rook. Other mummies are sadly, dead mummies — the exhibit's most controversial model — with eighteen-month-old fetus fully exposed. The majority of Hagens' pieces are full body models, however, individual organs are present. The lung blackened from smoke, or the liver destroyed by alcoholism are great examples.

Still, how should we classify this exhibition? I for one, am eager to view Hagens' work, however, educational value marks the exact bottom of my imaginary ranking system. I'm curious towards the ripe sorta. Just begging to glimpse a spinal chord glowing green with injected plastic ink. Raw tendons and cartilage. This is my favorable motivation towards skinless, dead humans ... educational and mummified, of course.

I actually can't imagine something more bizarre, with all due respect to the concept of bizarre-ity. It'd be worth the $19. So I'm planning a big weekend to Chi-town sometime before September, when Hagens' freak show shakes dust. I'll zip down the four-lane in my pick-up, pay a toll or two, ride the L, strain my neck against the ridiculous tallness of it all — it'll be bucky-duck.

Imagine looking eternity in the face. What remains? Something must be missing in these high-def mummies. Perhaps a soul? A story of happiness, remorse? Wisdom, I'd bet. The minuteness remains and an iceberg is lost. Hagens' art — no longer self-proclaimed — is both repulsive and amazing. Probably more original than Arthur Dove, even, or Ani DiFranco. Thought-provoking, indeed. The ideal apex floats within individual indulgence, the personal reaction those glamorous mummies manifest.

Still, something suggests a brilliant strangeness that should not be ignored. And I find myself pushing art I haven't even seen. I'm glad life, and random people, still mystify me, even when I find myself on a massive, wandering, slab of ice.

Adam Mella

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.

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What's your take on the proposed smoking ban?

It should be. I want to breathe easier.

It's stupid. The cigarette is part of the whole experience.

I believe they should have different sections for smokers.

I don't agree because it's infringement on people's rights.

I'm not for a ban, I respect smoker's right.

I think they should have a smoking ban.

I think it's a good idea.
Okay, before we get to the letters this week, I have a Public Service Announcement.

Don't watch Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow. Avoid it like a case of genital herpes. Trust me here, I rented it last week and I feel like someone came into my home; beat me sadistically about the head and shoulders, then stole two precious hours of my life.

Don't believe me? Maybe this will change your mind: Angelina Jolie's acting was the best part of the movie. If that doesn't do it for us on Valentine's day, and you know what? You suck. I read your Sadie Hawkins column and it pissed me off. But sexual equity goes both ways. We're discriminated against, and I feel like someone came into my home; beat me sadistically about the head and shoulders, and in the policies of society, and anyone who says otherwise has betrayed. You may talk a good line Rothfuss, but ultimately, you're a poser.

Okay, before we get to the letters this week, I have a Public Service Announcement. It has been about a whole five minutes since I stepped out of the WISPIRG kickoff meeting and I am shaking with excitement. To see the turnout and the number of concerned students was wonderful. For the past week I have been working with WISPIRG to bring important issues to student's attention. This semester we have two great campaigns, ecological footprint and homelessness and hunger campaign. Everyone can get involved and make a difference in some way. Tonight proved that there are many of us that care about the environmental issues around us.

The goal was to have 40 students attend the meeting. Fifty-eight students showed up. This number is amazing and makes me very proud to say that I am an active WISPIRG member.

This is my third year at Stevens Point. Over the years I have taken part in some volunteer work and have checked out other groups on campus, but have sometimes been left with a feeling of disappointment. This definitely is not the case with WISPIRG. Jobs are being accomplished and people are serious about making a difference. WISPIRG has so far been the best experience I have had on campus. I have been on a natural high for the past week and it has been because of the wonderful rewards of working with such an amazing group, WISPIRG.

Stacy Irak
WISPIRG

Get involved in WISPIRG.

www.DiscoverTheNetwork.org

Who Controls The Democratic Party?

www.DiscoverTheNetwork.org
Faces in the crowd:
Spend 10 minutes with Ben Hacker

By Alii Himle
POINTLIFE REPORTER

Reporter’s Note: “Faces in the Crowd” will be a new feature of Pointlife. This section will feature a particular person on campus who has been actively involved at UW-SP. If you are interested in being featured, or would like to nominate someone for this section, please contact Alii Himle through e-mail at ahiml618@uwsp.edu.

Unique characteristic about yourself: I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and I strive to put that into practice in my daily life.

Favorite food: My mom’s chicken pot pie is by far the best. It simply rocks!

What activities/organizations are you involved in? I am heavily involved in Student Impact, maintaining a number of roles, as well as being the leader for the CRU band on Thursday nights. I also have done shows for Centertainment Productions and I am hoping to become involved in PRSSA.

What is your favorite memory at college thus far? Hanging out with John Anderson and Ryan Gerlach freshman year in Smith Hall, doing film work made for some great memories.

How was being at college changed you? College has allowed me to develop into the person that I am today, while realizing who I want to be and what it is that I want to do with my life.

Dream job: Ideally, I would like to spend my days touring and performing music across the globe.

If you could meet one person, living or dead, who would it be and why? I would really enjoy meeting Toby Mac of D.C. Talk (a Christian band). He was a huge inspiration to me when I was growing up and I would like to pick his brain.

What one word would you use to describe yourself? Honest.

If you could have one superpower, what would you choose and why? I would choose to fly because then I could go anywhere, anytime.

I would like to thank Ben for taking time out of his day for this interview and for giving us avid Pointer readers the opportunity to get to know him better.

African dance captivates many

Ko-Thi Dance Company is set to kick off the World of Neighbors cultural fair

By Alii Himle

Rhythm and movement will be displayed in the opening act for the Marshfield cultural fair as the Ko-Thi Dance Company takes to the stage.

The performing arts series, in collaboration with the Marshfield Cultural Fair, will present the event on Friday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Helen Laird Theatre as the opening act for the Marshfield Cultural Fair being held the following day. The fair is an event meant to promote the awareness of ethnic diversity and international connections, while creating an atmosphere of friendly celebration.

Caulker, a native of West Africa, the Ko-Thi Dance Company is dedicated to the preservation and proliferation of African, African-American, and Caribbean traditional and contemporary performing arts.

The Ko-Thi Dance Company uses an array of traditional instruments, authentic costumes, and exhilarating songs and dances to bridge the cultural gap between people of all backgrounds. Through training the artists in the history, tradition, philosophy, and techniques of this dance and music, the spread of their cultural movement has become further enhanced.

Sponsored by the Laird Endowment Fund for the Arts, in conjunction with the Marshfield Clinic and St. Joseph’s Hospital, the Ko-Thi Dance Company has become an ensemble of energetic rhythms and soothing movement.

Tickets for the event are $5 and may be purchased at the campus box office in between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets will also be available one hour prior to the performance. Additionally, tickets can be bought using a credit card by calling (715) 389-6534.

For more information on the performing arts series, contact Patti Jaromin-Meis, performing arts coordinator at UW-Marshfield/Wood County, at (715) 387-6555.

Johnny T's Club Tropicana

Food in Marshfield

The food at South Point is surprisingly good. It is hot and cheap, but don't expect gourmet taste. Typical diner fare like hamburgers and cheeseburgers are plentiful. The fries are plain, old-fashioned and delectable. There are always several soups, if you are in the mood.

The marquee in front of South Point usually announces its dinner special: South Point is the kind of place where you can order chicken dinners or even that perennial favorite, liver and onions. For cheap nighttime eating, it is the perfect place to go.
Here's looking at a hill of beans...

By Adam Rodewald
POINTLIFE EDITOR

It is after 11:30 p.m. on Valentines Day. The sky is dark, the air is chilling, and the sidewalks are sodden with slush. The moon is hidden behind clouds; the stars are burnt out.

Inside, a flickering television screen reflects harshly off white dorm room walls. A voice is singing:

"You must remember this...
A kiss is still a kiss...
A sigh is just a sigh...
The fundamental things apply... As time goes by. And when two lovers woo... They still say, 'I love you'...

A young man named AJ Schmittfranz watches from a black futon which serves as both his couch and bed. He is still wearing a maroon Kwik Trip uniform.

Every few minutes a sneeze erupts from his lungs that threatens to shred his throat. He has fallen victim to this terrible epidemic that stats so many people down this time of year — a cold that threatens to leave you bedridden.

A man on the television speaks. "Don't you sometimes wonder if it's worth all this? I mean what you're fighting for."

"You might as well question why we breathe," someone replies. "If we stop breathing, we'll die. If we stop fighting our enemies, the world will die."

AJ is alone in his room watching Casablanca while so many young men dote upon their beloved. Even his roommate had left, but it all went unnoticed.

"Five empty beer cans lie on the floor, and he reaches into the off-white refrigerator for another. The rank odor of pickles and beer seeps into the air. He takes a handful of candy valentine hearts; he eats them slowly, one-by-one, listening to the crunch as it echoes in his head.

He watches Ingrid Bergman closely, enchanted by her pleading eyes. She always appears to be on the verge of tears. In the movie, Ilsa was saying, "A penny for your thoughts."

Rick replied, "In America they'd bring only a penny, and, huh, I guess that's about all they're worth."

AJ was somewhat bitter about the night, yet whenever he'd share his thoughts he was consoled with a sorrowful "aawwww." He hates that. To him it sounds like false pity, and he just wants people to be themselves.

He's always wanted someone to be his own, but every Feb. 14 brings him the same disappointment. His teddy bear smile and charming eyes grew embarrassed at this thought:

"Ilsa, I'm no good at being noble," said Rick at the end of the movie, "...but it doesn't take much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world. Someday you'll understand that."

At 2:30 a.m., AJ put on his pajamas, turned off the light, and went to sleep.

Star Search winner mocks bad cars

Up and coming comedian delivered a hilarious yet profanity-free comedy routine

By Jake Eggener
POINTLIFE CONTRIBUTOR

Dollar store airplanes, Dodge Neons, and raggedy cars all came under attack by Horace "HB" Sanders last Saturday in the Encore.

Sanders, winner of CBS's Star Search in 2003, performed to a mostly enthusiastic crowd of around 90.

Sanders was late because of a flight delay, so those in attendance were treated to an impromptu performance by event organizer Andy Liesener.

Liesener played guitar and sang several songs, including Nirvana's "About a Girl" and Green Day's "She." The crowd stayed put throughout the 30-minute delay and applauded when Liesener finished a song.

Sanders' material, which was profanity-free, depended on audience participation, and for the most part his material worked very well. His routine about "raggedy cars" got the audience involved, and most seemed to connect to the jokes.

Audience member Dave Schmittfranz watched from a black futon which serves as both his couch and bed. He is still wearing a maroon Kwik Trip uniform.

He was somewhat bitter about the night, yet whenever he'd share his thoughts he was consoled with a sorrowful "aawwww." He hates that. To him it sounds like false pity, and he just wants people to be themselves.

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Quandt Fieldhouse win streak increases to 15 games
By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

The last time the Pointer men’s basketball team played UW-Superior on their home court they were defeated 61-52. A game in which both Nick Bennett and Jason Kalsow combined to convert on eight of their 30 combined shots.

Men’s Basketball

The Pointers exhaled their revenge last Saturday against Superior as they won their 15th consecutive game in the Fieldhouse with an impressive 83-58 victory.

The Pointers were extremely efficient on the offensive end of the game for the entire season, especially in the first half when they converted on 14 of their first 17 field goals.

UGSP-SP took a 36-26 lead into halftime, and that is where Head Coach Jack Bennett said the right adjustments were made as the team increased their pressure on the other team until they broke.

“We’re wearing teams down,” he said. “Everybody comes after us physically, but we tend, in the second half, to adjust to what teams are doing and we try to grind them down. That’s been going on all season, we’ve had some of our best ball played in the second halves of games.”

The Pointers were led by Kalsow’s 23 points (11-12 from the field), eight rebounds, four assists, and a steal. While Bennett contributed 14 of his 19 points (6-10 from the field), in the second half to go with his four rebounds and three assists.

Superior’s defense seemed fixated on pressuring the ball, which then left the middle open for Kalsow or center Eric Maus (five points) to create their own shots over Superior’s smallesh front court.

“They pressure out there, so that leaves the perimeter open and when they pressured, we were able to back cut,” Kalsow said. “We did a good job of finding the open guy tonight.”

The team also received substantial contributions from guards Tamaris Relerford (11 points) and John Krull (six points) who both applied heavy amounts of pressure to Superior’s backcourt making it tough for them to get into their offensive set.

The Pointers’ second half lead, which reached a high of 31 points at one point, did not keep either of the teams’ head coaches from being active during the game as both benches received technical fouls at different points of the second half. When asked about it after the game, Coach Bennett was all smiles.

Senior on the Spot
Eric Maus - Men's Basketball

Career Highlights

- Started all 34 games on last season's championship team
- Hit the game-winning shot in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association women's division title game
- Averaging 11 points and 5.4 assists, and a steal.

Major - Business Administration
Hometown - Green Bay

What do you have any nicknames? - Mausy, Emo, Shorty, Tall Kid, BigE.

What are your plans after graduation? - Make a boatload of money and move someplace warm.

What has helped you become such an accomplished basketball player? - Practice and hard work, but mainly being tall.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? - The 0-0 tie ended UW-SP’s 20-game winning streak against Lake Forest.

Women’s Hockey

With last Saturday’s scoreless tie with Lake Forest, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point became the first team in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association women’s division to finish the conference schedule without a loss. The Pointers, who finished the regular season 20-2-1 overall and 9-0-1 in the WCHA, will host the conference tournament on Feb. 26 and 27.

The Pointers had plenty of scoring opportunities at Ice Hawks Arena last Saturday, but failed to capitalize on them. UW-SP blasted away 38 shots in the contest, but Lake Forest goaltender Sally Bevis denied each and every one of them.

Sophomore guard Brett Hirsch looks to move the ball during Wednesday night’s 94-66 victory against UW-River Falls.

Packer football, the weather, family. Some-
Late-season loss puts Pointers’ championship hopes in limbo

By Steve Roeland

The UW-SP women’s basketball team had the 2004-05 WIAC title in their sights on Tuesday, but let the opportunity slip through their fingers.

Women’s Basketball

The Pointers were in position to claim the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title on Tuesday after last Saturday’s 73-42 drubbing of the UW-Superior Yellowjackets. The Pointers opened up the game at the Berg Gym with a 7-0 run and took a 12-5 lead. UW-SP never looked back, taking a 35-25 lead into the half.

Another big run for the Pointers came in the second half, as UW-SP went on a 17-0 streak after the Yellowjackets scored the first points of the half. Holding a 24 or more point lead in the last 12:30, the Pointers cruised through the rest of the game, claiming a 31-point victory.

Amanda Nechuta scored 18 against UW-S and snared seven rebounds. Nathalie Lechault scored in double digits as well against UW-S and snared seven rebounds. Nathalie Lechault

Haley Houghton drives to the hoop against UW-River Falls Tuesday night.

Laura Neuenfeldt and Nechuta also dropped in double-digit scoring with 12 and 11 respectively. Erin Eiffe and Krista Coredes led in scoring, as UW-RF. Eiffe collected 29 points, 18 in the first half. Coredes scored 13 points in only 14 minutes of action and hit a crucial three-pointer to put the Pointers ahead 67-64 late in the game.

UW-SP must wait until this Saturday for another attempt at winning the WIAC title. The Pointers face the UW-Oshkosh Titans and will need to win, as well as hope for a UW-Platteville victory over UW-Stout in order for the conference tournament to be held in Stevens Point.

The Pointers are 19-5 overall and are 11-4 in the WIAC.

Listen to Pointer Sports on 90FM!

Track and field team cleans up at Eastbay Invite

The Pointers had few individual champions, but still amassed enough team points to sweep the men’s and women’s titles at the Pointer Eastbay Invitational on Saturday.

UW-Stevens Point’s women’s team had 166.5 points to outscore Minnesota-Duluth by 12 points in the 13-team event. The men’s squad totaled 181.5 points over Minnesota-Duluth and Minnesota State, outscoring Minnesota-Duluth by 20 percentage points higher.

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By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

Why peanuts and popcorn have been eclipsed by beer and brats

by Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

Wein still snow rests upon the ground in Stevens Point, yet the weather in Florida and Arizona is perfect for baseball.

All throughout the week, pitchers and catchers are reporting to spring training and position players will follow next week. So, to celebrate the end of winter and the emergence of spring, here's a look at what to watch in the 2005 Major League Baseball season.

American League Preview

Just like every other year, the main topic in the American League is the Red Sox/Yankees drama. To up the ante in the ongoing struggle for dominance in the AL East, the Yankees traded for Randy Johnson and signed free agent Carlos Pavano to enhance their starting rotation.

The defending World Series champs also made some acquisitions of their own by signing shortstop Edgar Renteria and pitchers David Wells and Matt Clement. The heated rivalry between these two powerhouse clubs renews itself early; the teams meet in the first series of the year at Yankee Stadium.

Another team in the AL that may make some noise is the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The Angels lost some key players to free agency, but two powerhouse clubs renew this rivalry early.

While the Angels have made some deals of their own, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim have made some deals of their own, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

National League Preview

The National League sees most of its power lie in the NL Central with teams like the St. Louis Cardinals, the Houston Astros and the Chicago Cubs. The Cards return this season as defending NL champions and look to be in good position to contend for another trip to the World Series.

With a lineup that has household names like Albert Pujols, Scott Rolen, Jim Edmonds and Larry Walker, the St. Louis offense shouldn't have any problem putting runs on the board. The pitching staff got a huge upgrade when the Cardinals traded for former Oakland A's starter Mark Mulder. The Cards hope to ride these superstars right back into October once again.

The Mets look to be a complete ball club and hope to shift the balance of power in the Big Apple. The 2005 season is shaping up to be very interesting. This year's MLB campaign should have some surprise stories, as well as familiar faces doing some major damage. Lace up the cleats, oil the glove and curve the brim of your cap. It's time for baseball.
Oh, snow!
And you thought it was just a frozen form of rain
By Hilary Bulger
OUTDOORS REPORTER

I am in love with snow. And my darling snow did not disappoint me this Valentine's Day, though the men in my life did. But we don't need to go there...

I woke up the morning of Hallmark's favorite holiday at home in the Twin Cities to a spectacular sight. Every pine needle of every tree, every post of the cedar fence, every cattail in the marsh, and every frozen rose on the trellis was blanketed with magical white. The world was frosted. As I drove down the small, two-lane highway near my house, I could not help but be enchanted. But what was I enchanted by? What is snow? And how does it have the ability to transform our world as it does?

Webster's Dictionary defines snow as:

"a: a precipitation in the form of small tabular and columnar white ice crystals formed directly from the water vapor of the air at a temperature of less than 32 degrees F (1): a descent of shower of snow crystals (2): a mass of fallen snow crystals 2: something resembling snow in appearance © sgl: (1) coacine (2) heroin d: small transient light or dark spots appearing on a television or radar screen 2: a mass of ice crystals that are not the snow most of us are referring to when we employ that four letter word; it was not stiffly beaten egg whites that held me so entranced the other morning. There are 46 words that begin with snow following this original definition, including snowman (snow shaped to resemble a human figure), snowblink (a white glare in the sky over a snowfield), and snowscape (a landscape covered with snow). Can you imagine what a snowscape of snowman with a snowblink would look like?"

The World Book Encyclopedia offers a similar destination but adds that the ice crystals are "shimmering." These shimmering crystals are always six sided, though no two are alike. They can be flat, needle shaped, or can cling together to form pellets that can grow as large as two inches. Snow appears white because most of the visible light is reflected with no preference for a particular color in the visible spectrum. When deep snow appears bluish it is due to the length of the path the light takes through the snow, allowing only blue light to pass. When glacier appear blue it is because they are made of snow that has been compressed into ice, causing it to lose all of its oxygen. The Arctic tundra is home to microscopic plants that can cause snow to appear red or green.

Though every state besides Hawaii has been graced with whiteflies at one time or another, the National Weather Service has declared Rochester, N.Y. the nation's snowiest city, with annual average of 94 inches. The single season snow record occurred August 1974 to July 1975, when over 1000 inches fell on Mount Rainer, Wash. A record 76 inches fell in a 24 hour period in Silver Lake, Colo., in 1921. Thompson Pass, Alaska, holds several snow records, including most snow in 48 hours, with 120 inches in 1955. In Wisconsin we are not quite so lucky. Madison averages 44 inches of snow annually, while Green Bay averages almost 48.

Snow holds different meanings to different people and different cultures. In central Wisconsin, everyone has to deal with snow a little bit, but it is possible to avoid much of it, though I cannot imagine why you would want to. Other groups of people have little choice but to immerse themselves in it, and many embrace it, such as northern indigenous groups. A supposed representative of this is the rumor that in "Eskimo" there are a hundred words for snow. That is inaccurate in several ways. The first inaccuracy is the word "Eskimo," which is not a group of people, but a generic term given to several groups of people by explorers. Also, the English language has 125 compounds of the 46 previously mentioned words containing "snow." The Yup'ik language does have over two dozen roots for snow or things related to snow, from which hundreds of compounds may be formed, which may or may not be related to snow. The Inuit language, similarly, does have several roots for snow, but so does English.

So, call it what you like, but take a lesson from the Yup'ik and the Inuit and embrace the great white, and I am not talking about Webster's 2, c definition. Enjoy the splendor that it is winter while it is still with us and if we are lucky enough to see another magical snowfall that sticks to the world and makes it beautiful, make sure you take the time to enjoy it. Sadly enough, that Valentine's Day snow had melted by evening, along with my hopes for a romantic retail holiday.

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Did you know?
- Turkeys can drown if they look up while it's raining.
- Turkeys can also have heart attacks; flocks in fields near Air Force test areas over which the sound barrier was broken were known to drop dead from the shock of passing jets.

Weekend Weather Outlook:

Friday: Partly to mostly sunny.
High: 19
Low: 7

Saturday: Partly cloudy.
High: 23
Low: 13

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of snow showers.
High: 30
Low: 21

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Outdoors
February 17, 2005 • Page 11
Winter tops for northern pike catch, harvest

DNR Press Release

WAUKESHA - Some of the year's best fishing for northern pike is upon us, with anglers having until the game fish season closes March 6 to catch the many lakes that hold good pike numbers also harbor good largemouth bass numbers so both species are typically caught on tip-ups to keep an angler guessing what's on the other end of the line.

Since 1995, DNR has had experimental regulations in place on several waters in northwestern Wisconsin. "Our data indicates that many of these regulations appear to have increased the quality and size structure of the northern pike fishery," he said. Dissolved oxygen levels are currently good on many lakes because of the limited snow cover, the higher dissolved oxygen levels will also keep fish more active, he said.

Recently finalized and updated results from the statewide mail survey, conducted by a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate student under contract with DNR, estimated that anglers caught 69,445,957 fish in the 2000-2001 license year. About 18% of the total catch and 23 percent of the total harvest came during the winter.

Angling electronics have gone too far

By Adam Mella

As a life-long fisherman, knowledge, skill and practice represent the backbone of a sport I thoroughly love. Technology seems a double-edged sword in this natural realm.

Certainly, modern equipment helped improve the angling experience - although the cane pole still does the trick. A line must exist between technology and nature, and I fear we have crossed it, especially during ice-fishing season.

The shining examples are Aqua-view cameras and Vexilar flash sonars. Oh cruel fishing gods determine their take.

A toddler could catch fish using these gadgets. There is literally zero skill involved in using an Aqua-view or Vexilar, aside from changing the battery. Oh, and you have to find some frozen coconuts to the fishing gods, and you have to find some frozen water. Allow me to illuminate this corruption more clearly.

Before electronic robots told people how to fish, anglers would spend days searching for a good fishing spot. The reward was often fish for the frying pan and personal respect earned through hard work. Before folks watched fish eat their bait on a camera, anglers appreciated their surroundings, drank beer and let the fishing gods determine their take.

Fishing is not about watching an LED screen. Fishing is about enjoying nature. The price paid from the pocketbook and soul should be deterrent enough. This type of technology transforms fish from wild creatures to wild prostitutes. Thing is, you can buy prostituted fish at the market.

Still, temptation is present, I'll admit, even for a tip-up fisherman.

Whatever the case, weaker anglers out there will keep buying these lousy doodads, so there's probably no sense in griping. Me? I'll continue sacrificing for the fishing gods, and see what comes my way.

Editor-in-Chief

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Editor-in-Chief
Comics

Sorry I haven't been able to chat lately. I've had a nasty case of telepathy-flu. Send any questions or fan mail to Squiddy - pointer@uwsp.edu.

Love,
Squiddy

(ps - send mango pie recipes for good luck)

Resident's Evil

By: Joy

Confused? Check out the archives at http://residentevil.keenspace.com/
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Misc.

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February 17, 2005 • Page 15
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