Black Student Union serves up a dish of African-American culture to students, community

Adam Wise
The Pointer
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Nearly 300 people came to fill their stomachs and receive a little African-American culture during last Sunday's soul food dinner, hosted by the Black Student Union (BSU).

The BSU celebrated its 14th year having the event as the local Stevens Point Post Office unveiled a stamp commemorating black history month.

Historical African-American actress Hattie McDaniel, best known for her role as "Mammy" in "Gone with the Wind," is featured on this year's stamp. Becky Trzebiatowski, the supervisor of customer service at the Stevens Point Post Office, helped unveil the stamp during a brief ceremony prior to the dinner.

"The stamp initially came out in the end of January," Trzebiatowski said. "We thought this was a wonderful venue to be able to introduce it here in Stevens Point."

With a PowerPoint presentation lighten on the back wall of the Laird Room highlighting famous African-American historical figures, those in attendance were treated to a performance of the Black National Anthem by UW-SP student Jolie Kadima.

After the room observed a moment of silence for the deaths of Coretta Scott King and Rosa Parks, both advocates of the black movement during the twentieth century, the evening's dishes were finally uncovered.

Catfish, fried chicken, jambalaya, collard greens and cornbread were among the cultural dishes served at the dinner.

Coriey Evans, the vice-president of BSU and a graduating senior, served as Master of Ceremonies during the evening's dishes.

Power of Word performed last Sunday at the BSU soul food dinner. Photo by Stephen Homer

Morning-after pill creates stir on east coast, local groups react to the news

Brandi Pettit
The Pointer
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Who says it's lonely at the top?

Earlier this month, three women filed suit against the world's largest retailer, Wal­mart, for refusal to fill prescriptions for emergency contraception (EC) in some of its Massachusetts pharmacies.

According to some, this violated state law. "Walmart apparently thinks it is above the law," said Sam Perkins (a lawyer for the three plaintiffs) to the Associated Press.

The law Perkins refers to took affect last year and requires hospitals in Massachusetts to provide the morning-after pill, also known as Plan B, to rape victims. The law also allows pharmacists to dispense the pill, though it is not required.

So far, only Illinois has a law in place that requires pharmacists to fill emergency contraception prescriptions. It is the first time pharmacists must obey the law regardless of their religious or personal beliefs.

But what happens if this type of law comes to Wisconsin? Senior Margaret Martyn, a member of the UW-SP Pro-Choice Alliance, hopes it does.

"It should be law," she said. "I think it should be illegal for a pharmacy to exclude certain medications."

Plan B prescriptions, simply put, are a multiple dose of the same hormones found in ordinary oral contraceptives.

While it is most effective within 12 hours, a woman can take the pills between three and five days after unprotected sexual activity, or after the couple's chosen method of birth control has failed.

While no method of birth control is 100 percent effective, EC claims 71-89 percent pregnancy prevention.

See Pill pg. 2
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Feb. 17, 2006 12:02 a.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

An intoxicated person located on the third floor of Thomson Hall prompted a request to have cadets report to the floor. One student was cited for drinking underage and another was charged for providing minors with alcohol.

Smith Hall
Feb. 17, 2006 1:50 a.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

Caller requesting assistance to confront a number of intoxicated individuals in Neale Hall. The person described them as intoxicated and hostile.

Baldwin Hall
Feb. 18, 2006 5:20 p.m.
Type: INTOXICATION

Call from a caller that his car was broken into and that items inside the vehicle were stolen.

Parking Lot Q
Feb. 18, 2006 6:47 a.m.
Type: VANDALISM/THEFT

Report from a caller that his car was broken into and that items inside the vehicle were stolen.

Parking Lot Q
Feb. 18, 2006 9:47 a.m.
Type: VANDALISM

Report from a caller that a black Eagle Talon in parking lot Q had a broken window.

CPS Building
Feb. 21, 2006 1:35 p.m.
Type: THEFT

Call from the education department requesting to see an officer in regards to stolen checks.

According to the Federal Drug Administration (FDA), Plan B differs from chemical abortions in that it either prevents the ovary from releasing the egg, or stops a fertilized egg from implanting itself in the womb. EC does not affect an already implanted, fertilized egg.

Even though the FDA first approved Plan B in 1997, some groups on campus don’t see any purpose to the Massachusetts lawsuit, or why stores like Wal-Mart should be forced to sell the drug.

“Now, this lawsuit is a part of a larger push saying that women everywhere need to have access to birth control as a necessity, like food and water,” said Joe Pehoski, a member of Pointers for Life.

“When is it ever necessary to have contraceptives in order to survive?”

While views on EC differ on even matters of rape and incest, no one can deny the possibility of such laws in this state.

Representative Therese Berceau from Madison doesn’t deny the necessity for such a law. “Some would prefer to believe that if we just tell people not to have sex, they won’t have sex. And maybe people will then also believe that babies come from the stork,” Berceau told the Badger Herald last year.

Marcie Sturgis, executive director of Massachusetts Citizens for Life, argued that the Wal-Mart case shouldn’t have gotten so much publicity.

“There’s no reason to require Wal-Mart to carry Plan B because every other pharmacy in the state carries the drug.” Sturgis told the Boston Globe earlier this month.

While students on campus can obtain EC at Health Services, Wisconsin has no state law requiring hospitals to offer Plan B to victims from Pill pg. 1

“Without those people, we wouldn’t be able to have a program like this.”

The BUU prepared all the food served at the dinner as they worked for five hours a day beginning Friday, Feb 17 to prepare for the event.

“I feel very thankful for just being able to pull this program off for the community and for the school as a whole,” Evans said.

Bob Tomlinson, the assistant chancellor for student affairs at UW-SP, has attended every dinner since 2000 and thinks the event is a great opportunity for people to learn more about the African culture.

“It’s really an opportunity to see a lot of students and a lot of community people,” he said. “One of the things that’s really interesting is that people will definitely be available to her wherever she goes,” said Martyr.

It is estimated by Planned Parenthood that over half of the nearly 3 million annual unplanned pregnancies in the country are the result of contraceptive failure.

But if such a proposal comes to Wisconsin, both sides of the fence are ready.

“We will definitely be urging everyone to call their [Wisconsin] Congressman, and trying to inform people on how basic­ally unethical this kind of thing is,” said Pehoski.

The Pro-Choice Alliance would take a different approach to campaigning for such legislation.

“We encourage different pharmacies to carry it (EC),” said Martyr. “We write letters to the paper.”

For more information regarding on-campus medical services, call Health Services at 346-4646. Plan B is also available at Family Planning Services, 345-2929.

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

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

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

In Memoriam of Lukas J. Weiland

The death of a fellow student came as a shock to students at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point on Monday, February 20, 2006.

Luke Weiland, 19, of Wisconsin Rapids, passed away early that morning at his local student residence. He was a sophomore majoring in computer information systems and a campus employee working at the computer help desk. He had been involved in the Greek community at UWSP.

As Monday came to a close, Theta Xi Fraternity, which Luke was a member of, held an open meeting for the collective mourning and support of Luke's fellow classmates and friends.

After the meeting, Theta Xi advisor, Bob Stuewer expressed his thoughts, "Luke was the kind of guy that would listen to anyone's problems. He loved helping other people. That and he loved being Irish. One day he and I were going to visit Ireland together, because we are both Irish," stated Ashley Stelmack, a close friend and fellow Greek. "He considered Theta Xi his family; he loved those guys more than anything in the world."

A forum was set up in Luke's honor by his fraternity brother, Philip Gritzhammer. The link to this forum is emoholic.net/thetax/index.html.

The forum has allowed friends to share thoughts and memories of Luke along with pictures and encouraging words.

Fellow Greek, Jill Krimmer wrote, "I think now is when we see how big everyone's hearts are, and we grow together. Luke led us to see how important every one of us is to each other. That is a gift he gave us all, everyone that ever knew him, which we should cherish and never forget."

Because of this, a little piece of Luke will live inside my heart and my head everyday, reminding me of all of the people that are here for each other, no matter what.

Visitation for Luke was held Wednesday evening at the Ritchay Funeral Home in Wisconsin Rapids. The funeral was held this morning at SS Peter & Paul Church in Wisconsin Rapids. Following the funeral today, a Remembrance Ceremony will be held at the UC in the Heritag e room from 3:00pm - 6:00pm.

Letter to the Editor

Your recent outdoors article, "Wisconsin legislators discuss lowering the hunting age (Feb. 16, page 11)," by Brandi Pettit, would have more appropriately fit on the opinion page, although the argument presented therein was poorly constructed and insufficiently supported. The story in question was printed and labeled as a news story, even though the author made no attempt at objective reporting concerning the issue of lowering the state's hunting age. It is blatantly clear from reading the oblong piece that Pettit personally supports the proposed decrease in legal hunting age. While there is nothing wrong with printing opinions on these matters, Pettit's one-sided views should have been clearly labeled as such.

As for the now-published opinion disguised as objective news, it appears that Pettit (or her editors) need to do a better job of checking their work before publication. The author that borders on hilarious. In an attempt to negatively cast Wisconsin Democrats as overprotective, Pettit lazily and incorrectly asserted that "Doyle recently made a law sticking kids back into car seats."

While I am not sure how this ridiculous fabrication helps the author's weak case, I can confidently say that governors don't "make laws." Our well-meaning men and women in the Republican-controlled legislature do. The governor merely signs those bills into law, or vetoes them. A simple, five-minute search of the legislative Web site that Pettit directly referenced in the story reveals that the Child Passenger Safety Bill mentioned AB618 (Wisconsin Act 106) was co-authored by Senator Carol Roesler - a Republican from Oshkosh, and Representative Jerry Petrovski - a Republican from Marathon.

Trivialities and wild assertions aside, I hope that The Pointer and its staff will be more vigilant in the future concerning the presentation of opinion versus fact. That hollowed journalistic boundary must remain bold and important and palpable, if a newspaper aims to retain any sense of credibility.

Adam Mella
Madison

SA Update:

Building Unity Conference set for March 10-12 has extended its registration deadline to March 1st.

Wisconsin will host key-note speakers from Manhattan & LA, 50 workshops on diversity, energetic entertainment & scrumptious dinner, it's going to be a heck of a time in Point!

Register NOW:

Forms are located at the SGA office. Or, email sqars@uwsp.edu or visit www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/sga/

Don't miss out!

LIVING OPTIONS FAIR March 1st from 5pm till 7:30pm in the Laird room. This gives students who are looking for off campus housing an opportunity to talk with landlords and ask questions about leasing or renting. This is not a lease signing day, but simply a time for students to ask questions and receive information about off campus living options.

http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/pointer

February 23, 2006 • 3

NEWMAN CATHOLIC PARISH AT UWSP

Ash Wednesday
March 1

9:15 AM - Mass with Ashes
Newman Center, next to Pray-Sim

Noon - Liturgy with Ashes
Newman Center

6 PM - Liturgy with Ashes
Newman Center

Every Sunday

9 AM - Liturgy with Ashes
Newman Center

St. Joseph Convent Chapel, 1300 Maria Dr.

Easter Vigil

5 PM Saturday,
10:15 PM Sunday

St. Joseph Convent Chapel

www.NEWUWSP.org
Pointlife

"BURNIN' TIME ROUND TOWN"

"In the name of blood"

Jen Masterson
The Pointer
JMAST959@UWSP.EDU

I tilt my head back and try to make the fuzzy ceiling stop spinning. Don't throw up. Don't throw up, I coax. My stomach churns while millions of hot needles prick my cheeks. Is my heart supposed to be beating this fast?

When I had walked into the Laird Room 25 minutes ago to donate blood, I was a lot more confident that I would make it out alive. In fact, only a slight anxiety had crept into my stomach before I let Cami, the nurse from BloodCenter of Wisconsin, poke a needle into my vein to drain a pint of my blood.

"How ya doin', hun?" Cami asks.

"Um, I feel a little dizzy," I reply.

"I tilt my head back and try to make the fuzzy ceiling stop spinning. Don't throw up. Don't throw up, I coax. My stomach churns while millions of hot needles prick my cheeks. Is my heart supposed to be beating this fast?

When I had walked into the Laird Room 25 minutes ago to donate blood, I was a lot more confident that I would make it out alive. In fact, only a slight anxiety had crept into my stomach before I let Cami, the nurse from BloodCenter of Wisconsin, poke a needle into my vein to drain a pint of my blood. Very well be dying. In the Laird Room of all places. My blood pressure has dropped from 98/68 to 71/50 within 10 minutes. I can all concentrate on the pins poking into my fiery cheeks.

The nurse returns with a large pink terry towel and places it under my head. I attempt to eat, but my stomach doesn't want to hold anything in it. I chew slowly and reluctantly but, looking for a way out of the nausea, I keep eating until it's gone. "This happens to lots of people," Cami reassures me. "Even the big guys that come in here thinking it'll be a breeze. But then they're the one that's telling me they feel like they're going to faint." I wish this made me feel better about my current state, but I feel foolish. If only I hadn't been talking so bravely about it 10 minutes earlier.

"Do me a favor, though," Cami says. "We're gonna need you to sit at that table for about 10 minutes more so we can make sure you'll be okay." She points to the table where the nurse stores my food.

"Okay, sure," I agree, thankful to move. "The nurse who took me over and then

Truth or trend: Is organic food healthier?

Rebecca Buchanan
The Pointer
REBC723@UWSP.EDU

A health food craze is sweeping across America and supermarkets are stocking up on higher priced food bearing the label "organic." But what makes a food organic? Is it the label "organic." But what makes it more expensive?

According to the USDA, organic feed and allowed enginee...
Here We Are
IN 410 AD, THE ROMANS ABANDONED ENGLAND, AFTER WHICH A NUMBER

Weihap is a yell that comes from the pit of your stomach. It helps to focus your mind and body together, and also shows confidence.

THE THURSDAY WORD:
"DITHYRAMB"
Originally, a dithyramb was a Greek hymn to the god Dionysus. These hymns tended to be wild and bawdy. Today, the word is used to mean "A speech or writing in vehement or inflated style" according to the Oxford English Dictionary.

SUMMER IN MAINE
MALES AND FEMALES
MEET NEW FRIENDS! TRAVEL!
TEACH YOUR FAVORITE ACTIVITY: TENNIS, SWIM, CANOE, SAIL, WATER SKI, KAYAK, GYMNASTICS, ARCHERY, SILVER JEWELRY, ROCKS, ENGLISH RIDING, ROSES, COPPER ENAMELING, ART BASKETBALL, POTTERY, FIELD HOCKEY, OFFICE, AND MORE!
JUNE TO AUGUST, RESIDENCE...
ENJOY OUR WEBSITE. APPLY ONLINE.
TRIPP LAKE CAMP FOR GIRLS:
1-800-997-4347
WWW.TRIPPLAKECAMP.COM

WORD SEARCH: WEATHER

snow rain ice sleet sunny cloudy hot weather temperature degrees

SUMMER IN MAINE

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Rortvedt’s sharpshooting leads to postseason win

Press Release UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

After winning 17 straight postseason games the past two years, the new crop of UW-Stevens Point men’s basketball players made itself a warm welcome to playoff basketball on Tuesday night.

Pete Rortvedt highlighted a huge night for the Pointers’ freshman class, setting a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament and UW-SP school record with nine three-pointers while finishing with 30 points as the Pointers upended UW-Platteville 70-65 in their playoff opener at the Quandt Fieldhouse.

Rortvedt’s performance came on a night that saw the Pointers’ freshman class make a remarkable impact, scoring 48 of the team’s 70 points. While Rortvedt handled the perimeter attack, freshman Jerome Wotachek controlled the inside, totaling five points, 10 rebounds and four steals in his first career start. The group was pushed into duty with senior Brian Bauer sidelined by an injury and junior Jon Krull and sophomore Steve Hicklin in early foul trouble.

The point guard’s performance began with five points and an assist on the team’s first basket of the game. Rortvedt’s hot start continued with eight more points on three threes in the first half. His final output of 30 points included 27 of the team’s last 30 points as he drained another long range jumper with 11 seconds left to seal the win as the junior was seven-for-seven at the line and scored all of his 14 points in the second half.

Rortvedt’s shooting performance eclipsed the previous tournament record of seven three-pointers by Nick Scherer of UW-O in 2001. The former school record was eight by Josh Isertoh in 2002. The Pointers shot just 37.0 percent from the field and minus Rortvedt, 28.8 percent from the field and one-for-four from three-point range.

Levon Crawford led UW-S over Williams’ 19 of his 21 points in the second half. Jeff Krump added 16 points and Sean Krause totaled 15 points. The Pioneers were hampered by 19 turnovers and committed 29 fouls.

Pro athletes who just need to go away

Pro athletes who just need to go away

Steve “Rockin” Roeland
THE PIONEER EPHS.UWSP.EDU

I picked up a copy of this Monday’s USA Today and was bewildered by a front page story about the most pressing issue facing our country at the moment. No, it was not a story about soldiers in Iraq or escalating tensions with Iran, but it was an intense close up picture of San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds.

The media darling he is, Bonds made last year's cover of the Sports Illustrated, the former Texas Longhorn caught doing, he should just step away from baseball.

While it's hard to determine Bond's personal interest for hanging around this long in baseball, it's hard to see him starting a 4-4 overall and 9-1-3 in the NCHA.

After Williams failed his third drug test before the 2004 season, he skedaddled out of the country and found new encouragement for life in India in the form of marihuana and holistic medicine. The crank on Williams’s bank account was too much to handle, so he rejoined the team for last year, earning $265,882 after deductions levied by the team. Williams did a commendable job as halfback for the ‘Fins, totaling 743 yards and six scores in 12 games.

However, if Williams’s failed test is upheld (he appealed the ruling earlier in the week), the former Texas Longhorn and winner of the Heisman Trophy will be forced to sit out the entire 2006-07 season.

If it was weird that Williams was caught doing, he should just stay away from the game of football and get some help. Even with the $265,882 that he made last year, Williams still has to repay $86.6 million to the Dolphins for breaking his contract after retiring in 2004. Ricky might need the drugs just to take the financial pain away.

Three strikes, plus one, should be enough for Ricky Williams to come to the realization that his passion lies elsewhere. Maybe Williams could share some of his money with Bonds and that negative aura will turn into peace and love. They could do yoga together to rehab Boni’s chronic knee problems.

All joking aside, these two professional athletes (the term is loosely used on my part) drive the over-paid, over-rated and over-sized professional sports. They should do the right thing and dissolve into oblivion, never to be heard from again, as soon as possible.

Points inch closer to title with weekend sweep

Press Release UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

UW-Stevens Point finished off a weekend sweep of Lake Forest and inch closer to a second straight Northern Collegiate Hockey Association title with a 4-0 victory on Sunday in Lake Forest, Ill.

After Williams failed his third drug test before the 2004 season, he skedaddled out of the country and found new encouragement for life in India in the form of marihuana and holistic medicine. The crank on Williams’s bank account was too much to handle, so he rejoined the team for last year, earning $265,882 after deductions levied by the team. Williams did a commendable job as halfback for the ‘Fins, totaling 743 yards and six scores in 12 games.

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Barry Bonds may be done after 2006. I imagine it being anything but sad. With possibly one more year to solidify his legacy, Barry Bonds has already done himself in. It will be nice to see the negative aura turn into McCoy Covey after this season.

Another interesting story circulating around the sports talk shows this week is that Miami Dolphins running back Ricky Williams failed his fourth drug test of his turbulent career. After Williams failed his third drug test before the 2004 season, he skedaddled out of the country and found new encouragement for life in India in the form of marihuana and holistic medicine. The crank on Williams’s bank account was too much to handle, so he rejoined the team for last year, earning $265,882 after deductions levied by the team. Williams did a commendable job as halfback for the ‘Fins, totaling 743 yards and six scores in 12 games.

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Pointers finish season, start WIAC tourney strong with win over Blugolds

Melissa Dyszelski
THE POINTER
MDYSZ026@UWSP.EDU

Pointers finish season, for the first time in the eight second-seeded UW-Oshkosh start into the WIAC tournament, Titans.

After falling behind in the first half against UW-Platteville last Wednesday, the Pointers directed the Pioneers to travel back home empty handed, defeating them 81-65. UW-Stevens Point allowed six turnovers and shot 69.2 percent, but played great defense as the Pointers were only able to shoot 41.1 percent.

Senior guard Cassandra Schultz led the scoring rally with 25 points and had three total rebounds and nine assists. Laura Neuenfeldt had 14 points while Nathalie Lechault was five-for-five, adding 12 points for the Pointers. Cloud 9

The UW-SP women's bas—

Superman-like performance key in sweep over UW-SP

Robert Lucas
SPORTS REPORTER

The Lake Forest Foresters have proven to be the Pointers' playoff kryptonite yet again. The Foresters swept the UW-SP men's hockey team out of the NCHA playoffs with wins Friday and Saturday in Lake Forest. The Pointers finishes the season at 12-11-4, with four losses coming at the hands of Lake Forest.

Lake Forest started out hot in the first game as they scored two goals in the first period. Brian Lee and Tyler Canal each scored for the Foresters, giving them an early two-goal cushion. Lake Forest tacked on another goal midway through the second to amass a three-goal lead. Point finally got on the board two minutes later as Matt Stendahl scored his sixth goal of the year off assists from James Jernberg and Brett Coburn. Four minutes later, Matt Buha would score his first goal of the year to close the game to one. They could get no closer, however.

Brian Lee scored his eighth goal of the year for Lake Forest at the 10:30 mark and the Foresters' also added an empty netter to win by three, 5-2. Point outshot Lake Forest 42-25 but was unable to solve goaltender Brandon Kranz. They experienced the same problem the next night as Matt Stendahl scored his sixth goal of the year off assists from James Jernberg and Brett Coburn. Four minutes later, Matt Buha would score his first goal of the year to close the game to one. They could get no closer, however.

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SACS hopes to plant a student-run organic garden on UW-SP campus

Adam Eader
THE POINTER
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While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is not as advanced as other campuses concerning sustainability efforts, the 2005-06 academic year has shown that UW-SP is beginning to take small, conscious steps towards better sustainability practices on campus.

With the addition of a green roof on a portion of the Albertson Learning Resource Center, a panel of photovoltaic cells installed in the south facing windows on the Noel Fine Arts Center, legislation currently being voted on to make UW-SP 10 percent reliable on renewable energy sources and both student and organization Wisconsin Student Public Interest Research Group (WSPIRG) Sustainable Agriculture in Communities (SACS) UW-SP may be heading in a sustainable direction.

SACS is currently organizing a plan to create a student run organic garden on UW-SP’s campus. SACS treasurer Ross Cohen said, “One of the goals of building the garden is to allow students the opportunity to grow organic produce.”

The proposed garden will allow students and community members interested in sustainable farming to help grow organic produce as well as act as an important educational tool. “A student run organic garden will benefit an array of academic disciplines, including natural resources, sociology, psychology, chemistry and health promotion and human development, to mention a few,” said Cohen. SACS Vice President Ben Wojahn said, "One of the goals of building the garden is to allow students the opportunity to grow organic produce.”

The possible on-campus locations for the garden discussed by SACS, Campus Planner Carl Rasmussen and Grounds Supervisor Chris Brindley are behind Nelson Hall, next to the Allen Center or behind the UW-SP Credit Union. Chancellor Linda Bunnell will make the final decision concerning the garden’s future. "If Chancellor Bunnell doesn’t approve the campus garden, we will look off-campus for a garden site," said Cohen.

UW-Madison’s (one of the many college campuses that maintain a student run sustainable garden) Students of Sustainable Agriculture have been farming the F.H. King Garden since 1979. The farmers use a half-acre on-campus garden site that produces organic vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs. The F.H. King Garden donates 500 pounds of harvested crops will be donated by students, faculty and the community about the importance of implementing many sustainable practices campus wide. The garden will greatly improve UW-SP’s campus appeal," said Cohen.

If you are interested in more information regarding the Organic Campus Garden or about the SACS organization, contact SACS Secretary Zach Gaugush at zgaug927@uwsp.edu.

Local Student Authors Corner

When God decides to paint

I have a tremendous view today as God gets his easel ready and decides to paint the evening sky. I think he may be in an artistic mood. A gorgeous sunny day has given way to a perfect January evening. I am content to sit, rifle straddled, on a moist tuft of Buena Vista grassland and bid farewell as the pines on the horizon engulf the sun. I put my call to my lips and whisper a few soft, sweet, delicious notes to ears of the lurking crimson foxes and buff coated coyotes.

"Don’t be afraid to talk dirty to them," a friend once told me when administering advice on how to blow a duck call. I now extend that logic to mimic a rabbit in distress. As I slowly scan my eyes west and check for movement, the call falls from my lips, behind me as I forget about fur on the stretch. The fading sunlight in the western sky is enhanced by every beautiful scene my humble eyes have ever seen.

I have been to the ocean since I was eight years old, but the only way I can describe it is the dark clouds are deep blue waves, white crests crashing off the water, and I am sitting on the beach, soaking up this fire wash.

At times like this I am recharged by divine creation. No random chance could ever produce such a thing. No matter how many billion years evolution had to do so. Soaking up one episode of divine sculpture similar to this in front of me, I still frame in the constantly recording video of our universe, could evoke a million thoughts on the producer of such a portrait. However, I feel my pen is not worthy for such an undertaking, to speculate descriptions of the Man Himself. For now I will subsist on the fodder (rather buffet) he gives me in everyday life, such as the еве at hand. The very varying shades of orange, yellow, pink and red hues of blue and purple rays have captivated me this day, so I do not think, hardly breathe. No man will ever see this again, for each evening sky is unique.

Olive and orange blend, to paint

Andrew Moore

UW-SP The Pointer
Permaculture course coming to campus this spring

Sara Suchy  SCIENCE REPORTER

In addition to the pending SGA referendum for renewable energy on campus, a different kind of environmental preservation program is about to come to UW-SP. The Global Environmental Management (GEM) Education Center at the College of Natural Resources offers an exciting class this spring in which students will be able to earn a certificate in permaculture design.

Permaculture design, founded by Bill Mollison, Director of the Permaculture Institute and former environmental studies professor, is a relatively new trend among environmental activists across the United States.

The Permaculture Research Institute of Australia explains that permaculture “is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems which have the diversity, stability and resilience of natural ecosystems.” In practice, permaculture provides food and shelter in a sustainable way.

According to the GEM Web site, students taking a permaculture course will learn how to match the diversity and resiliency of natural ecosystems. Homeowners and landowners will learn ways to work with nature in creating landscapes and gardens.

The permaculture course offered at UW-SP will cover theory and principle of design, domestic food security and production, garden, mini-forest and farm design, ecological pest control, orchard and tree crops, forestry and bamboo plantations, bush foods and forages, soil rehabilitation, wildlife, water harvesting and much more.

The industrialization of this country and increase in population has certainly taken its toll on our environment. In an article in the journal “American Gardening,” Linda Thornton explained that “by implementing the ideas central to permaculture, this increase in population can be accommodated with minimal harm to the environment.”

Upon completion of this course students will receive the Permaculture Research Institute’s Permaculture Design Certificate (PDC). According to the GEM Web site, similar programs taught around the world are renowned for producing “ecological activists with design skills.” The program can help connect students to a global network of permaculture contacts and projects.

This certification looks very good on a resume and is the first step in obtaining a diploma in permaculture design, which, according to GEM “requires two years of practical application of permaculture in a range of disciplines.”

The 72-hour course will be offered on campus on weekends starting April 8-9 and will run through May 20-21.

Students can register online through the GEM office Web site or through the mail with a $100 deposit. The cost for the course is $900 if registered by March 1, and $1,000 thereafter. Textbook purchase is an additional cost.

For more information stop by the GEM education center in the CNR, call 346-4266 or visit www.uwsp.edu/cnr/GEM.

What’s Happening at the Allen Center...

Chelsey Ross  CARDIO CENTER

Reiki certification will be taking place this weekend on Friday from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Taught by Reiki master Pam Gavrillic, Level 1 Certification will teach you the basics of the healing power of Reiki. It is a hands-on healing method that works with the natural flow of energy in and around the body, accelerating the healing process and contributing greatly to a person’s state of well-being. Cost is $110 for students, $125 for faculty/staff and $145 for community members. Stop in at the Cardio Center front desk to sign up or for more information.

Did you know the Student Health Promotion Office offers 10-minute stress relief sessions for only a quarter? You can also take advantage of free fitness assessments, free diet analysis and free personal wellness coaching. Stop by 004 Lower Allen Center from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, or call (715) 346-4313 for more information.

Cousinaw outside the Laird room on Tuesday.
“Grey’s Anatomy” is just what the doctor ordered

Dan Richter
ARts AND Review REPORTer

If an apple a day keeps the doctor away, I’m never eating another apple ever again. In fact, I can’t wait until each Sunday night rolls around so I can see my doctors on ABC’s “Grey’s Anatomy.” I’m utterly addicted to the drama, suspense and comedy that they prescribe to me week after week. Luckily, I can now make an appointment with them whenever I want since the first season is now out on DVD.

“Grey’s Anatomy” premiered as a mid-season replacement on the ABC network last March in order to help resuscitate the network’s primetime schedule from the life support it was on. The hour-long medical drama is about the quirky yet dramatic lives of five surgical interns fresh out of med school and just starting their seven-year residency at Seattle Grace Hospital. There’s the main character, Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo), whose mother was a surgical legend and now has to live up to the family name; Christina Yang (Sandra Oh), who is emotionally unavailable, headstrong, and competitive; George O’Malley (T.R. Knight), a puppy-eyed and good-hearted guy with his sights set on Meredith; Izzie Stevens (Katherine Heigl), an optimist and former lingerie model; and Alex Karev (Justin Chambers), the cocky, overconfident one. There’s also Meredith’s beau, Dr. Derek “McDreamy” Shepard (played by Patrick Dempsey). On the morning of her first day of work, Meredith wakes up next to Derek after their one-night stand, both unaware that they will be working together in just a few short hours. To Meredith’s horror, she finds out that not only is Derek one of her co-workers, but also one of her bosses. Herein starts the drama.

Because of its late start in March, the first season of the show only has nine episodes, however four subsequent episodes of the show that were originally filmed for the first season were cut and saved for the show’s super-sized second season, which features 22 episodes. However, over the course of those first nine episodes, the drama, emotion and intermittent comedy of the storylines never once falter. The show has dramatic and heart-wrenching cases, such as a man with severe Parkinson’s Disease and a former nurse who returns to the hospital to die, but is also peppered with quirky and bizarre cases that make the show that much more enjoyable and fun, such as a woman who bites off a man’s penis or a psychic that calls the bluffs of most of the staff.

The show’s cast is comprised of relatively unknown actors, with the mild exceptions of Oh and Dempsey. Despite the fact that the actors aren’t big-name stars, they nonetheless possess what I believe to be some of the best acting chops on television. Their characters interact and feed off one another so well that one feels like they’re not watching a television show, but rather like a co-worker in the hospital watching these people from across the room.

The show’s music is another integral part that makes the show the experience that it is. In any given episode one can find the musical stylings of bands like The Ditty Bops, Joe Purdy and Tegan and Sara being set to surgeries, enemas and conflicts. I highly recommend the show’s soundtrack, also out in stores, if you don’t own it for the already.

Like most DVD releases, this one is accompanied by special features, but only few are worth watching. There’s episode commentary for the pilot episode only, one with the show’s creator and another with the show’s stars, so it’s a bit tedious to watch the same episode three times, once for enjoyment and twice for different perspectives. The only extras that are interesting are deleted scenes from the pilot, which provide interaction and back stories of characters lost in editing, and the pilot’s commentary with the actors, which is light and playful.

If you buy the first season of “Grey’s Anatomy” for anything, don’t buy it for its packaging or special features, but for the show’s stand-alone episodes, which in themselves are worth the money. The show is not only enjoyable, well-written and well-acted, but also thought provoking and intuitive. My suggestion: go out and buy the first season of “Grey’s Anatomy” — STAT.

Great acting, but just another zombie movie

Brandi Pettit
THE POINTER
BPettit318@UW-SP.EDU

Faithful readers of this section understand I’m not a drama movie gal, so I have no romance movies to offer you on this post-Valentine’s week. And so instead, I bring you a story of two lovebirds, eating zombies.

Emma (Laurie Baranyay), a suicidal cutter, is their love can never die. Cheesy? Maybe. Does it work, my goldfish. In other words, there was nothing. But the storyline belongs on a roll next to the toilet.

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Chris Grier, chiropractic student, Student Senate President

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