Historic Nelson Hall added to National Registry

UW-SP Press Release

Nelson Hall, the second-oldest building on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus, now has the "national" credentials to go with its "state" historic pedigree. The oldest existing dormitory of the former State Normal School System has been added to the National Registry of Historic Places, just a few months after being named to the Wisconsin Registry of Historic Places.

Support of the historic designation effort was led by the University Affairs Historic Preservation Subcommittee. The future of Nelson Hall became part of the subcommittee's agenda several years ago. Professor Kathe Julin, head of the Division of Interior Architecture, and Professor of History Eric Yonke wrote the application and other faculty and staff helped with both the national and state registration efforts.

"Our years of hard work and determination have paid off for both the campus and the greater community," said Yonke and Julin. Nelson Hall is truly one-of-a-kind and our hope is that the campus, community and the state will work together and preserve this treasure for the people of Wisconsin, and now for the nation as well."

According to Yonke, their nomination papers emphasized Nelson Hall's historical significance for women in higher education and its architectural significance as a public building designed in "prairie style."

Built in 1915, it remains listed among the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation's Most Endangered Historic Properties and is named to the Wisconsin State Inventory of Historic Structures and the Stevens Point City List of Historic Places.

However, the future of the historic structure, even with historic designation, remains uncertain. Its feasibility for renovation has been reviewed by the state Division of Facilities Development and UW System Administration, but both agencies have yet to commit state tax money to refurbish the building.

In 1992 things looked rosy when UWSP requested $3.2 million from the state to restore the former residence hall. The plan received approval by the UW System Board of Regents but could not muster enough support within the State Building Commission.

The building bears the name of George B. Nelson, a Stevens Point attorney who served on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Nelson, a regent of the State Normal School System at the time, fought valiantly with legislators opposed to spending the $100,000 to build the hall. It was designed by the Milwaukee-based architectural team of Henry Van Ryn and Gerrit de Gellecke. There are over 900 prairie-style entries in the state's architecture and history inventory and only one was originally a dormitory - Nelson Hall.

Since it was built, the residence has housed women students, the Student Army Training Corps organizing for World War I, trainees for World War II and the ROTC. Currently it provides a home for the Division of Communication, Administrative Computing, UWSP Photography, School of Education junior high tutoring program and many other programs and services.

Local student receives John Anderson Award

UWSP Press Release

Johanna Nelson, 1702 Maple Hill Road, Wausau, a senior at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, has received the John Anderson Spirit of the Community Award.

The award, named for a community enthusiast and historian who died in 1994, carries a $250 prize. It is given annually to a student with interest and talent in journalism who's writing and personal involvement demonstrate the spirit of the community that guided Anderson's life and work.

Anderson served as the director of News and Publications at UWSP and wrote a weekly column for the Stevens Point Journal, "A County Sampler," that introduced readers to Portage County people and places.

He also published a book titled "A County Sampler" through the Cornerstone Press, a UWSP publishing class led by Professor Dan Dieterich.

Nelson is majoring in communication with a minor in history. She has served as a news reporter for the UW-Madison Daily Cardinal and the UWSP Pointer, an intern with the Portage County Gazette and the Stevens Point Journal, and a freelance writer for the Marshfield News Herald and the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune.

She is currently the copy editor for the UWSP Pointer. In addition to her work in journalism, Nelson also serves as a Women's Community volunteer in Wausau and a bell ringer for the Salvation Army.

Lisa Nellessen-Lara, managing editor of the Stevens Point Journal, said, "Johanna is genuinely interested in the stories around her -- the people and the activities that make Portage County such a wonderful place to live."

This summer Nelson will be involved in the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partnership for the Americas. She will travel to Nicaragua to participate in a literacy program and plans to share her experiences through a series of articles to the Stevens Point Journal.

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Corn on the cob, kids on the curb

People of all ages enjoy the third annual downtown festival "Corn on the Curb," which featured catered food, a motorcycle show and a karaoke contest as well as roasted corn.

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Committee votes to save Perkins loan program

WASHINGTON, DC - As the House Committee on Education and the Workforce completed its work on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, more than 700,000 students who rely on Perkins Loans to help pay for college breathed a collective sigh of relief today when the committee voted to save the Perkins Student Loan Program. The bill also makes numerous changes to other higher education and financial aid programs.

"COHEAO would like to thank the committee for reauthorizing the Perkins Loan program," said Alisa Abadinsky, COHEAO Board Chair. "The Perkins Student Loan Program is a campus-based program that provides low-interest loans to undergraduates, graduate, and professional students. Loan funds are provided through new Federal Capital Contributions, institutional matching funds, and repayment from prior borrowers."

The President's FY2006 budget called for complete elimination of the program. Had this proposal been adopted by Congress, colleges and universities would have been forced to stop making Perkins Loans and send the federal portion of their campus revolving funds, along with interest earned on it, back to Washington, costing America's institutions of higher education and their students at least $6 billion.

"Never in our history has a college education been more important for success in our competitive economy, nor has it ever been more expensive," said Harrison Wadsworth, COHEAO executive director. "With increasing numbers of students taking on private loan and credit card debt as a means of paying for college, it is more important than ever to maintain the availability of low-interest-rate Perkins loans to students."

"COHEAO Board member, Tom Schmidt remarked, "The House Education and Workforce Committee today reaffirmed our American belief in a future without limits and the certainty that all children -no matter what their station in life- have a part in that greater future. A postsecondary education for every child in America is the heart and soul of the American dream and we owe every child the opportunity to fully develop his or her talents."

The Senate is working on its own version of Higher Education Act reauthorization legislation. Action by the Senate and by the full House is not expected until later in the year. That means that Congress to fund it through the appropriations process. Action by the Senate and by the full House is not expected until later in the year. That means that Congress to fund it through the appropriations process. For more information, see www.coheao.org.

Got Contributors?

We don't.

Send your ideas, articles or photographs to the Editor-in-Chief at pointer@uwsp.edu for possible publication in this fine newspaper.

OR

See us at the Involvement fair on September 13th from 7-9 pm.

Sincerely,

The Stork

Former editor published on NYT's Web site

UW-SP Press Release

A University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumnus' essay was chosen for publication on the New York Times Web site.

Adam Mella's essay was one of four chosen from over 100 submitted by students attending The New York Times Workshop in Manhattan over the weekend of April 2. Each essay discussed the importance of newspapers in a democratic society.

"Mom's very proud," Mella said, referring to Patti Trick of Cooperstown. "It was a very good experience." Students from universities around the United States participated in the workshop. In addition to Mella, who graduated in May and served as last year's editor of UWSP's student newspaper, The Pointer, the paper's current editor, Liz Bolton, also attended.

"I've never been to New York," Mella said. "I enjoyed the trip and I think it helped improve The Pointer." The students learned copy editing and headline writing and heard staff and writers of The New York Times speak about their experiences. Students also reviewed student newspapers on other campuses and were given policy guides to help run their own campus newspapers.

Now that he's graduated, Mella's New York experience helps him with his job as managing editor of The Courier in Waterloo. Although The Courier has roughly the same circulation as The Pointer and also is a weekly newspaper, he finds his job challenging because it is in a community that is new to him. Mella keeps himself busy also by freelance writing for the Wisconsin Outdoor Journal and creating a new board game.

"I started it just for kicks," Mella said, "but it turned into something decent..." His game is a cross between "The Oregon Trail" and "Shoots and Ladders," where the goal is to canoe down the Wisconsin River.

"It should be fun for all ages," Mella said. "But you might not make it. You could get a broken leg or get run-down by a bear."
Dear Editor,

United States Supreme Court decisions over the past 40 years have established that access to birth control is a fundamental right. I am shocked that in 2005, our state Assembly actually passed a bill that would ban birth control on all UW campuses.

Attorney General Lautenschlager has already pointed out that if this bill were to become law, it would be unconstitutional because it infringes on a woman’s fundamental right to birth control. This bill clearly discriminates against women and their right to health care.

Both the men and women of Wisconsin need to band together to stop this war on women and birth control, and not allow legislators make women second-class citizens.

Name Withheld

Because I said so...

One editor's opinion

Liz Bolton
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the days begin to shorten for the 22nd time in my life, I for once feel I’ve had a great, productive summer.

Not only did I get whipped into shape for working the grounds department on campus, I also visited friends who have graduated, spent quality time with my brand new nephew, and oh yes, did I mention that I am the Ludwikzewski Famil Reunion’s first female winner of the horseshoes competition it’s 50 year history? Allow me to explain.

My family orchestrates this huge reunion every three years, going back half a century. It stems from eight brothers and sisters, one of which is my great-great grandfather.

I have been attending these shin-dings for as long as I can remember. The main event in my mind was always the horseshoes. As soon as I could walk, I wanted to play.

First I was too young, then I found out women weren’t allowed to compete. I desperately wanted to be one of those beer drinking, smoking, grizzled old men.

Since I obviously can’t pull that look off, I was content to watch and daydream about kicking everyone’s butt.

This year was different. They decided to let women play, and my partner and I smoked everyone.

Some of the men who lost to us were a bit miffed, but I ended up meeting a lot of people I hadn’t talked to before, and I even went to UW-SP for two years. (He sends his love, by the way.)

As old men often do, he went into a long story; this one was about the fire alarm going off in Baldwin Hall one year while he was attending Point.

He and his roommate went to investigate, and found that someone had tried to flush an octopus down the toilet, causing all of the toilets to back up and flood the bathroom.

The two young men did what any Pointers would do. They donned their swim-suits and used the bathroom as their own personal Slip’n’Slide.

This didn’t surprise me at all. I have talked to students who have attended UW-SP from every decade going back to the late 50’s. Let me tell you, the farther back you go, the crazier this school was.

Or to put it another way, this campus as I so oft­­en pretty tame through the years.

Why is this? Don’t get me wrong, I love this school. But when you’ve heard the stories I have, you can’t help but be a little jealous.

Part of the problem, I assume, is because more than half of us have cars, can go home easier; all of which are signs of (gasp) a suite­­n college.

It wasn’t so for me. My parents wanted me to attend UW-SP. I could’ve come home. Well, it sounded nicer the way they said it.

Regardless of why this school has suffered socially, I feel it is slowly becoming involved with quite a few student organizations while being a part of the community, and all have expressed desires to be better than ever.

I’ve had a great, productive summer.

Because I said so...

Liz Bolton
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

BGA Corner

Lieutenant Governor visits drug relief

Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton’s visit to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) brought brighter budget news to assembled faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Lawton announced to an overflow crowd that Governor Doyle would use his veto pen to restore $8 million of the $11 million cut in student financial aid and restore $50 million of the $100 million cut system­­wide.

UW System campuses are still suffering under the deep cuts of the past two budgets, as well as lingering cuts of the current budget. While the Governor’s promise to veto the most recent legisla­­tive cuts decreases some of the burden, Wisconsin university­­ers are still in distress.

However, this budget will still cut the UW System by approximately $90 million and seize from students $3 million in financial aid.

Lawton assured the assembled crowd that Governor Doyle will keep higher education as a top priority. UWSP students are grateful to the Governor for these restorations and we look forward to the continued work to reserve funding to the universities of our state.

Students at UWSP are urging state officials and legis­­latures to treat the System campuses like the economic engine it has historically proven to be.

It is vital for Wisconsin state leadership to financial­­ly support the UW System in order to increase the number of degree holders as well as access for lower­­er­­ and middle­­class families.

In the current transition from a manufacturing to an information economy, a large population of well­­educated youth is crucial to our state’s economic competitiveness.
Everyone moved with impressive speed. The air itself seemed to slow me down, but everyone else in the park ran, or at least walked briskly. We decided to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art or the Met, located inside the park. Once we were through the doors, we bought tickets and wandered around the crowded exhibits. After getting lost in the Medieval art wing, we found an exhibit on Diane Arbus' life work. Arbus was born and raised in New York. In her exhibit, photos of classy women, veiled and adorned with pearls, mingled with transvestites, circus freaks, nudists and families playing in Central Park.

Diane Arbus was New York to the bone. I emptied my checking account to buy a coffee table book of her artwork - my one last souvenir of the trip. I picked up the cheaper $50 paper-bound book, and wandered the store eyeing the hard-cover copy which was twice the price. I dawdled, pretending to look at brightly colored objects of art. When no one was looking, I darted back to the Arbus display and picked up the more expensive one. I stopped briefly and eyed the store before anyone could spot me with my extravagant purchase.

We left the museum around 2 pm, and began to walk south down Broadway. I was impressed by the chaotic organization of the place. Scaffolding set up in front of half the buildings kept debris from falling on passers-by a mere 9 feet below on the sidewalk. Construction was constant, and pedestrians or drivers seemed to take it in stride.

Men pushing huge carts with sheets over them dominated every block. I imagined the carts were filled with knock-off brands such as Prada or Calvin Klein. We never did find out.

We walked past St. Patrick's Cathedral on 5th and Broadway. The colossal gothic cathedral, boasting a more expensive altar than St. Peter's in Rome, was filled to capacity. People stood outside, spilling over to the other side of the street listening as large speakers outside the closed cathedral doors blasted music into the brisk air. I asked an Austrian next to me what was going on. "I think the pope died," he said. Oh yes, I thought.

He had died while we were on the plane the night before. I had been skeptical; similar announcements had been made on news channels for the last week. We stopped to watch the memorial service for a while, and were rewarded that 90 FM will remain as is for the 2005 - 2006 school year. Although the risk is no longer a concern to students, alumni, and community members about the future of WPR, the station fights concern to students, alumni, and community members about the future of WPR. Although the risk is no longer a concern to students, alumni, and community members about the future of WPR, the station fights. Although the risk is no longer a concern to students, alumni, and community members about the future of WPR, the station fights.

We walked through Midtown. NoHo, SoHo, and Tribeca. It was fascinating to see the changes. Stores became smaller, streets narrower and designers less known; until we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa where we reached TriBeCa.

The progression was subtle, until we found ourselves at the southern edge of Tribeca. Buildings suddenly shot up to 80 stories or more. Some were so narrow and dingy yet friendly shades of red and yellow faded to grey again in the rain.

We walked and walked, finally finding ourselves in front of a large vacant lot, the site of a city block. But this was no ordinary hole. This was the World Trade Center.

We saw the layers below the city, illuminated in the smoke...
Many opportunities in Point for disc-golfing fanatics

Erica Schulz
THE POINTER

Disc golf has swept across the entire United States and beyond. Tournaments are held internationally, including different European countries, Canada and Japan. The first courses were constructed in California, including Oak Grove Park in Pasadena, and La Mirada in Los Angeles.

In Stevens Point, Wisconsin, there are fewer options, but still plenty of courses to occupy a disc-golfer. There are three courses in the Stevens Point area, and allow for experience to be gained as well as maintained through the variety of different courses and features.

The actual disc for disc golfing is smaller and has sharper edges than the original Frisbee. It is thrown for distance and accuracy, and different weights and shapes help a golfer perfect and distinguish his game from other players.

Although conditions call for calm winds and bearable temperatures, there are plenty of opportunities between late spring and early fall to enjoy a day outdoors enjoying an original sport such as disc golfing.

Erica Schulz

Manhattan
from page 4

ger
ey New York light, which exposed fallen I-beams and dusty floors.

I found myself here, one woman from Central Wisconsin. I had spent the day observing the architecture of Manhattan, from old to new, and now I found myself staring at a hole. The absence of Manhattan. There was nothing to touch, no memorial yet, except the giant fence topped with wire surrounding the island's open wound.

I would have felt completely ridiculous if it wasn't for the throngs of people who came to see the same thing I had. I found myself included in a rag-tag bunch of people from all over the country. And beyond, I thought, as I caught snippets of German and French in the air.

The PATH subway station invited us down below the surface, and we found the side of the station was open to the hole, with another
er fence protecting us from falling in. It was even colder below than it was at the surface. The wind blasting from the hole caused me to shiver; pulling my coat tighter didn't help.

On the subway ride we were quiet, partly from the experience, partly from exhaustion. The next day at the New York Times conference, Bill Keller, the Executive Editor, spoke of new rules regarding headlines in The Times. He said, "Words such as 'attack' or 'terror' are reviewed carefully before published." He also spoke of the days after the attack, when they had to get special permission to allow distribution trucks to deliver the paper.

I finally began to realize that I would never understand this event, an event which caught me unaware, as I was getting ready for class early one morning in my freshman dorm room. I was as unprepared then as I was today, confronting the site over three years later.

90 fm from page 4

Consideration. However, supporters of 90 FM will continue to do all they can to keep WWSP what it is and always has been.

When asked his opinion on the possibility of WPR presiding over 90FM, Mayor Wescott, a former 90FM staff member and disk-jockey said, "It's not acceptable." After several articles were printed in the Stevens Point Journal, and television chan-

Spotted something newsworthy around campus?

Then contact the Pointer at 346-2249, or email at pointer@uwsp.edu.

Do it today!
Summer in Point

Photo by Mary Nehering

Photo by Mary Nehering

Photo by Mac Wernickie

Photo by Mac Wernickie
Female college students do better in school according to Student Monitor study

Student Study Habits, Use of Textbooks Key Factors in Student Success according to Student Monitor study

Washington, D.C. (August 24) – America’s female college students study more, are more likely to work full time and are more likely to read their textbooks thoroughly and to earn “A’s” in their courses, and expect to graduate in less time than their male counterparts.

The Male students study one third less than women, who are more likely to work a “C” or less in their courses, and expect to graduate in three years or less. The female students are increasing their debt and putting a strain on campus resources.

As a result, colleges and universities are under growing pressure to improve student engagement and to help students graduate more quickly.

Publishers, in turn, are being called upon to produce more sophisticated tools for teaching and learning. We wanted to find out what else publishers can do to make products that better meet the needs of students.

Two-year, Four-year Student Comparisons

Nearly half of all women study daily, compared to only a third of all men.

More than one in four men (26 percent) find themselves studying late at night, compared to less than one in five women (19 percent).

In comparing men to women, the study found men party 20 percent more often than women.

Study habits make a difference

Students who study daily are 40 percent more likely to earn an “A” than students who do not study daily. Only 41 percent of students study every day, and 18 percent study only once or twice a week.

Students who study 15 or more hours weekly are 43 percent more likely to earn an “A” than students who study for less than 15 hours weekly.

Students who read their textbook thoroughly after skimming, study daily and study for 15 or more hours each week are far more likely to earn an “A.”

Two-year, Four-year Student Comparisons

Two-year community college students—those who are more likely to work full time—are 36 percent more likely to use supplemental materials and 23 percent more likely to study efficiently.

An often overlooked but important factor is the time of day a student studies. Approximately one-half of all students study between the hours of 6 p.m. and midnight.

Those in this group, whether men or women, are at least twice as likely to earn an “A” as those students who studied primarily in the hours after midnight. Among those who got a “C” or less, 28 percent of men and 20 percent of women studied after midnight.

Since 1987, Student Monitor has continuously published the only nationally syndicated, longitudinal market research study of the U.S. college student market.

The company’s clients include more than 100 of the Fortune 500 corporations.

Data Methodology

The study of four-year and two-year students was commissioned by the Association of American Publishers to help publishers and educators understand students’ study habits, and better determine what impact they have on academic achievement.

“Men and women study for different reasons, and the differences in study habits between men and women are less than men and women,” said Eric Weil, managing partner of Student Monitor.

The survey revealed significant differences in the study habits between men and women for example, women are 33 percent more likely to study daily, 21 percent more likely to study 15 or more hours weekly and 23 percent more likely to read their textbook thoroughly. These differences in study skills and habits translate to higher grades and a higher course completion rate,” Weil added.

“Women are 33 percent more likely to study at the end of the day than men are. When they do study, they study between the hours of 6 p.m. and 12 midnight,” said Weil.

The study confirmed that the more a student studies, the better his or her grades. The 42 percent of men and 41 percent of women who studied 15 or more hours a week earned an “A.”

On average, students study 14 hours weekly, with 24 percent studying five or fewer hours each week and only 17 percent studying more than 20 hours a week.

Time on task, study efficiency, and the use of supplemental materials are other important factors, particularly for community college students.

Students who attend two-year schools—who are more likely to work full time—were found to be 36 percent more likely to use supplemental materials and 23 percent more likely to study efficiently.

A student research group at the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point, under the direction of Professor of Computing Dave Gibbs, has developed a series of software programs that utilize a computer’s ability to listen and to speak.

The UWSP Web Speech Research Group, including grad students Garrett Firkus, Stevens Point, and Ben Jacobs, Madison, and current students Jeremy Hill, Madison; Mark Stenson, Wisconsin Rapids; Joe Frost, Rudolph; and Bill Shier, Marinette, developed a program using speech synthesis, a tool that enables a computer to read text aloud. The group originally began their work to create a better system for online courses. Many online courses use voice spoken by a human to read the material to students. Though effective as a teaching tool, such recordings exist as very large files and can take students a long time to download from the Web. They are also tedious to edit if information changes.

With a speaking tool like the one developed by the group, a student will only need to download a small text file that can then be read aloud by their computer. Editing such files will be as simple as changing the text in a word processor.

The Web Speech Research Group also has implemented new technology in a program that enables a computer to understand human speech and convert it into text or commands. Similar technology has been available for quite some time, but to function properly the existing programs must first be calibrated to the voice of one person. The new program developed by the group works with any voice, responding to the general sounds common to speech rather than the unique sound of one person’s voice. This general speech recognition tool has possible applications on the web because it doesn’t need to be calibrated for each person using it.

The group’s developments have not gone unnoticed. This spring the group was invited to present their work at two large meetings, the RMM Solutions Technology Fair in Wausau and the WiscNET Future Technologies Conference in Madison. These presentations drew interest to the project and the group gave several demonstrations at UWSP and Northcentral Technical College.

Gibbs recently presented the group’s software at ED-MEDIA 2005, a conference held in Montreal, Canada.

Students at UW-SP develop new software which recognizes speaks and commands

UW-SP Press Release

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In the coming year, Gibbs plans to have the group commercialize their software and other experimental programs they have developed. The goal is to create a program that will allow users to access and receive information from the Web just by speaking and listening to a computer.

Scientific Notations

Climate ‘Tipping Point’

Climate scientists warned that a vast expanse of western North America has reached an unprecedented thaw, which could cause a “tipping point” leading to global warming. The area spans nearly 400,000 square miles and is melting for the first time in at least 3,000 years ago.

The researchers say that changes in the climate like the ones that led to the last great peat bog melts, it will release vast quantities of methane, a greenhouse gas 20 times more potent in global warming than carbon dioxide.

Heartland Drought

The worst drought to strike the American Midwest since 1988 has turned part of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers into virtual sandbars and has hastened the spread of crop losses. In the worst-affected states of Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin, the soil has dried up wells and allowed insect infestations to spread far beyond farmlands. Higher transportation costs due to disrupted river commerce may make it too expensive to ship surviving crops to international markets.

Pleistocene Park

Scientists in the United States have proposed introducing big-game animals into the Great Plains, similar to the mammoths and other large mammals that existed there in the Pleistocene era more than 10,000 years ago. They propose to use the land to build the populations of large animals such as Bactrian camels, Boslon tortoises, and rare species of horses, elephants, cheetahs and lions. The project could provide a pool of range-adapted animals that could be returned to their home habitats if eventually saved.

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Something for everyone in Schmeekele Reserve

The reserve north of campus is a rare and valuable thing for all UW-SP students

Joe Picciotto

Just north of campus, not much more than a minute's walk from some of the dorms, you will find a 275-acre oasis of lush greenery called Schmeekele Reserve.

Nearly 50 years ago Professor Fred Schmeeckle, the man responsible for the country's first Conservation Education major here at UW-SP and someone who regularly took his classes outside himself in a variety of habitat types. Situated throughout the reserve are wooden benches that allow you to stop and observe the flora and fauna of the prairie, marshland, white oak savanna that features 200-year-old oak trees. Part of the trail system circumnavigates 24-acre Lake Joanis, where you can fish, boat, and rent canoes. The human-made lake, nestled in the southeast corner of the reserve and buffered from the road by forest vegetation, contains several species of fish and can be explored with any kind of non-motorized boat. No swimming there, though, and the depth of the lake make it too dangerous.

There is also a great setting for simply relaxing or taking photographs. In spring and fall, early morning fog rises from the lake to create a mystical and beautiful scene. Just as breathtaking, the freeze and thaw of winter sometimes produces the frozen water to pop and crack as the ice sheet expands and contracts against itself, causing unheard-of noises to echo across the reserve.

On the north side of the reserve is the Visitor Center, a rustic ranch house that was converted by students. Here you can find out anything about the reserve, as well as visit the Browse Shop, where you can scope out or purchase a number of cultural and natural resources related to Central Wisconsin.

In the Visitor Center you can learn more about Wisconsin's native and conservation history by exploring a museum and the Conservation Hall of Fame. These exhibits highlight the events and people who have had an impact, both positive and negative, on Wisconsin's environment.

The Green Circle Trail traverses over 30 miles of the Stevens Point area, taking you past wetlands, watersheds, and the occasional road. Populated with wildlife and often secluded, my last trip down the trail rewarded me with the sight of a Pileated Woodpecker, hummingbird, and a pair of Brown Thrashers.

If you're really ambitious, the Schmeekele Reserve Visitor Center has a few different pamphlets that will inform you of many more miles of hiking, biking, and boating trails that take you into the country surrounding Stevens Point.

The land that is now Schmeekele Reserve was once

Information on invasive species consolidated on DNR Web site

DNR Press Release

MADISON - People concerned about preventing purple loosestrife, zebra mussels, and other invasive species from taking over their favorite lake, forest or wetland can now go to a single Web site to identify these aggressive invaders and learn how to help control their spread.

The Department of Natural Resources has revamped its invasive species pages to allow people to more easily and quickly access information on dozens of invasive species affecting Wisconsin forests, waters and backyards.

"This portal offers a "one stop shop" for customers to find quick information relating to invasive species," says Martye Griffin, the DNR science communications project manager.

The Web site offers photos and fact sheets of dozens of invasive species, and maps showing the geographic distribution of zebra mussels, Eurasian water milfoil and some of the other most problematic invasive species.

People will also find tips on how they can help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species on their own property, along lakes and rivers, and in forests and state parks. They can also learn about state programs targeting invasive species, including how individuals and groups can take advantage of them.

These programs range from workshops to train volunteers and equip them with informational materials to educate boaters at landings on how to properly inspect and clean their boats, to cost-sharing grants for local governments and lake groups seeking to prevent or control infestations of aquatic invasive species.

Plants, animals and disease organisms have been transported around the world for centuries by natural agents such as wind and water, and by humans, either accidentally or on purpose.

The gypsy moth, for instance, was introduced in the United States in an attempt to develop a hardy silkworm while the zebra mussel arrived accidentally, in the ballast water of foreign ships entering the Great Lakes, according to Kelly Kearns, DNR plant conservation program manager.

Most nonnative organisms introduced to North America do not cause significant problems, but some do.

Their impacts on the environment, recreation and the economy are considerable. See Invasives, page 10
Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Bicycling and Hiking Adventure Tours is offering a bicycle tour of Mallorca. Known as the "Isle of Calm," Mallorca has become a haven for cyclists from around the world. The island, chosen for its mild weather, excellent roads, and superb scenery, is home to the training camps for several professional cycling teams. Mallorca offers everything from flat roads between beautiful coastal towns, gently rolling hills in a pastoral countryside side, and even true mountain climbs. Best of all, traffic on the island is light in the off season and Mallorcan cats resent cyclists.

Printers shoot for cleaner solutions

DNR Press Release

MADISON - Wisconsin is moving toward becoming one of the first "green" printing states by working to develop and rewarding printers for reducing their environmental impact under a two-year pilot project on which the Department of Natural Resources and the printing industry in Wisconsin are cooperating.

The three-year project is part of a pilot project funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the printing industry members and the DNR are cooperating to streamline and simplify the regulations for printers, especially those associated with the air permit process.

The projects also reflect the increased interest in developing alternative approaches to air permits that will improve compliance with environmental requirements as well as providing incentives for superior environmental performance.

Self-certification approach for small print operations

FRank Howel and others who often find the permitting process difficult and confusing, the goal is to develop a self-certification approach designed to develop a self-certification approach designed to improve compliance with air, water and waste regulations.

"Under the Environmental Results Program, small printers will see less of an administrative burden, and the regulatory requirements should be easier to understand than the traditional regulatory system," says Rene Lejaq Bashel of the Small Business Assistance Program of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce. "However, we also expect to see significant gains in compliance with the regulations.

For some small printers, the self-certification program could replace the need for a registration and general operating permit, and for others who are exempt from air permit requirements, the program would meet their need to submit emission reports.

For printers subject to regulations, the pilot program allows one permit as part of an Environmental Management System to cover all releases of pollutants into the environment.

An EMS uses a continuous quality improvement approach to reduce the air permit burden on both industry and regulators. The EMS permit being developed as an alternative approach, as outlined in Wisconsin's Green Tier Law, is designed to be equivalent to traditional operation permits.

"The pilot EMS program has three main goals," said Kristin Hart, DNRSouth Central Region Air Permit Engineer. "If the pilot is successful, we will be able to reduce hazardous air pollutant and ozone-forming emissions, increase the number of facilities that understand and comply with environmental regulations, and lower the administrative costs to both the state and businesses."

The EMS permit project for large printers benefits the environment by providing positive incentives to facilities meeting environmental requirements and willing to reduce emissions even further.

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The EMS permit is especially useful to large printers committed to superior environmental performance and eager to use innovative and flexible ways to pursue improved economic and environmental performance.

The advantage of an EMS permit is that it allows the facility to manage its environmental relationship based on stretch goals and flexibility. The facility is responsible for determining the phaseouts of the facility to manage their full environmental footprint, not just one thing but everything that is required to do.

The foundation of an EMS permit is a "plan-do-check-act" approach that compels continuous quality improvement. For large printers required to have a federal operation permit, the EMS permit would provide a more flexible alternative.

Hook and line steelhead season opens Sept. 3rd

DNR Press Release

POYNETTE, Wis. - The hook and line season for steelhead opens Sept. 3 on several Wisconsin rivers amid concerns from state fisheries managers that low water flows on river systems could result in high harvests of these slow growing fish.

The hook and line steelhead season opens Sept. 3 with a 90-day minimum length limit and a one-per-season limit on the Wisconsin River from the Wisconsin Dells Dam downstream, the St. Croix River downstream from the St. Croix Falls Dam, and specific segments of the Chippewa, Flambeau, Jump and Yellow rivers, and Yellow Lake in Rusk County and Butternut Lake in Price County. The season on these waterways closes Oct. 15.

The hook and line season on the Menominee River also opens Sept. 3 with a 50-inch minimum length limit and bag limit of one per season but closes Nov. 15.

To fish for steelhead with hook and line, anglers must have a Wisconsin fishing license and obtain a free steeltag sturgeon from their local DNR Service Center or license agent. After catching a lake sturgeon of legal length, anglers are legally required to keep the fish immediately valid and attach the tag to the fish just in front of the sturgeon's tail. Thus you can register the fish at a designated registration station no later than 24 hours after it was caught.

It's illegal to catch a sturgeon for someone else's tags or to even possess the tag of another person. Possession of an illegal or untaged sturgeon may result in a fine of up to $3,000, mandatory participation in the year's reevolution of all DNR licenses and possibly a 90 day jail sentence. To report a violation, contact your local warden, your DNR's department or the poacher hot line number at 1-800-847-9267 or 1-800-TIP-WDNR.

Low water flows on the Wisconsin River and Menominee River and a history of heavy angling pressure are creating the potential for overharvesting, according to DNR fisheries officials. The prospect is prompting the DNR to encourage anglers to practice catch and release this year to help protect the sturgeon fisheries in these rivers.

I'm very concerned about the economic loss alone, and the cost of trying to control invasive species, totals more than $138 million each year in the United States, according to a 1999 study by Cornell University. Such current, comprehensive figures aren't available just for Wisconsin, but the number of invasive species that have been documented in Wisconsin, and more than 160 exotic plants, animals and pathogens that have entered the Great Lakes since the 1840s and in some cases, have spread to inland waters.

The tide of invasions is expected to continue and elsewhere as global trade and travel increase, and as ecosystems begin to become more disturbed and vulnerable to introductions as a result of development, Kearns says.

Once established, these invasive species have few natural predators to keep their population in check and options for controlling their populations are limited and costly.

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The album switches pace at an alarming rate with the second track, "B.Y.O.B.", which is easily one of the wildest songs on the album. It rocks the listeners with heavy guitar riffs followed by a chorus that rivals a Justin Timberlake CD with heavy R&B influences while at the same time giving listeners a satire on the current situation in Iraq. The scariest thing about it is that it works, almost too well and providing listeners with one of the most original tracks in all of music to date. In "Radio/Vdeo" the thrash metal beat is nearly dropped out entirely as a beat that can best be described as nearly feeling that it was of the ska genre takes over. System Of A Down takes on easy targets such as the media and their absolute hatred of Hollywood several times throughout the album. But, what makes this disc so much different that other albums of the same genre, is the fact that they are hardly taking themselves entirely serious this time around. One of the greatest things they do throughout the entire course of the album is providing a blend of serious moments, such as commentary about the war in Iraq, with sections of complete lyrical nonsense. It is this mixture of moods that helps System Of A Down appeal to such a large audience.

On "Sad Statue" System Of A Down seems to have successfully wrote one of the first songs that sums up the current culture's equal division of political views in the United States with lines such as, "you and me will all go down in history with a sad statue of liberty and a generation that didn't agree". The lyrics are refreshing, as they sing not about history, but being history.

Mezmerize never misses a beat with a constant bombardment of in your face riffs combined with lead vocalist Ser Jankian's wide range of vocal talents that has made the band popular. Although the double disc release can easily be seen as a cheap way to make more money and up their chances of hitting number one on the Billboard charts, any more than 35 minutes of their insane lyrics and melody changing antics could be overwhelming to the listener.

Casual listeners and devoted System Of A Down fans will have a hard time not tapping their foot to every track; none coming close to being labeled as skippable. Mezmerize is simply a must buy for any metal or rock fan, or anyone that is looking for something refreshing in a rather bland music industry.

Star Wars saga ends victoriously
Blair Nelson

Their characters have changed, and we can finally believe these two are friends. The critics who chastised Hayden Christensen's acting in the last film may be surprised at how well he performs in the first 20 minutes alone. He only gets better by the end of the film. He was reportedly told by Lucas to "hold back" in Episode II; the moments, particularly in the beginning of Sith. By contrast, the humor of the last two episodes felt forced and cheap. Once the film begins its tragic inevitability, however, it never looks back.

The fate of the Jedi is decided, the Sith Lord, who has been planning the downfall of the Republic for over a decade, is revealed, and the Galactic Empire is created under the new emperor. Also along the way a diminutive Jedi Master will meet his match, a former queen's fate will be decided, and Obi-Wan Kenobi will lose a hand. The end.

UWSP flute professor invited to play at national convention
UWSP Press Release

Paul Doebler, professor of flute and music history, has been invited to perform at the National Flute Association (NFA) convention in San Diego. He will share the stage with renowned European flutist Wissam Boustany in a headlining recital on Friday, August 12. The program will include works by J.S. Bach, Sigfrid Karg-Elert, and Harald Genzmer.

Doebler will be assisted in his performance by pianist Eric Charnofsky, Cleveland, Ohio. This is the third NFA convention at which he has been invited to play.

In addition to performing, Doebler will also serve as a judge for the NFA High School Competition Finals which will be held at the convention.

Over the past eight months, thousands of young flutists have participated in competitions throughout the United States. The field has been narrowed to eight finalists and Doebler will help to select one musician from those finalists to receive the top honor on Thursday, August 11.

Doebler has also been selected to present an educational session entitled "How I warm up on flute". The presentation, one of four major educational sessions given at the convention, will take place on Saturday, August 13.

The NFA is expecting approximately 2,500 flutists, ranging from beginners to professionals, to attend the 2005 convention. Other well-known performers at the event will include English flutists William Bennett and Trevor Wye, principal flutist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Mathieu Doutourd, and principal flutist of the Philadelphia Orchestra Jeffrey Khaner.

In addition to his work at UWSP, Doebler is a flutist with the Wisconsin Arts Quintet, principal flutist of the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra and director of the Point Music Camp. He has performed with chamber groups and orchestras in New York, New Jersey and Wisconsin and is a frequent performer on Wisconsin Public Radio.

He has served as the faculty leader for two study abroad programs in Britain and will be leading a third during the fall 2005 semester. While in England, Doebler performed in London with the BBC Concert Orchestra and City of London Choir. He holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in flute from the Juilliard School of Music.
The heart of the reserve are our students. Students basically do everything in the reserve.

Sturgeon from page 9

about excessive harvest if fish remain low, because it appears that anglers are more successful when water levels are lower. Tim Larentz, DNR fisheries supervisor in Poynette, "Two years ago when we had extreme low flows on the Wisconsin River, the fish got hammered."

A minimum length limit that alternates every year between 50 inches and 70 inches on the Wisconsin River and the Menominee River has reduced harvest of lake sturgeon on those waters by about 30 percent each.

That's important because the state does not have sturgeon population estimates for these large river systems, and because lake sturgeon are particularly susceptible to over harvest, given that females don't spawn until they're 25 years old and then only once every four years. But the alternating minimum length limit has not provided adequate protection in 2003 on the Wisconsin River, when water flows at their second lowest level in 63 years contributed to a record harvest of 1,100. At this stage this season, stream flows are likely to be well below the average for the month.

Mike Donofrio, fisheries supervisor stationed in Poynette, is also concerned about the potential for heavy harvests on the Menominee, whose population pressure has been increasing since the late 1980s. The alternating year regulations have reduced the overall harvest because it's resulted in an average harvest of zero in years with the minimum 70-inch length limit. But harvest during years with a 50-inch minimum length limit has grown every year and has risen from 80 fish in 1989 to 210 in 2003.

"Increasing fishing pressure since 1999 of 12 percent per year will likely induce another record harvest, estimated at 235, for the Menominee River," Donofrio says.

The Menominee River's sturgeon population is estimated to be about 30 percent of the estimated carrying capacity for the river system. The eight hydroelectric dams on the river keep the fish from migrating upstream from the Turtle Flambeau Flowage, including some in the Flambeau River. There is a fishing refuge immediately below the Moose Lake Dam in Sawyer County. There is an added cache, Episode III, below the Turtle Flambeau Flowage that prohibits all fishing. Below the refuge, the North Fork of the Flambeau River is open to sturgeon fishing - Jeff Roth, senior fisheries biologist, Mercer

Wisconsin River We will have the registration stations for PIT tags, similar to Chippewa River, for determining an exploitation rate. Registration stations will also be asking for gut samples to determine sex of harvest and PCB samples from harvested fish. Fish will also be working over at the registration stations this year - Tim Larson, fisheries supervisor, Poynette

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Lake Superior The hook and line season for sturgeon on Lake Superior is open all year with a minimum length limit of 50 inches and a bag limit of one fish. We catch the good numbers of lake sturgeon in Chequamegon Bay in our spring assessment nets. Lake sturgeon do not spawn in Chequamegon Bay. However, they do appear to be present in Chequamegon Bay in the years that they do not spawn in Lake Superior, which has been the case since 1999. The sturgeon fishermen have been tagging the Sturgeon River in Upper Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula (at least 150 miles away) - Mike Seider, fisheries biologist, Bayfield