Preparations for UC renovation beginning to take place

Brandi Pettit
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Don’t bother taking your textbooks back to the Dreyfus University Center (UC) after final exams. No one will be there.

By 2008, the Allen Health and Wellness Center, the Debolt Residential Dining Center, and the UC, collectively known as The Centers, will all have undergone complete updating and renovation.

Starting in May, it’s the University Center’s turn.

“See those boxes in our windows,” asked Emily Thousand, the graphic design and promotions coordinator for the University Store, “it’s not just for show.”

Thousand said that the store has been sporting a moving theme with stacked boxes dominating space in the store to inform everyone of the upcoming move.

The store is also having a moving sale, which has attracted a lot of attention from students.

“After all, who doesn’t love 50 or 70 percent off,” said Thousand.

Lara Ketchum-Cifti, director for The Centers, is excited about the $22.7 million dollar project, which calls for the last of the UC operations and Residence Hall Association to desert the building by May 22.

“We’re closing a building, not any

Four sketches above detail the planned design of the new University Center.

International program headlining talks of budget cuts for campus

Matthew Inda
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A budget review meeting was held yesterday, Feb. 15, in the Legacy Room of the Dreyfus University Center to discuss UW-SP’s budget issues, mainly that of future cuts.

In an open discussion led by Greg Diemer, co-chair of the budget committee, issues were raised on how the school is going to bring in new revenue.

Currently, UW-SP’s looks to cut $426,000 of base funding as well as $263,000 of its one-time funding. The $689,000 projected cut is a figure lower than initially anticipated, but UW-SP is still searching to cut an additional $35,000.

The budget cut recommendation process is led by the budget review committee, a group put together to help advise Chancellor Linda Bunnell in her final decision.

The group has met several times to create ideas on how to help solve the situation. One recommendation of emphasis was to change the funding source on the position of director of International Programs.

Dave Staszak, the director of International Programs, holds a half-time position and is retiring at semester’s ends. With the decision to keep the position around, the committee recommended to change the funding source from the UW-SP’s general purpose revenue (GPR) to program revenue only. This would in effect, clear up $77,000.

The GPR program is an operation of UW-SP which funds areas around the school such as instructional programs and administrative operations. This includes areas like career services, student advising, and groundskeeping. The GPR receives some state tax support that is steadily dropping, thus a partial reason in tuition increases.

However, Bunnell has set a vision for the UW-SP to increase students who find and depend even more on UW-SP’s general purpose revenue (GPR) to program revenue only. This

The UC is not up to state building code in various areas. The popular student gathering location has a worn out internal structure, old pipes, and

The oldest parts of the building are 50 years old,” said Ketchum-Cifti.

The UC is past due for a facelift, both inside and out.

“国际研究项目带头的

谈预算削减

马修·因达
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一个预算审查会议

昨天在德雷富斯大学中心的Legacy Room举行，于2月15日，讨论了威斯康辛州立大学系统（UW-SP）的预算问题，主要涉及未来的削减。

在由Greg Diemer领导的一个小组的公开讨论中，提出了一些关于如何帮助解决该情况的想法。其中一个建议是改变国际项目的资助来源。

Dave Staszak是国际项目的主任，他担任半职并即将退休。由于决定保留该职位，委员会建议将资金来源从UW-SP的一般用途收入（GPR）改为项目收入。这将清出77,000美元。

GPR项目是UW-SP的一个运作，为学校内各项支出提供资金，包括职业服务、学生咨询和绿化。GPR从一些州税中获得支持，但该支持正在稳步下降，因此是学费增加的部分原因。

不过，邦内尔设定了一个愿景，即增加那些依赖UW-SP一般用途收入（GPR）来资助项目的学生。这将有助于解决学费问题。

国际研究项目成为

讨论预算削减

马修·因达
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一个预算审查会议

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Report of a vandalized car located in parking lot F West.

Parking Lot F
Feb. 7, 2006 12:30 a.m.
Type: VANDALISM

Report of a vehicle running into Hansen Hall – vehicle was damaged and left the scene. Skid marks lead from the circle to the door with no damage to the building.

Learning Resource Center
Feb. 9, 2006 7:41 p.m.
Type: HARASSMENT

A female called in to report that on her way home from campus, she was followed by an unknown male. No description of the individual was made available.

Steiner Hall
Feb. 10, 2006 2:25 a.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

Report of a male individual passed out on the third floor of Steiner Hall, south wing men’s bathroom. He was found unconscious, but breathing with a steady pulse.

Pray/Sims Hall
Feb. 10, 2006 10:16 p.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

CA in Pray/Sims Hall called to report an individual locked in the third floor bathroom, possibly passed out/not responding. Underage drinking citation was issued.

Baldwin Hall
Feb. 12, 2006 12:11 a.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

CA in Baldwin Hall called to report having an intoxicated individual in the second floor kitchen.

Parking Lot Q
Feb. 13, 2006 19:23 p.m.
Type: FORCED ENTRY

Report of a vehicle in parking lot Q that was broken into.
Because I said so... From the editor's Desk

Liz Bolton
Editor-in-Chief
POINT@UWSP.EDU

When I first came to college, I had a few assumptions about how my life would change. I assumed I would become smarter and more confident. I thought I would make a lot of friends, and I thought that I would mature into a more polished self. All that has seemed to happen, arguably.

The one thing that I didn't expect, however, is that I would become shallower. This newfound practicality has invaded me like a bit- ter, yet lustful disease. When I first entered college, I was going to become a wildlife ecologist or rehabilitator, pulling in $20,000 if I was lucky. I thought my calling was to own a nice entertainment center and fancy kitchen utensils.

It gets worse. I was raised by civil servants, and taught to believe in community and compassion for others. Once I appreciated this, now every time I go home I accuse my dad of being a communist and completely out-of-date. It's kind of funny, but jeez, what the hell happened?

I think my transformation is due to the current political environment we live in. We, as new members of the work-force, don't really have the same security that our parents had.

For example, take health insurance. I feel I have two options: either lose this ton of money, or have a lot of kids. If I pump out enough, one of them is bound to take me in when I am old and frail, right? (Secretly I wait for the day when the government proclaims this as the solution to the social security problem.)

Unfortunately, relying on my un-born children just doesn't sit well with me, so if figure I just have to have a ton of money to take care of any issues I may have in the future. I figure I have a good chance of getting cancer twice, and at least one hip replacement. I think that would set me back about half a million dollars. So after that, I'm totally in the clear!

I just want to avoid the fate that thousands are going through right now, with all of the big companies defaulting on their pensions and benefits. Like the Polaroid company.

They refused to let their employees sell their stock in the company when it was going under. Everyone lost their entire savings. The employees sued, and each received $20. One woman in Nebraska had lost campus set the debate, and now spends her days collecting cans at 78.

There is no way I am going to be a can-collector at 79. No thank you. If that means I have to sell my soul to the corporate world for 50 years, so be it. I'll toll away in that stupid cubicle, the one I made by civil servants, and taught to believe in community and compassion for others. Once I appreciated this, now every time I go home I accuse my dad of being a communist and completely out-of-date. It's kind of funny, but jeez, what the hell happened?

I just want to avoid the fate that thousands are going through right now, with all of the big companies defaulting on their pensions and benefits. Like the Polaroid company.

SQA Update

Looking for an exciting event for the weekend? Join us for the 14th Annual Building Unity Conference, right here at UW-SP. "Learning from the Past, Present to Build the Future" is the theme of the year. Building Unity is presented by United Council for a three day event with a diverse group of over 350 students. It will include over 50 workshops with a wide variety of topics on diversity issues to skill building.

We also have two reputable speakers from NYC and LA - "Faces of America" and Bobby Gonzalez. Bobby Gonzalez, a known lecturer, storyteller and poet born and raised in New York City. For his performance, he draws on his childhood experiences in a bicultural environment, being half Native American and half Latino.

"Faces of America" is a solo-performance depicting the extraordinarily truthful and sometimes shocking elements of American society. Meals are provided and the conference starts on Friday. March 10. Workshops, performances and entertainment continue until Sunday at 1:33 p.m.

One more piece of good news is IT'S FREEEEE! That's right! UW-SP is a United Council member, therefore the conference is free for students! That's a savings of $35 per student! Time is running out. You must register before Feb. 17 or it will be $50. For non-students, registration costs $50 before Feb. 17, and will be $75 after. If you are interested or know of an awesome faculty who would be interested in giving a workshop on diversity for the conference, you are welcome to register for workshop submission too.

You can visit www.uwsp.edu/stourc/sqa/ that will direct you to the registration forms online, or if you are having lunch at the UC, just fill a form out located at the office of SQA in lower level of the UC.

Building Unity 2006 is going to be an unbelievable time, so grab your friends, sign up, and have an intellectually mind-blowing weekend! Hope to see you all there!
I enjoyed learning with and about how smart partner was a little arrogant compared to me, but it was not with three wonderful partners whom I read his lecture. Unfortunately, I respect for that.

I had serious doubts about taking the next course in line, but when I found I had a B, I thought the course, and I hold it severely. Dick... I watched as the boy looked at his mom's groceries. Back and forth, I could see his mind spinning, putting together the pieces. His mom's groceries were going to make some manner of grown-up, nutritious food, probably meatloaf. My groceries.... That's when I realized the truth. I live every child's dream. My life is awesome.

I was buying some Doritos, some Mountain Dew, and a box of Fruity Pebbles. I watched as the boy looked at his mom's groceries, then at my groceries. Back and forth, I could see his mind spinning, putting together the pieces. His mom's groceries were going to make some manner of grown-up, nutritious food, probably meatloaf. My groceries.... That's when I realized the truth. I live every child's dream. My life is awesome.

I looked at him and pointed at the Doritos. "When I get home, I'm going to eat all of those." I said. "It's going to completely spoil my dinner." I smiled and pointed to the box of Fruity Pebbles. "That's my dinner." He didn't say anything. He was only about six or seven, and I'm guessing that he was some kind of pervert. Which is fair enough, really. From her perspective, I probably am. What's the point? Here's the point: sometimes we can't really appreciate how good we have it until we compare our situation with someone else's. That night my Fruity Pebbles were extra-tasty because I knew that somewhere out there a little kid was eating meatloaf.

It's human nature, and for the most part it's harmless, but there's a dark side. Sometimes people feel good when they're making other people feel bad about themselves. They only feel good by comparison. These people are assholes, and there's a good chance that your ex-lab partner is one of them.

What should you do when confronted with assholes? First off, don't date them.

Other than that, ignoring them is probably the best way to go. I know it lacks the visceral joy of a brick through a window, but it's the best way. In my experiences, the road to happiness is paved with not giving a f*ck about what other people think about you. Huh... That's not nearly as poetic as I'd hoped. Let me illustrate this another way.

If I'd overheard that little boy's mom say: "He's going to eat cereal for dinner! And he's probably a pervert too!" I wouldn't care. Why should I give a damn what some stranger thinks of me? Why should you care what some dickhole science guy's opinion is? If you care too much about what other people think of you, you give them control over your life. That's not a good way to live your life. Trust me on this. The quality of my life vastly improved as soon as I stopped giving a damn what people thought of me. Yours will do the same. It's delightfully liberating not giving a damn. But if you still need approval from an outside source, rest assured that I like you. And you've got a $10 gift certificate coming from the mission.

Remember, Pat Rothfuss is your source for coffee, advice and unconditional positive regard. E-mail him at proth@uwsp.edu.

This weekend at the Mission you've got a hardcore seemingly-bad band, Friday there's White Knuckle Trip with Movement to June and the Allman Brothers. On Saturday there's Dead Hands Rising, TIS, and For Tomorrow/VIDe. Those who are about to rock, we salute you. Remember, all shows = all ages.
I am serving as an intern and one of the four student participants in the spring 2006 semester abroad to Tahiti and New Zealand. We began our journey from Chicago's O'Hare national airport Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. with temperatures near 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Approximately 10 flight hours later, we arrived in Papeete (pa-poh-et-teh), Tahiti where our group had to adjust to 80 degree Fahrenheit temperatures with near 100 percent humidity in a matter of a few hours travel. The scenery was drastically different from where we had come from. Eroding giant oceanic volcanoes make up the French Polynesian islands of Tahiti and Moorea (moo-reh-ah) with luscious green vegetation covering every mountain and valley. We spent most of the first 10 days of our semester abroad in the South Pacific island of Moorea. The station of CRIOBE (Centre de Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de l'Environnement) provided most of our accommodations while on the island and Mountains with hugging hills a bay with extensive beaches, main and less travelled roads that revealed the depth of Tahitian culture if one ventured in the right direction were all near our station's location.

The students quickly became aware of a few interesting cultural differences between home and our short time on the islands. Mosquitoes are plentiful, but there were no screens on windows and doors. Dogs that appeared to be mutts roam the streets. Chickens also roam extensively and the roosters replace the usefulness of an alarm clock. Many Tahitians greet each stranger with "Bonjour" and a smile. In general, dress is very casual and their lives appeared quite content without numerous material items that we have become accustomed to rely on. The flip-flop sandals I am serving as an intern and one of the four student participants in the spring 2006 semester abroad to Tahiti and New Zealand. We began our journey from Chicago's O'Hare national airport Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. with temperatures near 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Approximately 10 flight hours later, we arrived in Papeete (pa-poh-et-teh), Tahiti where our group had to adjust to 80 degree Fahrenheit temperatures with near 100 percent humidity in a matter of a few hours travel. The scenery was drastically different from where we had come from. Eroding giant oceanic volcanoes make up the French Polynesian islands of Tahiti and Moorea (moo-reh-ah) with luscious green vegetation covering every mountain and valley. We spent most of the first 10 days of our semester abroad in the South Pacific island of Moorea. The station of CRIOBE (Centre de Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de l'Environnement) provided most of our accommodations while on the island and Mountains with hugging hills a bay with extensive beaches, main and less travelled roads that revealed the depth of Tahitian culture if one ventured in the right direction were all near our station's location.

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Rudy's Redeye adds some class

Rebecca Buchanan
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Looking for a place for date night, happy hour, or girl's night out? Rudy's Redeye Grill is the perfect choice for any of the occasions. Rudy's Redeye Grill, located on Hwy 10 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, opened in mid-December of 2005.

Rudy's Redeye Grill is great for college students, this venue specializes in Mediterranean cuisine, including favorites like gyros and kabobs, as well as such diverse delights as falafel, chicken tandoori, and baklava.

The new Gyros and Kabob House, located at the corner of Main Street and Strong Avenue, specializes in Mediterranean cuisine, including favorites like gyros and kabobs, as well as such diverse delights as falafel, chicken tandoori, and baklava.

The restaurant hosts an array of Mediterranean decor as well as a section where customers can sit on colorful and plush cushions in front of short tables while eating their meals cross-legged.

"I'm really into diversity. I want to bring a little more variety to town; a different ambiance." The restaurant opens this Thursday and will be open for lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., then re-open for dinner at 4:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Vaezzadeh said he would consider staying open Friday and Saturday nights as long as things don't get "too rowdy."

UW-SP faculty member opens Gyro House

Aaron Hull and Jen Masterson
THE POINTER
AARONHULL@UWSP.EDU

The new Gyros and Kabob House, located at the corner of Main Street and Strong Avenue, opened in mid-December of 2005.

Rudy's Redeye Grill is tucked deep in the wintry woods. Watercolor paintings in golden frames line the walls and the chandelier hanging in the middle of the restaurant brings the room together. Rudy's Redeye Grill also boasts of a full bar and they're not joking. The bar takes up half the restaurant, complete with bar seating, numerous tables and televisions. It's similar to a sports bar but maintains the style of a sophisticated cocktail restaurant.

The décor of the restaurant suggests the food to be on the pricey end, and that is no understatement. If you want to enjoy the bar atmosphere, you can order drinks and appetizers such as the spinach artichoke dip, coconut shrimp or the monster buffalo wings. For a more substantial meal, try any one of their steak options, after all they pick up the tab (or celebrate birthday parties. Rudy's Redeye Grill takes on the flavor of a night on the town in the city.

If you want a lighter meal instead of a sophisticated cocktail restaurant, this venue is a nice alternative to the other high priced restaurants in Stevens Point. Rudy's Redeye Grill is great for romantic dates, dinner with the parents (because they pick up the tab) or celebrating birthday parties. Rudy's Redeye Grill takes on the flavor of a night on the town in the city.

A Have you noticed that UWSP is turning to China?

Study Abroad in China - UWSP will offer Several Opportunities in 2006?

China is on the move. Those with experience in the world's most populous country will be in on the ground floor. Enhance your résumé as you prepare for the future business and academic communities which will DEMAND Americans with first-hand experience in this amazing country, China.

- BUSINESS/ECONOMIC INTERNSHIPS IN CHENGDU, CHINA
Program Leader: Gary Mullins,
DATES: May 23 – June 21

- POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN CHINA
Program Leader: Bob Wolensby and Jianwei Wang, DATES: June 19 – July 9

- FOSSIL RESOURCES IN CHINA
Program Leader:
Yusheng (Christopher) Liu and
Michael Bozich; DATES: June 22 – July 13

- SEMESTER IN CHINA...

All courses will be taught in English and...

Your Financial Aid applies!

FURTHER INFORMATION:
International Programs,
2100 Main Street, Room 105 CCC
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point,
Stevens Point, WI 54481
tel# (715) 346-2717
Email: intprog@uwsp.edu
www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad
GRRR...

Oh my lucky stars! She is more beautiful than a grilled hamburger slathered in the sun-glopped sauce. Her hair is softer than snow on a panhandle, and she smells better than a freshly opened box of chocolate. She drives my mind nuts, makes me skip, and baby talk. But why should someone as beautiful as me love me? Oh! I need my inhaler!

"ROMANCE FOR PUGS"

February 16, 2006

COMICS

SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND COMICS TO:
J RATC567 @UWSP.EDU

There's a six foot tall fly outside my window! What's going on?!!

That's Doctor Jones. He's still pretty ticked about me, uh, turning him into a giant fly. He'll go away in the morning.

Well, I've got a solution now... Where can you get that much bug spray? And why do you need it?

Costco! And I spend summers in New Jersey.

Check please!
Freshmen hoopsters prove clutch in comeback win over UW-Stout

Robert Lucas
Sports Reporter

Down 18 with 13 minutes to play, on the road against the top team in the conference and without one of their star players, it seemed like the UW-SP men’s basketball team was out for the count Saturday night. Too bad no one told them the game was over. Drew Jackson hit a shot with 1.2 seconds remaining to lift Point over the Blue Devils and keep their chances at a league title alive.

“I couldn’t be prouder of what these guys accomplished,” Pointers’ coach Bob Semling said. “We could have easily folded in the second half, but they hung with it.”

The Pointers shot an abysmal 29 percent in the first half and were lucky to only be down eight to begin the second half. Stout’s lead was extended to 33-35 in the second half. However, it was then that UW-SP’s freshmen began to play like seniors. Bryan Beamish hit two big three-pointers and Jackson made four from the charity stripe to bring the Pointers closer.

However, the biggest shot during the comeback might have been a three-pointer by Khalifa El-Amin, who was starting in place of Bauer. El-Amin hit a 35-footer with two minutes to play to bring UW-SP within two points.

UW-Stevens Point took part in the Eastbay Invitational, held last Saturday at the Multi-Activity Center. The Pointer men’s and women’s teams finished the meet in second place in each of their divisions.

Pointers sweep men’s and women’s WIAC titles

Press Release

SPORTS REPORTER

For the third time in school history, UW-Stevens Point captured both the men’s and women’s WIAC swimming and diving titles on Saturday in Minneapolis.

The Pointer men cruised to their seventh straight title, while the women’s team averaged four straight close losses to UW-La Crosse with a narrow win of its own, outscoring the Eagles by 46.5 points to earn the championship.

All 15 of UW-SP’s women’s swimmers in Saturday’s preliminaries qualified for the finals and the team’s distance squad put the Pointers in position to win as Alissa Colbert, Steph Boheme and Lindsey Googins opened the night by finishing second through fourth in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

Abby Strobel followed with her second victory of the meet, winning the 200-yard backstroke in 2:09.06 and Jennie Roskopf added her second title with her third straight 200-yard breaststroke title in 2:11.69. Meghan Walsh also won her second event, taking the 200-yard butterfly crown in 2:11.70.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Caitlin Hake, Beth Bard, Jennifer Crook and Kelsey Crumstadt finished off the victory with a winning time of 3:33:04. It marked the women’s team’s third title, having also won in 1997, 1998 and the previous six years.

When you donate blood, you do more good than you know...

...for accident victims, premature babies, chemotherapy patients and many others in your community.

UWSP Blood Drive
Sponsored by ACT

Monday, Feb. 20 & Tuesday, Feb. 21
10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. both days
University Center, Melvin Laird Room

For an appointment or more information, call BloodCenter of Wisconsin toll free at 1-888-310-7555.

All blood types are needed.
**Career Highlights:**

- Conference champion 14 times and runner-up five times during career.
- Eight-time All-American and 11-time honorable mention All-American.
- Named team’s Most Valuable Swimmer twice.

**Major:** Web and Digital Media Development

**Hometown:** La Crescent, Wis.

**Do you have any nicknames? - None.**

**What are your plans after graduation? - Working in the real world.**

**What has helped you become such an accomplished swimmer?**

The team and coaching staff, none of my accomplishments could have been made without the team and coaches to push me harder.

**What is your favorite Pointer sports memory?**

Cutting AL’s hair at the conference meet because we unified the conference title.

**What’s your most embarrassing moment?**

I was standing on the block and got pushed off and ended up straddling the lane.

**What CD is in your stereo right now?**

Tim McGraw - Greatest Hits.

**What DVD is currently in your DVD player?**

Tombstone.

**What will you remember most about UW-SP?**

Deep sea fishing over training trips.

**What are the three biggest influences in your life?**

Family, the swim team (which is like a family) and my coaches.

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**Senior on the Spot**

Alex Anderson - Swimming and Diving

**Pointer women without Schultz, lose to Blue Devils**

Melissa Dyzelski

THE POINTER

It was a mirror image Saturday, as the UW-SP women’s basketball team played without their leading scorer, just as UW-Stout had done in January in their first meeting of the year.

The top two teams in the WIAC battled it out in Menomonie Saturday, but the Blue Devils dominated in the first half and defeated the Pointers 80-54.

Jan. 7’s Stout-Pointer game ended in victory due to the loss of the Blue Devil’s leading scorer, Kelsey Duoss. This time around, the Pointers were without their leading scorer, Cassandra Schulte.

UW-Stout came off strong to hold a 14-11 lead midway through the first half. Stout continued to score, shooting 63.3 percent, while the Pointers only maintained 37.5 percent.

UW-SP was the first to score in the second half, but continued to trail behind Stout the remainder of the game.

Chelese Kranz was the Pointers lone double digit scorer as she led with 16 points and four rebounds for the evening. Haley Houghton split those in half and scored eight points with four total rebounds.

The top three leading scorers for the Blue Devils were Molly Hendricks with 15 points, Lindsey Geisler with 11, and Joanna Bird with 10. This time around, Duoss scored a total of eight points.

UW-SP is now 16-7 overall, and 9-5 in the WIAC, a game and a half behind UW-Stout, who is now 16-7 overall and 11-4 in the WIAC.

The Pointers will face UW-Superior in the Berg Gymnasium for Senior Day at 3 p.m. on Feb. 18.

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**Pointers take their show on the road in the NCHA playoffs**

Robert Lucas

SPORTS REPORTER

With a home and home series against the UW-Eau Claire Blugolds, the Pointers had a chance to assure themselves home ice in the first round of the NCHA with a sweep. They came up just a little bit short. The Pointers won 4-2 Friday night in Eau Claire and tied the Blugolds 2-2 Saturday night at Willett Arena.

After a scoreless first period, each team picked up the offense in the second. Point's Shane Foster scored his fourth goal of the year at the 1:33 mark. UW-EC came back with two quick goals near the midpoint of the period, one by Chip Dunleavy to tie the game and another by Jeremiah Ulvin to put the Blugolds ahead. The lead would be short-lived, however.

UW-SP swept the home and away teams with eight goals to the Blugolds five on Saturday, as the Pointers remained on top with a 13th goal. Fish and Russel Law, knew Weber to put the Blugolds mark. UW-EC came back with a surprising win by Lake in the overtime, winning 2-1.

**What has helped you become such an accomplished swimmer?**

The team and coaching staff, none of my accomplishments could have been made without the team and coaches to push me harder.

**What is your favorite Pointer sports memory?**

Cutting AL’s hair at the conference meet because we unified the conference title.

**What’s your most embarrassing moment?**

I was standing on the block and got pushed off and ended up straddling the lane.

**What CD is in your stereo right now?**

Tim McGraw - Greatest Hits.

**What DVD is currently in your DVD player?**

Tombstone.

**What will you remember most about UW-SP?**

Deep sea fishing over training trips.

**What are the three biggest influences in your life?**

Family, the swim team (which is like a family) and my coaches.

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**America’s “best team ever” stumbles out of the blocks**

Steve Roeland

THE POINTER

The games of the twentieth Winter Olympiad were supposed to be dominated by the United States. According to the multitude of promos on NBC, flagship network of Olympic coverage, the group of American Olympians sent to Torino, Italy this month was the best ever assembled in the history of the games.

Too bad foresight isn’t 20/20.

In less than a week, prominent athletes from the U.S. have stumbled, fallen and faltered their way to an unimpressive third place in the overall medal standings. Third place may sound good to most casual observers, but four of the eight total U.S. medals were obtained in snowboarding events, which were not even Olympic competitions until 1998 Nagano games.

While there is plenty of time for the American delegation to rekindle their early mistakes, some Torino troubles have left competitors from the U.S. red, white, blue and green.

Two American athletes, Lindsey Kildow in downhill skiing and Samantha Retrosi in the luge, were taken to hospitals for injuries sustained during runs in their respective events. Kildow came away from a nasty spill with a severe back contusion, forcing her to be subjected to CAT scans and a myriad of tests. Retrosi was also sent to the hospital and was diagnosed with a concussion after coming in contact with the wall two-thirds of the way through her run in the second heat of Monday’s competition.

Crashes and falls happen during the fast-paced competition at the Olympics. However, the seasoned Olympic veterans are failing to provide a

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**Bode Miller (above) was disqualified from the men’s alpine combined event.**

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Photo courtesy of The Conservative Voice.
Haunted Wisconsin

Beneath the tidet of sleep and time
Strange fish are moving

-Thomas Wolfe

Scott Butterfield
THE POINTER
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Call them apparitions, spirits, spooks, shades, wraiths, specters, phantoms, poltergeists, visons, nightshades or just plain ghosts. Names do not matter. The very presence of these metaphysical bodies in our material world is what curious individuals have been searching for long before you and I and our great-great-grandparents ever lived. Before recorded history (we're talking thousands and thousands of years ago) numerous cultures and peoples throughout the world have shared the belief that the human soul, or some variation of it, continues on after the death of the body. Some Native American tribes believed you could converse with the dead spirits of your great-grandparents ever lived. Other tribes believed you could converse with spirits, each with their own special powers to influence the environment of living human beings. Whatever time period you wish to study and observe it will be clear that the problem of life after death, of what happens to a person once they die, is of paramount importance.

And so, in this present day of scientific superiority, of unassailable empirical truth, we find that much of the supernatural can be explained away by those researchers who love to debunk the unusual. Mystery is taken away from us. But we can get it back. You just need to develop that trait common to all but used only by some: curiosity. Right here in Wisconsin, in fact right here in Stevens Point, there are chances for you to test your curiosity.

The famous folklorist Robert Gard has said that Wisconsin has the most ghosts per square mile than any other state in the nation. While this cannot be proven concretely, a cursory glance at any Web site dedicated to hauntings of Wisconsin will give one an endless stream of stories about ghosts, goblins and assorted beings of the "other persuasion." In fact, Stevens Point has some hauntings that are well known around the state. For instance, travel northeast on Highway 66 near Jordan and you will find a bridge called "Bloody Road Bridge" where a young bride was killed on her wedding night. Her ghost is said to haunt the bridge where her life ended. There is also a place called Boy Scout Lane which is rumored to be haunted by dead Boy Scouts. After dark, along the road, it is said that a swelling light, a lantern, is seen on the road as the dead Boy Scouts search for their troop. The cemeteries at Plainfield in which Ed Gein and some of his victims are buried is also not surprising—surprisingly, supposed to be haunted.

Many other stories exist and many of them are found in "Wisconsin Road Guide to Haunted Locations" by Chad Lewis and Terry Fisk, both professional paranormal investigators. This book gives directions and exact locations of the best haunted sites in Wisconsin. Another good book is "The W-Files: Reports of Wisconsin's Unexplained Phenomena" by Jay Rath. This book has some fascinating stories of Chupacabras right here in Wisconsin, and also presents the theory that people from Atlantis settled in Wisconsin and mined copper by Lake Mills in Jefferson County. Lots of strange happenings.

See Haunted pg. 11

Bike tune-ups can cure those cold winter blues

Adam Eader
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Maintaining a bike is one of the most enjoyable aspects of bike ownership. With proper cleaning and care, bikes will run smoothly and last longer.

During the winter, dreams of cruising along country roads on a road bike mixed with pumping legs on a mountain bike downhill through a forest roll along in my mind. While I journey through winter, keeping busy with other outdoor activities, my bikes still hang heavy in the back of my thoughts like they do in my garage.

Usually around mid-winter I pull my cold bikes from the garage and bring them inside for surgery. The first step in cleaning my bikes is to remove both wheels. Once they are removed I apply a degreaser and let the degreaser set in, roughly. After 5-10 minutes of letting the degreaser set in, I take the chain off. Most newer model chains have a master link, which provides an easy way to detach as well as attach the chain link extractor. Once the chain is off, I scrub grit, dirt and old grease from the chain (using a sponge and hot water) as well as check each individual link for stiffness. If any of my chain's links are stiff, I replace the entire chain or replace the whole chain. I let my chain sit in a de-rusting liquid for necessary time. It's a good idea to brush down the rims and tires with hot soapy water.

Next, wipe and brush the crankset and derailleur clean of debris, followed by washing the bike frame with hot soapy water and a sponge. After washing the different parts of the bike make sure to dry them off. A bike lubricant should be added to the chain, areas where the derailleur meets and cable housings, while grease should be applied to cables and hubs.

Maintaining a bike without the help of a bike maintenance technician is fairly new to me. With helpful advice from bike knowledgeable friends and bike maintenance books, I'm picking up pointers that make bike mechanics easier.

There are many knowledgable and friendly bike shops in our area. I buy parts and take my bike in when needed to Pump and Pedal in Plover. A bicycle maintenance book I've been following is "Bicycle Repair Manual" by Chris Sidwells. There is nothing that feels quite as smooth as riding on a maintained bike, especially when you cleaned and repaired it yourself.

Outdoor EdVentures Tip of the Week

Josh Spice
MANAGER TRIP LEADER AND OUTDOOR EDVENTURES AND RETAIL

Use of a sled on winter camping trips can be mighty convenient, especially when set up correctly. Putting some weight or cumbersome items in a sled helps to take some weight off your back and makes it safer crossing ice by spreading out the weight. Make a harness out of rope and three carabiners, two to attach to your backpack's hip belt or ice axe loops and one to attach to the sled's rope. Add a short section of bungee or shock cord to keep the sled from jerking with each step, especially when ascending. The sled should be narrow enough to track in your own footsteps, without creating its own path. Put gear in a dry bag in a sled with vertical sidewalls to help keep it from rolling out. Add straps or bungee netting to secure gear in the sled, especially when traversing slopes, walking over logs, etc, can cause it to capsize. Stop in Outdoor EdVentures to learn more about this trick, along with many other tips and techniques to improve your outdoor experiences.
The North Star: A constant guide throughout time

Melissa Dyszelski
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Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are...

I’ve often wondered about the North Star. Why is it there? Why is it so significant? Now that it is colder outside and the night sky is more visible on clear nights, it is often fairly easy to spot the famous star that is a part of the Little Dipper.

Here are some facts and maybe even answers to your questions about the North Star.

According to www.messiercatalog.com, the North Star, also called the Pole Star or Polaris, is the star that the earth’s axis points toward in the night sky. Some say that it seems like the star doesn’t move and some have created legends about why the sky is there and why it doesn’t move. But what is so important about it?

Well, for many years, the North Star has been used as a navigation aid and to chart the night sky. (See the Messier Catalog). The North Star has been used as a navigation aid and to chart the night sky. (See the Messier Catalog).

Over the course of time, the North Star changes. Right now, the current North Star is Polaris, which is the brightest star in the constellation Ursa Minor (also known as the Little Dipper). The North Star changes over time because the direction of the earth’s axis slowly changes over time.

The 2005 Hunting Season Incidence Report for Wisconsin shows only one shooting incident with a child under 12, and that involved a 10-year-old who hadn’t graduated from a hunter’s education course. At one point in the legislation’s history, 8-year-olds were included in the proposal’s language. After completing a Hunter’s Education course, children at this age level would be allowed to bow or gun hunt with their parent or guardian, provided that the child and adult share the same weapon.

Unfortunately, some state senators felt that type of responsibility was too much for a young child to handle, including Rockland’s Senator Alan Lasee.

“We feel that there are a variety of amendments that would make this a better piece of legislation,” said Jennifer Esser, Lasee’s aide.

While one reason for lowering the legal hunting age would be to expose children to hunting sooner, the bill itself seems altruistic. It’s no secret that few outdoorsmen can match the rigidity of Wisconsin’s wallet during the past several years, and the Department of Natural Resources has been suffering right along with the rest of us.

Despite selling millions of hunting and fishing licenses annually, the Wisconsin DNR is forced to make painful cuts that will affect our state’s outdoors programs. In order to offset negative program changes and account for inflation, license fees should be increased yearly, but many haven’t been in nearly a decade.

The budget cuts within the DNR have created vacancies in Conservation Warden and Wildlife Biologist positions, caused a 70 percent reduction in operating funds for public land management and strongly influenced an overall decrease in the quality of our lakes and streams.

Legislators knew something had to be done to fix the problem. Lowering the hunting age seemed to be the most logical way to boost income. With the number of baby boomers soon retiring from the hunting lifestyle, it seemed prudent to engage younger people into outdoor activities.

“It’s important to get kids involved in hunting at a younger age. If they’re not engaged in hunting by 12 or 13, they probably won’t ever be,” said Scott Gunderson, a Republican Senator from Waterford and one of AB 586’s sponsors.

By 8-year-olds in the bill’s language, it was sent to the Senate with a strong bipartisan vote of 74 in favor and 19 against.

While some influential Wisconsin Legislators have a way of expressing their interest like poor questioning victi msof society. Seeing that Governor Doyle recently made a law sticking kids back into car seats until they are eight years old, caterwauling about AB 586 surely abounded at the state capital until a compromise was reached.

And so, the majority of legislators in favor of the bill as it was, had to agree on new terms.

“Rather than rush into a vote, we should decide to work out a compromise to address some of the concern,” said Mike Prentice, a spokesman for Republican Senator Scott Fitzgerald and Jim Lencz.

The bill was amended to include that 10-year-olds, not 8-year-olds, would be allowed to obtain a hunting license and discharge weapons both while hunting and during target practice, as long as they were within arm’s distance of a parent or guardian. Completion of a Hunter’s Education course is still part of the package.

With these new changes in place, the new bill is expected to go back to the floor for a vote this week.

To read this bill in its entirety, go to www.legis.state.wi.us.

Outdoors • February 16, 2006 • THE POINTER
Joe Pisciotto
THE POINTER
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Jason Lund used to have severe neck pains. Then he discovered Reiki.

Lund, a 26-year-old ice delivery driver and massage therapy student in Chicago, recalled his pain intensifying in 2001 after he lost control of his car on the highway and slammed into the concrete barrier. "It was the second or third week of school and my friend Jaren, a Reiki Master, asked me if I'd like some Reiki. At first I said no, but then I changed my mind," said Lund. He was glad he did.

The price: a rather affordable session. Pleo is filled with state-of-the-art technology, but it also displays a growing trend of bringing the latest in cutting-edge tools to the retail of the masses. The price: a rather affordable one, even for a mass-produced robot.

"Reiki is basically getting to the root of what's causing the illness. Medicine treats the symptom..."
Birth control options plentiful at University Health Service

Sara Suchy
Science Reporter

According to a study done by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, more than 48 percent of college-age females and almost 59 percent of college-age males are sexually active. While 50 percent of college-age women are on birth control pills, it’s no secret that college students tend to have an active libido, so it is important that students are educated about the risks of sex and go about it in a safe and responsible manner.

University Health Service has all the resources any student could need to practice safer sex.

Sandra Ruston, a women’s health nurse practitioner at Delzell Hall, explained some of the options students have for birth control. “All of our staff members are committed to providing students with safe, confidential access to birth control. We are respectful of our patient’s wishes and never judgmental... we want to make sure that students are comfortable coming to us,” said Ruston.

The University Health Service offers all major types of contraceptive methods that are on the market. If a student, male or female, wishes to obtain or inquire about birth control, the student simply needs to make that request by calling or visiting the reception desk on first floor Delzell. An appointment with a registered nurse or physician will be scheduled to discuss options in detail. For a female student requesting a contraceptive method the decision is based on her own medical history as well as her family’s medical history and her personal wishes.

“We are always respectful of a student’s birth control preferences including complete abstinence,” Ruston said. “If she wants to be put on the pill but won’t be able to remember to take them everyday, then she might consider another option.”

At the University Health Service, options are plentiful. They offer condoms and diagramms as well as hormonal contraceptives such as the pill, Ortho Evra patch, vaginal Nuvaring, Depo-Provera shot and intra-uterine devices (IUD). One of the newer pills on the market is called Seasonale. It is a pill packet that allows women to have only four periods a year. A current trend is for a woman to take one pill daily for as long as three contraceptive months. This continuous option is especially popular among athletes and women who experience lots of cramping, menstrual migraines, acne or heavy bleeding associated with their period.

“Seasonale improves the overall menstrual-related quality of life,” said Ruston, adding that “other brands of pills can be used in the same manner.”

A university-sponsored program is now being offered at University Health Service called the Family Planning Waiver Program. The purpose is to provide contraceptive services and related reproductive health care to eligible low-income women at no cost. If a single woman’s income (not including her family’s income) is less than $1,435 a month ($1,926 a month for a married student), she is eligible. The program is limited to citizens of the United States.

The services include, but are not limited to, routine reproductive health exams and tests, pregnancy testing and counseling, emergency contraceptives, and screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and urinary tract infections. In the past University Health Service had to charge at least $20 a month for birth control pills. “Some students would get their prescriptions written through us and then go over to Family Planning to get the pills because they were free. Now we can provide both,” said Ruston.

There are two new government warnings out that women should be aware of when choosing contraceptives. According to recent news the Ortho Evra birth control patch “[the user] will be exposed to about 80 percent more estrogen... than the typical birth control pill.”

“The other warning for women who use the birth control shot, Depo-Provera which may cause bone density loss. "Since women over age 25 are building up to maximum bone density may not be the best choice for them,” said Ruston.

All matters of personal safety can be discussed with a woman’s health provider in determining which method is best.

Finally, let’s say you’re using your birth control method and it fails (e.g. condom breaks, diaphragm slips, forget to take that first pill). The University Health Service offers, for free charge, “Plan B” emergency contraception.

What’s Happening at the Allen Center...

Chelsey Ross
Cardio Center

Old workout not working? Enhance your workout with the help of one of our eight nationally certified personal trainers. Sign up for one, three or seven session packages at $25, $45 and $80, respectively. You can even bill to your student account, so no money is taken out of your pocket right now! Free consultation and facility orientation appointments are also available to all UW-SP students.

Need a break from studying? Stop in at Mind & Body Connections for a relaxing foot soak treatment or deluxe foot soak and paraffin hand treatment in February and receive a free pair of super soft cozy socks. The cost of the foot soak treatment is only $20 and lasts 20 minutes, and the deluxe foot soak and paraffin hand treatment is $35 and lasts 45 minutes. Stop in at the Cardio Center front desk or call (715) 346-4161 to schedule your appointment today.

What is Renewed Energy Supply in the hands of students

Sara Suchy
Science Reporter

On Feb. 20-24 students will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum proposal to add approximately $1.75 to student fees in order to acquire 10 percent of campus energy from renewable sources. This idea was brought to SGA last year by executive director Justin Giecher and Senator Michelle Law.

The renewable energy would come from wind turbines and biomass. According to Wisconsin Public Works, wind energy does not pollute the atmosphere... in contrast, nuclear energy is a nonrenewable energy and will run out sooner than most scientists think.

We are currently looking at wind energy supply in the United States. According to the Department of Energy, the highest user of renewable energy sources in the United States, Cohen said, “We have a lot of people who care about the environment on this campus. I think the students should step up and take initiative.”

What do some students think of this idea? Becca Tucker, a sophomore chemistry major, said, “Renewable energy is very important for the future of the environment; $1.75 is a small price to pay for peace of mind for future generations.”

Stacey Lilla, a freshman on campus agrees with Tucker. “It’s a good idea. [The money] is not that big a deal since we are saving our natural resources and it’s not that expensive.”

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Wingmen land successfully at the Encore

Aaron Schulz
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

A new band landed at the Encore in Stevens Point last Thursday night, a self-described acoustic rock jam band named Waiting for Wingmen.

The band consists of three multi-talented musicians that combine rock, folk, blues and rap. Members are John Santy (guitar/bass/vocals), Chad Galszewski (guitar/bass/drums/vocals) and Jared Kropidowski (drums/guitar/vocals). They delivered in a big way to an appreciative audience.

The film’s synopsis: Jack is physically getting old, and pretty soon he won’t be able to play these reluctant hero roles. It’s not baffling that after a fairly long absence of acting, he would stick to his guns and choose a typical character type he’s made famous. But as he’s been script-shopping, why not land the old-style Harrison Ford personas, such as ones similar to the charisma and ingenuity of Indiana Jones, or the wit and charm of Han Solo. Where have those Ford characters (and many others) gone to?

The opening of “Firewall” begins well enough. Soon, though, it’s off-kilter and unsure what to do with itself. At one point it resembles “The Fugitive” (a Ford movie), and at other times a cheesy, by-the-book thriller. Joe Forte’s script is often weak, and the dialogue is just plain silly at times.

The band consists of three multi-talented musicians that combine rock, folk, blues and rap. Members are John Santy (guitar/bass/vocals), Chad Galszewski (guitar/bass/drums/vocals) and Jared Kropidowski (drums/guitar/vocals). They delivered in a big way to an appreciative audience.

They played two sets, the first of which was acoustic. The set-list was a mix of covers and originals. All three displayed their vocal talents. Some highlights of the first set were an excellent cover sung by Santy of Third Eye Blind’s “Semi-Charmed Kind of Life,” Howie Day’s “Collide,” and Dispatch’s “Two Coins.” All were sung by Galszewski. Kropidowski sang a very soothing original called “The Innocence.”

All three musicians sang a rousing original party number, “Drunk Girls,” which ended the first set with a bang.

For their second set the band plugged in and rocked out. And, according to Santy, it was their “electric debut.” Before Thursday night the band played at open mics as an acoustic act. Among the songs they played was Robert Johnson’s heavily covered blues classic “Crossroads,” made popular by Cream. Santy did a great job vocally, choosing to sing at a lower pitch which was impressive since most singers that cover that song try to sound like Clapton. The set included two more strong songs, “Girl I Wanna Lay You Down,” a blues rocker, and “G-String.” “G-String” got the people up and out dancing.

The highlight of the evening was when Kropidowski made a friendly bet with his band mates and the audience. He said that if enough people would dance in front of the stage, he would stand on top of his drum stool and try to play. Enough people came and he stood on his stool and played with his knees bent. To his credit he played well for the few seconds he had his balance. He lost his balance and fell off knocking the plug out of the amp while Galszewski was playing his guitar. The band stopped for a little bit to fix the problem and then went right back at it. Santy had a minor accident as well. While playing and singing he knocked his mouth on the mic a little too hard and dropped his mouth. He said, “I need a little dental work,” he joked to the audience.

Waiting for Wingmen was a treat to see and I highly recommend them to anyone who likes all the artists mentioned above. If you like feel-good music, as well as music that has a message, then check them out. You will have a winging good time.

Ford channels formulaic "reluctant hero" for role

Blair Nelson
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

Harrison Ford returns in his latest action film, "Firewall." After a three-year acting hiatus, he is directed by Richard Loncraine ("Wimbledon") in this traditional action-thriller. The film’s synopsis: Jack Stanfield (Ford), the head of network security for a global bank, is blackmailed into stealing from his own depository by the film’s nemesis, Bill Cox (Paul Bettany, "A Beautiful Mind"), and Jack’s gang.

What starts as Jack being the victim of identity theft turns into a far greater dilemma, as Cox’s grand intentions are manifested—while Jack’s family is held hostage. But after discovering his opponent is losing the high ground, this ordinary computer specialist decides not to take it, in the Harrison-Ford-action-hero-way.

Pairs of Ford are very familiar with this personification over many films. The audience will recognize the blend of traits from his characters in "Patriot Games," "Air Force One," and "The Devil’s Own." Many bad guys have found out that if they mess with any of these Ford archetypes—and especially his family—their doom is sealed.

These Ford facades have no doubt been fun to watch over the years. The drawback is, action movies with this specific type of protagonist are rarely made anymore. "Firewall" is trying to resurrect that action hero, unfortunately, it shows that the character is like a well-worn sweater: aged and essentially dying. Ford is physically getting old, and style Harrison Ford personas, such as ones similar to the charisma and ingenuity of Indiana Jones, or the wit and charm of Han Solo. Where have those Ford characters (and many others) gone to?

The film does have its strong foundations. Camera angles are interesting and creative, as is the look of the film, drenched heavily in rain. Paul Bettany’s Cox makes a pretty good baddie here. There is a segment when you think he’s the stereotypical villain, but he changes all thoughts of that later.

He’s nowhere near the monster he portrayed in the independent film "Gangster No. 1." Only, sad to say, just when you’re going to get inside his head, and hear what makes him tick, the chance is gone.

Likewise, Ford does have moments of subtlety, even if they are scarce. The utter nervousness in Jack’s countenance as the situation paralyzes him comes through in Ford’s performance well.

There are also some key supporting performances, such as Jack’s wife, played by Virginia Madsen ("Face/Off"). Madsen is great as the woman that Hollywood has oftentimes placed women in. She embodies tidbits of Ripley (from the "Alien" movies), and plenty of Holly McClane from "Die Hard," both excellent and strong female roles.

Nonetheless, in the end "Firewall" is brought down by action movie cliches and unoriginality, and the character Ford helped create from others before him that has become exhausted. "Face/Off," a 1997 film, even if more far-fetched, demonstrated that the action film genre can always be tweaked and refined. "Firewall" doesn’t try hard enough to follow that line of thinking, and many may find that the film ultimately suffers as a result.
per person. The Student Fee Committee’s report states that 7 percent of students would save the environment. For example, if each person spent so much money on tobacco products, they would get from student fees, they might be able to support Linda Bunnell and the UW-SP administration in their efforts to reduce pollution. In addition to the 10 percent that SGA hopes to get from students, they are also interested in the assistance of councilor Linda Bunnell and the UW-SP administration to fund a matching 10 percent. "If that happens, that’s 20 percent of our energy coming from renewable sources, which is a great start. Hopefully we will be able to take advantage of this program and be able to increase our usage of renewable energy in the coming years," said Cohen.

For more information on the renewable energy program, visit http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/pointer.

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Many critics of Miller were hoping to try the two-time silver medalist if he performed poorly at this year’s games. The critics can begin to practice their tongue lashing, as Miller failed to medal in the men’s downhill event, placing him fifth. He was also disqualified from the men’s Alpine combined event on Tuesday for straddling a gate after leading the competition following his run. Miller can still defy the critics, as he will compete in several more events at the Torino games. Another decorated American athlete in Winter Olympics XX is Apolo Anton Ohno, short track speed skater who won silver and gold in 2002 and is in a three-time overall World Cup champion. Ohno’s first event in these Olympics was the 1500m, the event he won in Salt Lake. Ohno qualified for the finals in the 1500m, but nearly fell in the finals themselves.

Oh no! His slip-up cost him a medal and the stand at which he finished a distant eighth. Ohno will again compete in Torino in the 1000m, 500m and the 500m relay.

It may be too early to call the U.S. team completely out of contention for representativeness at the 2006 Winter Olympics. But to see such decorated athletes like Miller and Ohno fail to finish on the podium in events they have excelled at makes one wonder. Is this really America’s best team?

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from Birth Control pg. 13

from Olympics pg. 9

output at the games, allowing the spotlight to be shone on theabilities of the team rather than the triumphs.

Ice skater Michelle Kwan has been hampered by injury for most of the recent past. Her lingering groin pain has forced her to forgo her chance at finally winning a gold in Olympic competition. Kwan may never get that chance again as an Olympian.

Even before the games began, American skier Bode Miller made waves with his remarks about skiing while drunk and his accusations that Barry Bonds and Lance Armstrong were “cheating” by taking steroids or other illegal substances.

Many critics of Miller were hoping to try the two-time silver medalist if he performed poorly at this year’s games. The critics can begin to practice their tongue lashing, as Miller failed to medal in the men’s downhill event, placing him fifth. He was also disqualified from the men’s Alpine combined event on Tuesday for straddling a gate after leading the competition following his run. Miller can still defy the critics, as he will compete in several more events at the Torino games. Another decorated American athlete in Winter Olympics XX is Apolo Anton Ohno, short track speed skater who won silver and gold in 2002 and is in a three-time overall World Cup champion. Ohno’s first event in these Olympics was the 1500m, the event he won in Salt Lake. Ohno qualified for the finals in the 1500m, but nearly fell in the finals themselves.

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