

THE POINTER

A Student Publication

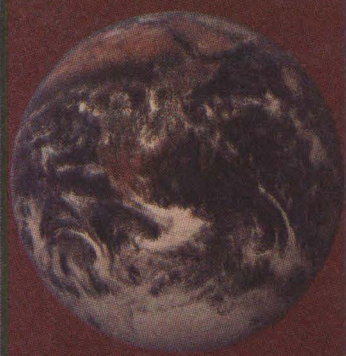
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - STEVENS POINT

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Lack of snow removal a big problem for disabled students

Last weekend's snow storm created access barriers for many students with disabilities, but a new plan is in place to make sure it doesn't happen again.

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When Andy Janicki, a senior at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, woke up to find over 14 inches of snow outside his front door on Monday, Feb. 26, he knew he wouldn't be going to class that day.

"I never used to worry about things like this," said Janicki. "Now I don't bother going to class after a snowfall. It's too much of a pain to try and get through the mess of all the snow on the sidewalks," he said.

Two years ago, Janicki was involved in a serious accident that placed him in a wheelchair. On normal days, he has no problem moving about by himself. But these days, with all the snow, Janicki relies on a push from a friend. And he isn't alone.

Janicki is one of 270 students on campus with a disability. Eight of these students rely on hand walkers or crutches, and four depend solely on wheelchairs. When winter arrives on campus many of the students have a great difficulty getting to class.

On Saturday, Feb. 12, Janicki's wheelchair got stuck in a pile of snow that had drifted onto the sidewalk leading to the library. A man driving past the library seeing Janicki unable to move, pulled over and helped him through the snow.

After that, Janicki was sure he wouldn't be able to get to or from campus again without assistance.

"It's really frustrating at times, especially when the side-walk plows and the shovelers don't coordinate with each other. It just creates a mess," said Janicki, referring to Monday, when the side-walks leading to Nelson Hall were cleared, but the hand-capped accessible ramp was not.

The UW-SP Disability Services Office provides certain accommodations to all disabled students to ensure they are not handicapped by a disabling condition.

The students are told to contact facilities services when they are confronted with access barriers, such as construction messes, elevator problems or snow plowing issues.

But on Monday morning, Jim Joque, coordinator of the UW-SP Disability Services Office, knew something needed to be done about the snow removal on campus.

"I had received several phone calls from students



Photo by Drew Smalley

Heavy snow accumulation makes it difficult for students with disabilities, like UW-SP senior Andy Janicki, to get around campus.

who weren't able to get out of buildings because of the lack of snow removal on sidewalks and curb cuts (ramps placed where sidewalks meet the street)," said Joque.

"There had also been complaints in the past of a hand-capped parking stall being used as a holding place for snow," he added.

Chris Brindley, UW-SP building and grounds superintendent, believes the grounds crew did what was expected of them after a big winter storm.

"I know a lot of people are frustrated with us right now," said Brindley, after hearing about the students who could not make it to class. "We do

the best we can when dealing with 52 curb cuts, 12 miles of sidewalks and 38 acres of parking lots. We also just had one of our longtime staff members retire."

Brindley admitted, however, his crew was a little late on clearing out the area in front of Nelson Hall.

"One of our guys used a small pickup truck with a straight blade in that area, but it was too much snow. He got stuck so he left me a note. I saw the note later that day and we dealt with the problem."

According to Brindley, there is a priority list when

See Janicki pg. 2

Dance team wins fifth straight championship

Brianna Nelson
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In the words of their slogan, "eighteen girls came together as 'one'," the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Dance Team captured their fifth consecutive national title this past weekend in Minneapolis at the United Performing Arts Americup Cheer & Dance competition. There were over 600 teams competing from across the nation. The dance team received first place in the Collegiate Pom Division and a third place in the Collegiate Jazz Division.

After a rocky start to the season in the beginning

of the school year with their alleged hazing controversy, the dance team has shown that they won't let anything get in the way of reaching their goals.

When asked if the controversy affected this year's team, senior captain April Mallow stated, "Oh, it definitely affected the team, but in a good way. Having our name negatively associated with something like that upset us more than anything; which then made the entire team work that much harder to prove to the school, the community and our fans that we will not let it bring us down. Instead, we will use it as fuel to work hard and bring our team name back into a positive light."

The dance team left in the afternoon on Feb. 22 for the national competition in Minneapolis and came home Sunday night on Feb. 25 after a successful weekend.

According to freshman Stephanie Hogden, "Becoming a national champion my first year on the team was an amazing and unforgettable experience."

"I will always remember that moment: getting the butterflies in my stomach as we waited while another team competed, walking onto the stage hearing 'UW-SP' chanted by all our friends and family who drove hours in a blizzard to watch us dance for a mere two minutes, dancing with so much adrenaline and

then finally hitting our ending pose, wishing we never had to leave the stage; it's amazing"

This past December, the girls also captured their fourth consecutive title with their jazz routine in the Collegiate Division at a local competition.

After four years of being a national champion, Mallow said what she's going to miss most about the dance team is "my teammates. This last season, they have made me realize that it's not the championships that matter, it's not beating our rivals, it's about being able to walk off that dance floor with no regrets, knowing that no matter how we place, we danced our absolute best."

CAMPUS BEAT

TRUE ACCOUNTS
FROM UW-SP'S
FINEST CAMPUS
SECURITY OFFICERS



Lot Q
February 22, 2007 1:41 p.m.
Type: ATTEMPTED THEFT

Girl reports that someone may have attempted to enter her vehicle while it was parked in Lot Q, as her window seems to be loose and will not roll up or down now.

Lot T
February 24, 2007 12:20 a.m.
Type: HIT AND RUN

A red pick-up was hit in Lot T. Photos were taken of the damage and a report was filed.

Maria Drive
February 25, 2007 4:47 p.m.
Type: HORSEPLAY/ TOMFOOLERY

Grounds crew called about a complaint of students climbing from the snow piles to the top of a building.

Lot Q
February 26, 2007 9:46 a.m.
Type: CAR ACCIDENT

Car accident in Lot Q, there were no injuries. Protective Services was unable to make contact with individuals involved due to road conditions in the parking lot.

DeBot
February 26, 2007 5:54 p.m.
Type: SNOWBALL FIGHT

Individuals outside of DeBot throwing snowballs at people exiting the building. Fight was broken up. No further action taken.

from Janicki pg. 1

it comes to snow removal. Faculty and staff parking lots are cleared first, and Lot Q is plowed last.

Plow routes are split among four staff members. Sidewalks are plowed as trucks move from one parking lot to the next.

After talking with Brindley and with residential life directors about this issue, it was clear to Joque that there was a void of communication among university students and staff.

On Tuesday, Feb. 27, Joque contacted Brindley with a new plan proposal that to increase communication lines between students with disabilities and the snow removal staff.

"The problem was the snow removal crew was trying to clear all 52 curb cuts at one time. It was just too much to do in a short amount of time," said Joque.

"Vagina Monologues" to be performed at UW-SP

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On March 1, 2 and 3, Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" will be performed at 8 p.m. in room 221 of the Noel Fine Arts Center. Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center (WRC), the stars of the event are University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point female volunteers. What started in a basement in 1996, "The Vagina Monologues" has become a national phenomenon.

The play is made up of monologues which are read by various women. The monologues are about love, sex, rape, birth or even the variety of names for the vagina. A recurring theme throughout the piece is the vagina as a tool of female empowerment and the ultimate embodiment of individuality. Every year a new monologue is written to highlight current issues of women around the world.

"The Vagina Monologues" are a cornerstone of V-Day (also created by Ensler), a movement to end violence against females. The "V" in V-day stands for Valentine, Vagina, and Victory which links love and respect for women to end

"We have come up with a plan for students to directly communicate with Chris by sending him an e-mail before a storm hits, letting him know of the places they need to be," he said.

With another snow storm expected on Thursday, March 1, Joque hopes this plan will prove to be more effective. Brindley agrees and says he will continue to be conscious about the mobility of disabled students on campus.

"We also have plans in the spring when the ground thaws to move the handicapped stall in the CPS parking lot so it is not in the corner where snow is often placed after plowing," added Brindley.

As for Janicki, he hopes to help monitor the mobility of disabled students on campus through his involvement on a newly created disability advisory council, which works with the Student Government Association.

violence and them.

Tickets for "The Vagina Monologues" are \$10 for the general public and \$5 with a UW-SP Student ID. Tickets are available at the University Box Office, 200 Division St., or by calling (715) 346-4100 or (800) 838-3378.

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Pointlife

International Programs encourages students to leave town

Katie Leb
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Having the opportunity to study and travel abroad for a semester is a chance most students would love to have. For students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus, this chance can become reality with little difficulty, thanks to the International Programs Office. Staffed with travel aficionados, the men and women of International Programs are more than willing and able to help students with any questions they may have regarding studying abroad.

Mark Koepke, Associate Director of International Programs, said that the people in his office truly want students to have the opportunity to study abroad.

"This office is not about turning people away," said Koepke. "Really we're here to facilitate study abroad. We're

really trying to get as many qualified students and to give them the opportunity to go if we possibly can."

Studying abroad, regardless of where, will most likely cost more than taking classes at UW-SP. International Programs realizes this and does as much as they can to keep the cost reasonable.

"I really want to stress that we do everything we can to keep the cost down," said Koepke. "Our goal is to make sure that students really get every penny that they put in and then some."

In order for students to reap these benefits, Koepke and his co-workers work diligently to facilitate almost everything for the program the student plans to go on.

"That's our motivation. To keep things down and to work hard. Really all a student has to do is come in and sign up," said Koepke.

Compared to most programs around the country,

there is not much work for a student to do. With only six staff and faculty members and student help, International Programs is able to arrange almost the entire trip for the students, which includes flight, living arrangements, many meals and tours for programs that incorporate them.

"It's not a lot of people considering the responsibilities that we have here and all the things that need to be done," stated Koepke. "I don't think there's any of us who are ever bored or looking for something to do. There's always work to do."

Over the years, studying abroad has grown exponentially. The first programs began in 1969 with only two options. This past academic year, International Programs saw a record-setting 29 different programs with about 450 students spread across the world. While there are programs that fill very fast, said Koepke, some programs still

have room right up until the deadline.

International Programs is always looking to send more students. Even though approximately 15 percent of each graduating class has studied overseas during their tenure at UW-SP, which is higher than many universities, more students are encouraged

to follow their peers.

In Koepke's own words, "Just leave. I think any student who moved far enough to think about it seriously and didn't do it will always regret it. Find a way to do it if you can. If not, the regrets will be there for sure."



Photo courtesy of Mark Koepke

The faculty and staff members of International Programs work diligently to make sure students are able to study abroad and make the most out of their experience.

Make your travels less stressful

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Every University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student starts the spring semester looking forward to that legendary week known as Spring Break. This occasion is meant as a time-out and a way to release the stress that all those exams, presentations and assignments have been building up.

While some UW-SP students stick around and use the opportunity to earn some much-needed money, others waste no time getting out of town to some much warmer climates.

Even though Spring Break is meant for rest and relaxation, some find the traveling component difficult to master. Travel complications can be just as stressful as any exam. By planning ahead and using some of these tips, Spring Break can truly be a chance for some fun in the sun - instead of some boredom in the airport or desperation in a foreign country!

If sightseeing in a foreign country is on the agenda, chances are there is an airplane flight booked as well. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) lists some ways to make the time in the airport as simple and easy as possible.

Keep a boarding pass and photo ID in hand at all times until the security checkpoint is passed. This will help avoid some additional screening, according to tsa.gov.

To make the screening

process go quicker, avoid wearing clothing or accessories that contain metal so it will not set off the detectors. Place metal items in plastic bags or bins that are provided until the checkpoint is passed.

"TSA Security Officers have to identify any metal that is detected at the checkpoint. If you set off the alarm, you will undergo additional screening. This includes a hand-wand and pat-down inspection," according to the website.

Another tip TSA offers is to pack metal items such as jewelry or PDAs in a carry-on. The carry-on should be as uncluttered as possible so it is easily examined.

The U.S. Department of State also offers some travel tips just for students on their website. For example, before the date of departure even arrives, be sure to have a signed, valid passport if you are traveling out of the country. Some nations also require visas, so having the correct paperwork filled out ahead of time will save time and effort.

Another suggestion on the site is to learn about the country you are visiting. While in a foreign land, tourists are still expected to abide by that country's laws and customs.

Kathleen Crislip, author of "Your Guide to Student Travel" on About.com, also has some words of advice.

Learning some of the local language will be advantageous if trouble ever arises. "Not being able to speak the local language while traveling abroad will hinder you from getting help" if the

need appears, says Crislip.

Another precaution to take is to keep your luggage safe at all times. "Check your bags carefully before crossing a border or boarding a flight to ensure that their contents are yours and yours alone," Crislip says.

Owen Robinson also has some advice for young travelers in his article "Traveling on a Budget Without Going Broke," on youngmoney.com.

If money is an issue, try planning your own trip, Robinson says. "Do your own research, spread out the maps, put together an itinerary you love, and make it happen. At the end of the trip, you'll feel like you've actually accomplished something."

Robinson also suggests that traveling in a group of four is often the most cost-effective.

Whatever the destination, traveling can be stressful. Being prepared will go a long way in making the experience more pleasurable for everyone. Good luck and have fun!

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Deadline Extended Still Time to Apply!

It's only the beginning for students in New Zealand

Hannah Brillowski
POINTLIFE REPORTER

Some may call this studying abroad. We, in New Zealand, call it one amazing field trip!

After spending two weeks in the Tahitian Islands we have learned a lot about the Maori culture. We were invited to a Tahitian feast where there was a lot of new foods, dancing and volleyball! The food was cooked in mass quantities in a hole in the ground. The heated coals were covered with sand and leaves, and the heat and smoke then cooked

the food very quickly. With open minds and a high curiosity, we tried all the foods that were offered. Some of us went back for more. The meal was very filling as it consisted of very high starchy foods and meats.

The dancing in Mo'orea was very different than anything you would find in the U.S. The girls belly danced while the boys mostly used their legs with the scissors move. No worries though! They taught us girls how to belly dance and we will not be shy to bring those moves back to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point!

The classes in Mo'orea taught us culture, biology, geography and more. The classes continued outside after the lecture where we visited open air temples (Marae) and snorkelled by a Motu (an island made of coral). Then we swam in the ocean with string rays and sharks, which was amazing to witness how tame they have become to humans.

Unfortunately, it ended up raining every day we were there. There were a few set backs, but we were not shy to push forward and experience what Mo'orea had to

offer. The rain did not get us down, as we knew there was plenty of sun to come in New Zealand!

We have been spending most of our class time outdoors so far. When out of the classroom or on a free weekend, there has been a lot of sight seeing, spending time at Cathedral square, rugby games, the beach and, for some of us, swimming in the ocean with the wild, endangered Hector dolphins.

We just got back from our first field trip in New Zealand which was to the South Islands to see Mt. Cook. It was enormous in size and we even witnessed some small avalanches. We visited the yellow-eyed penguins where we also saw seals beached on the shore. We also viewed a glacier and its melting pools around it which seemed unreal. Waking up to see the sunrise against Mt. Cook was indescribable ... and unforgettable!

Our next field trip out of Christ Church is heading to the North Islands and to hike and travel. We have all been very blessed with great home stays and are excited to come back and tell the stories!

The most exciting part is that this is still only the beginning.



Photo by Bill Davidson

Students currently studying abroad in New Zealand take time to pose in front of Mt. Cook.

THINK SUMMER

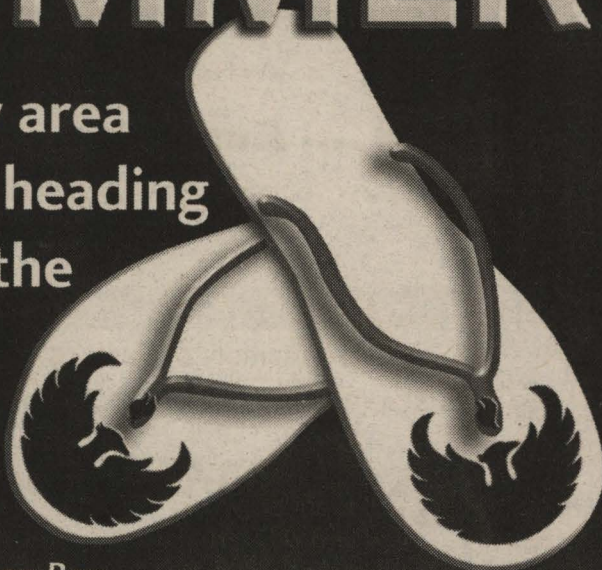
Green Bay area residents, heading home for the summer?

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Science, Health & Tech.

CNR Presents colloquium on Climate Change

Jong Won Lee
SCIENCE REPORTER

Climate change – it is a topic that can evoke a wide range of responses and emotions. Those who believe that the planet is indeed getting warmer point to the data and say that the main culprits are humans, while those who do not believe in climate change will either say that temperature changes are so minuscule that it is negligible or that it is a tall tale that has been manufactured by liberals who want to halt America's economic growth. In the realm of politics it's a controversial topic.

On February 28, 2007, no such controversy existed as Dr. Dale Robertson gave the first climate change colloquium of this semester in Room 170 in the College of Natural Resources building. The mood of the colloquium was somber and had a very as-a-matter-of-fact tone as Robertson gave the audience data after data

stretches all the way back to the 1840s up to the present day, proving that the planet has indeed become warmer.

According to Robertson's speech, there are several ways to observe climate change over the past two centuries. The research center that was used to measure average daily air temperatures have been located in Madison since the 1840s, and during this time, due to several errors that were made (such as placing the thermometer on top of a roof that has been painted black), Robertson had to make some modifications to his calculations as to measure climate change.

Using some of the older mathematical models that were around, Robertson discovered that the air temperature in Wisconsin had risen, but the difference in air temperature was minuscule, approximate 0.6 degrees Centigrade. However, with the modifications that he made, he discovered that the temperature has risen somewhere between 6.5

to 8.5 degrees Centigrade since 1885 to the present day.

Another way that climate change can be observed is via ice cover in the lakes around Wisconsin. UW – Madison's campus is located by Lake Mendota, therefore, it has been relatively easy for Robertson to use the data that once again stretches to the 1840s to discover that the planet is indeed getting warmer. The showed that although the average dates when the lake froze over has remained relatively unchanged, since the 1940s, the breakup dates changed, meaning that the lake's state of frozenness has become shorter and shorter.

Robertson said that one of the reasons for that might be the El Nino/La Nina effects in the Pacific Ocean. Robertson added that in the 1980s, scientists who used this exact model estimated that lakes around the Northern Hemisphere might no longer freeze in 2030. However, due to the El Nino/ La Nina effects

and the exponentially accelerating rate of global warming, scientists now believe that date might be brought forward to approximately 2015.

Robertson concluded the colloquium by stating that the effects of climate change are still being studied. For example, according to the studies Robertson had made, in the past thirty or so years, the number of Category 4 or Category 5 hurricanes has almost doubled, as has the flow of ice from glaciers in Greenland. Furthermore, Robertson added that heat waves might become more frequent and intense, droughts and wildfires could occur more often and the Arctic Ocean could be ice free by the summer of 2050.

What is already known about global warming

- Human activities are changing the composition of Earth's atmosphere. Increasing levels of greenhouse gases like carbon

dioxide (CO2) in the atmosphere since pre-industrial times are well-documented and understood.

-The atmospheric buildup of CO2 and other greenhouse gases is largely the result of human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels.

- A warming trend of about 0.7 to 1.5°F occurred during the 20th century. Warming occurred in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and over the oceans (NRC, 2001).

-The major greenhouse gases emitted by human activities remain in the atmosphere for periods ranging from decades to centuries. It is therefore virtually certain that atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases will continue to rise over the next few decades.

Info courtesy of epa.gov

Forest certification efforts ramping up in Wisconsin

Press Release
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MADISON - Efforts to responsibly manage Wisconsin's forest resources will shift into high gear in 2007, with a number of innovative activities planned for state-owned and national

forest lands, according to the new coordinator of the state Forestry Certification Program.

Forest certification is a systematic process to promote responsible resource management, according to Paul Pingrey, a 32-year-DNR veteran recently appointed to the Bureau of Forest

Management position. The certification standards developed by multiple organizations share a universal goal: providing a way to track timber production through a "chain of custody" (from raw material through finished product) that ensures nationally and internationally accepted standards encompassing environmental, social and economic principles and criteria are followed.

"Certification is an assurance, like the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval," Pingrey said. "It's a way for the public to immediately know and understand that a forest is being managed in a way that assures it will be there to benefit future generations."

Wisconsin's forest certification program focuses on three areas: the Managed Forest Law, with 38,000 individual private landowners; the 2.5 million-acre County Forest Program; and the half-million-acre State Forest System.

A growing body of research (including a 2001 University of Wisconsin-Madison-Harvard University study) suggests

good forest management can be a simple and cost-effective way to offset some impacts of global warming, such as higher carbon dioxide levels that result from the burning of fossil fuels.

Bob Mather, director of the Bureau of Forest Management, said forest certification provides a way for the general public and business community to understand that the state's forests are being managed utilizing the highest standards of environmental accountability.

More information about forest certification can be found on the DNR Web site.

For More Information, Contact: Paul Pingrey (608) 267-7595.

What's happening at the Allen Center for Health and Wellness Programs...

The Allen Center on Spring Break and Getting in Shape...

Even though it may not seem like it, spring break is just around the corner. Which is why right now is an awesome time to take advantage of the free Group Fitness classes offered daily at the Allen Center.

There is a variety of free Group Fitness classes that you can choose from to get in shape for the upcoming spring vacation. If you want to focus on strengthening and toning your abs, legs and lower back, check out Rear Attitudes. Or if you're looking for a great cardio workout, our new Boxcercise class is a great way to tone your upper and lower body by incorporating both punching and kicking. And it could be possible that you've had a stressful day and need something to help you relax and wind down. If

so, check out Flexibility Formula which will help relax your mind and body through a combination of yoga, dance and stretching techniques. These classes and many more are offered only by Group Fitness at the Allen Center and are free for students with their UWSP student IDs.

For a complete schedule of free Group Fitness classes and more information stop in at the Allen Center or visit www.go2allen.com. Remember, spaces in the classes are limited so we ask that you please come a half an hour early to reserve a spot in the class. Passes can be picked up at the Cardio Center Desk. So, get to the Allen Center quick because spring is going to be here before you know it!

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Outdoors

Belay is on! Climbers prepare for competition

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Rock climbing is considered to be one of the most physically challenging adventure sports today. It involves a battle against gravity and often self-trust, yet many climbers say there is nothing more gratifying than reaching the top.

On March 9, the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point climbing wall staff welcome students and the community to the annual climbing competition beginning at 6 p.m. in the Multi-Activity Center of the Health Enhancement Center.

The competition will take place on a 28-foot tall and 2,300-square-foot wide climbing wall that holds 15 top rope belay stations and up to eight lead climbs.

Participants may sign up in one of three categories - beginner, intermediate and advanced for either men or women. Additionally, climbers may choose to do bouldering, which is rock climbing without ropes at lower heights, or

top roping, or a competition of the two.

"The rock-setters are really good at setting the climbing routes," said Tony Brockmeyer, a third-year rock climbing competitor. "The staff really accommodates for newcomers at all different levels," he added.

The competition is based on a point system. In the United States, climbers use a standard rating system to describe the difficulty of different routes. Rock climbing falls in class 5. Class 6 includes rock walls that are so flat it requires the use of artificial aids to climb them.

Top rope beginners typically climb routes marked at a rating of 5.3 to 5.6. Intermediate climbers climb routes anywhere from 5.7 to 5.9 and advanced climbers take on the challenge of a 5.10 or 5.11 route. Bouldering includes an entirely different rating scale.

Each route is marked with colored tape. Participants are allowed to climb as many routes as preferred. The more "clean," or faultless, climbs that a competitor performs,

the more points he or she will be awarded.

Last year's event included approximately 100 to 150 participants. This year, the staff is expecting a few more.

"The climbing competition is different from other competitions because everybody just wants you to do well, and it's a nice social atmosphere," said Brockmeyer.

But according to Brockmeyer, this doesn't mean there aren't a few non-serious rivalries between veteran competition climbers.

"A friend of mine from Madison has taken first place in the advanced category for three years in a row," said Brockmeyer. "There are a few of us who'd like to finally beat him this year."

Business sponsors such as Prana, Rishi Tea, Divepoint Scuba Center and Clif Bar have donated a variety of prizes for the competition.

"Prizes will be given to the top three finishers in each category," said Shea Rollins, student manager of the climbing wall. "The prizes are awesome - we have everything from chalk bags to Nalgene

to climbing gear to clothing."

Registration fee is \$10 until March 8 and \$15 on the day of the event. The fee also includes rental equipment, but participants may bring their own personal equipment.

To register, visit the climbing wall website at www.uwsp.edu/HESA/HEC/ClimbingWall.htm. For further information e-mail the climbing wall staff at climbingwall@uwsp.edu.



Photo by Andrea Mutsch

The UW-SP climbing wall staff invite students and the public to the annual climbing competition on Friday, March 9.

Outdoor•Ed Ventures Tip of the Week



Derek Miess
TRIP LEADER/RENTAL TECHNICIAN

"Say Ole, doesn't that look like a funning horse?"

"Well Sven, I'd say it looks more like the neighbor's lame cow. What do you think, Derek?"

"I think it looks fair weather for the next few days."

What are these guys talking about? Clouds. By monitoring cloud activity, you can predict what weather may lie ahead.

There are several cloud

types a person can observe in the sky. Here are a few cloud types that will help you judge the weather during your next outdoor adventure.

Cirrus - commonly called "Mare's Tails" by their thin wispy appearance, they hang out high in the sky and are the first clouds of an approaching warm front.

Altostratus - following cirrus clouds in a warm front, they stretch across the sky as a thin, gray layer of clouds lying in the middle of the atmosphere.

Nimbostratus - stratus clouds lie in sheets or layers and the prefix nimbo is synonymous with "rain," so nimbostratus are rain clouds. These clouds bring long duration, light rainfall with a warm front.

Cumulus - the white puffy clouds which inspire the imagination as they float by. They are our "fair weather" friends and invite us outside to play.

Cumulonimbus - Start looking for shelter immediately if you notice a large vertical wall of dark clouds as it is the mighty Cumulonimbus. Thunderstorms with short duration, heavy rainfall is likely as well as thunder and lightning.

The next time you are hiking along a trail don't forget to keep an eye on the sky and take note of what cloud formations are floating about. For more information on clouds and weather, check out "The Backpacker's Field Manual" by Rick Curtis.

Happy camping from Outdoor Adventures.

More about the UW-SP Climbing Wall...

The mission of the UW-SP climbing wall staff is to provide a safe, challenging atmosphere for climbers.

Belay certification is an option at the climbing wall, but only a requirement if you would like to belay someone. Certification renewal is required once a year.

Beginning on March 11, open climb will be every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. These nights are free for all students with an ID and include all gear and certifications.

For more information, contact Shea Rollins, climbing wall supervisor, at (715) 346-4504 or e-mail climbingwall@uwsp.edu.

Inland game fishing season closes March 4

Press Release
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Anglers should be aware that the game fish season on most inland Wisconsin waters closes at the end of the day on Sunday, March 4.

The panfish season remains open year-round as does the season for certain game fish, including much of the Wisconsin River and its impoundments.

Waters that remain open are listed in the Guide to Wisconsin Hook and Line Fishing Regulations and on the Department of Natural Resources Web site.

In addition, an early trout season opens at 5 a.m. on

March 3 and continues until Sunday, April 29 at midnight. The early season is catch-and-release only, and only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used while fishing for any species of fish on trout streams.

Most trout streams are open to early fishing with the exception of most Lake Superior tributaries and most streams in northeast Wisconsin.

Since 2005, the inland game fishing season has been set to close at the end of the day of the first Sunday in March.

For more information contact Joe Hennessy at (608) 267-9427.

Sturgeon spearing lasts entire 16-day season

Press Release

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Sturgeon spearers were able to enjoy the full 16 days for the 2007 Lake Winnebago season, which closed Sunday, Feb. 25, with a preliminary harvest total of 1,347 fish.

The 2007 season will go into the books as "a very nice season, both from the sturgeon population's perspective and from the spearers' perspective," said Ron Bruch, a Department of Natural Resources fisheries biologist and sturgeon specialist.

This was the first year a lottery was in effect to control spearing efforts on the three smaller upstream lakes of Poygan, Butte des Morts and Winneconne.

Spearers had to enter a drawing to be one of the 500 spearers selected to participate in the upriver season. The upriver lakes season closed Feb. 15 with a harvest of 313 sturgeon. The season on Lake Winnebago, which was open to anyone with a lake Winnebago sturgeon spearing license, closed Sunday with a preliminary harvest of 1,034 fish.

Bruch said spearers also harvested a number of trophy size Lake sturgeon weighing more than 100 pounds -- 20 from Lake Winnebago and four from the Upriver Lakes, with the largest being the 158-pound, 74-inch fish

taken by Bill Nelson of Larsen.

"This is the highest proportion of trophy fish in the harvest since the late 1950s-early 1960s," Bruch said.

"At this point and until the data are thoroughly analyzed, it appears that the proportion of trophy-sized sturgeon in the population has increased over the last 10 to 15 years. The series of new regulations were implemented to increase the number of large fish in the population to stabilize the female spawning stock seems to be paying off."

The record lake sturgeon speared from Lake Winnebago was a 188-pound fish taken in 2004.

Fisheries biologists will calculate the final actual harvest rates once all of the data are entered and summarized, specifically the tag return data which are used to estimate annual catch.

Bruch said less than perfect water clarity in some areas of Lake Winnebago likely contributed to lower spearing success rates, allowing the season to last for a full 16 days, during which spearers had lots of time including three full weekends to fish.

The season also ran a full 16 days in 2006. In 2004, the season was closed after just two days after spearers exceeded the harvest cap for adult females on opening day.

For information contact Ron Bruch at (920) 424-3059.

Upcoming Programs and Events

Saturday, March 3

Trip to Popp's Cave in Richland Center, Wis. Join Outdoor EdVentures from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on a caving adventure through a natural limestone cave. Cost is \$40 per person and equipment is available at Outdoor EdVentures, located in the lower level of the Allen Center.

Sunday, March 4

Naturalist Program: Spring Syrup at 2 p.m. at the Schmeeckle Reserve visitor center. Investigate how Native Americans and pioneers transformed a food for trees into a tasty treat for humans.

Tuesday, March 6

Naturalist Program: Wonderful Woodpeckers at 5:30 p.m. at the Schmeeckle Reserve visitor center. Discover the unique behavior of woodpeckers that sets them apart from other birds.

Wednesday, March 7

Survival Kit Making from 6 to 8 p.m. at Outdoor EdVentures, located in the lower level of the Allen Center.

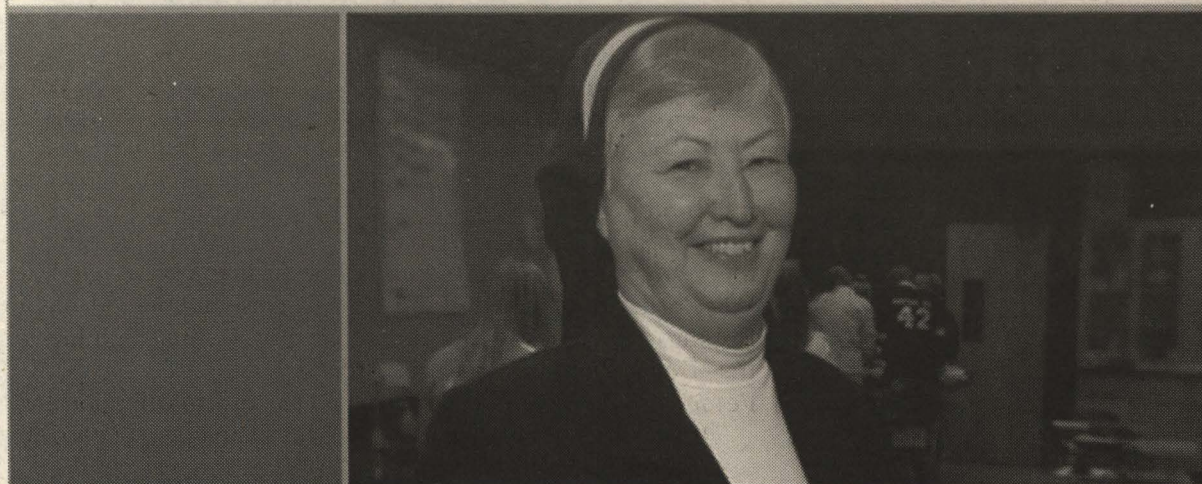


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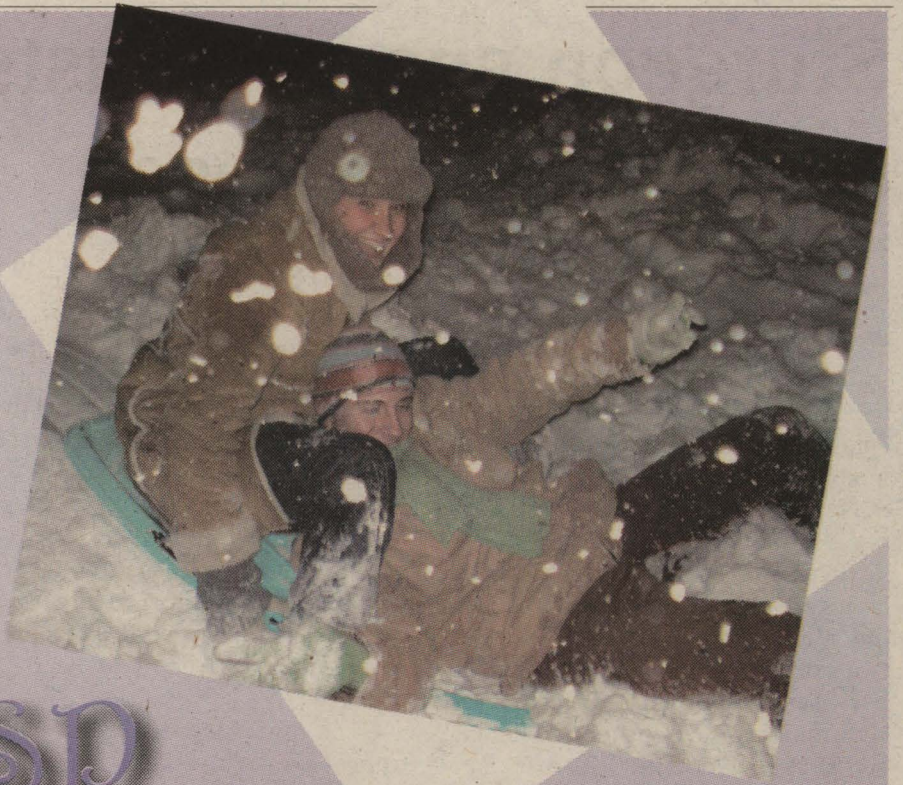
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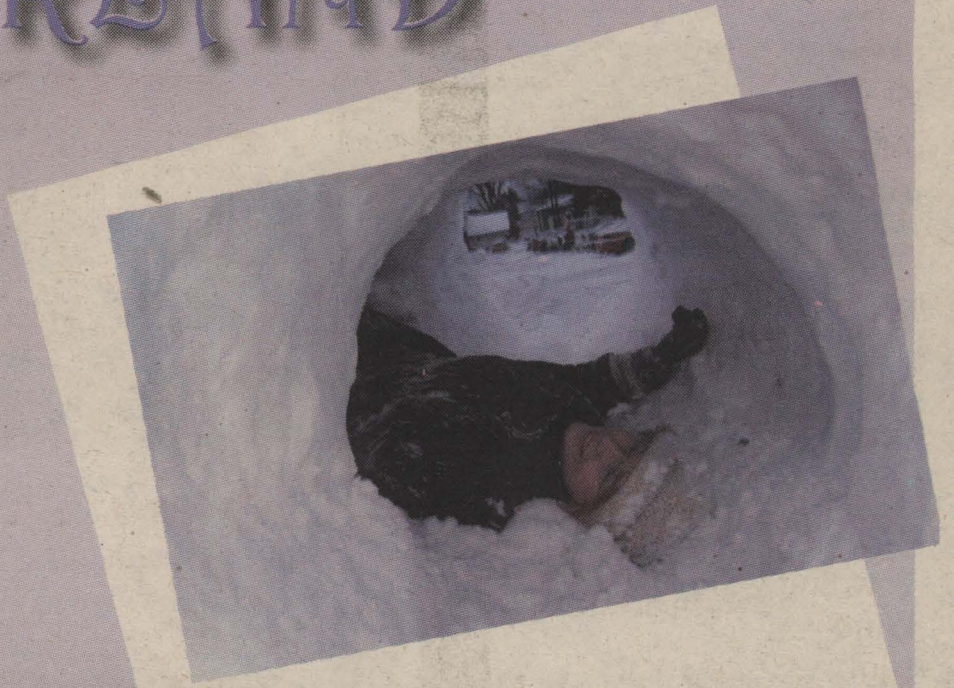
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WINTER
WONDERLAND





Local Weekend Forecast for Stevens Point

Courtesy of Weather.com

Fri
Mar 2



AM Light Snow
High: 33° Low: 19°

Sat
Mar 3

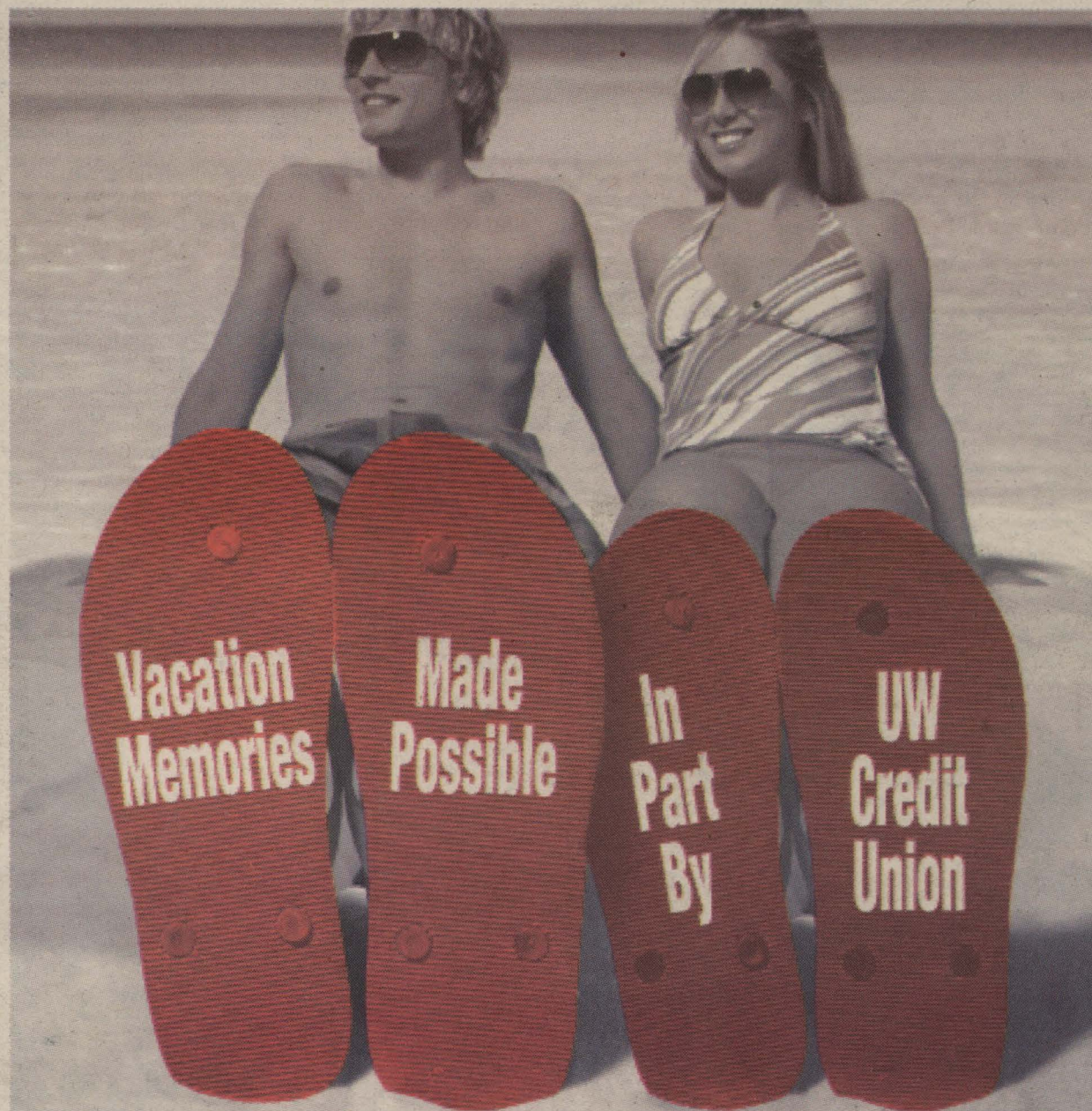


Few Snow Showers /
Wind
High: 28° Low: 11°

Sun
Mar 4



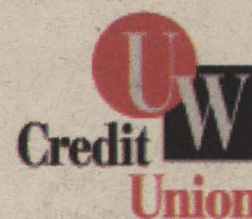
Partly Cloudy
High: 30° Low: 17°



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Sports

POINTERS ARE CONFERENCE CHAMPS!

Pointers win WIAC tourney, advance to NCAA's

Men's Basketball

Nick Gerritsen
THE POINTER
NGERR519@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball team clinched their third Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament championship in the last four years with convincing victories over UW-Whitewater and UW-La Crosse last week.

The Pointers, 25-2 on the season, became the third team in the WIAC tournament's five year history to win both the conference's regular season and tournament crowns.

On Thursday, Feb. 22, the Pointers used a huge second half surge to pull away from Whitewater, last year's tournament champions. The two teams played down-to-the-wire games in the regular season and the third match appeared headed in the same direction. Point headed into

halftime with just a three point edge but came out of the locker room blazing, going on a 9-0 run early in the second half to build a 10 point lead.

Whitewater guard Jason Price kept the Warhawks in the game, scoring a game high 26 points, but was unable to keep up with the Pointer's balanced attack. With just under eight minutes left, Point went on an 11-0 run to pull away with the victory.

Steve Hicklin led the Pointers with 21 points while Jon Krull added 20 points and pulled down a team high seven rebounds. Khalifa El-Amin also added 14 points to go along with his seven assists.

On the night of Saturday, Feb. 24, the Pointers hosted UW-LC in the conference final. The Eagles came out hitting nearly everything, building a 23-14 lead thanks to 10-12 shooting in the game's first ten minutes. Point then responded, going on a 13-0 run to end the half, keeping La Crosse scoreless for the final

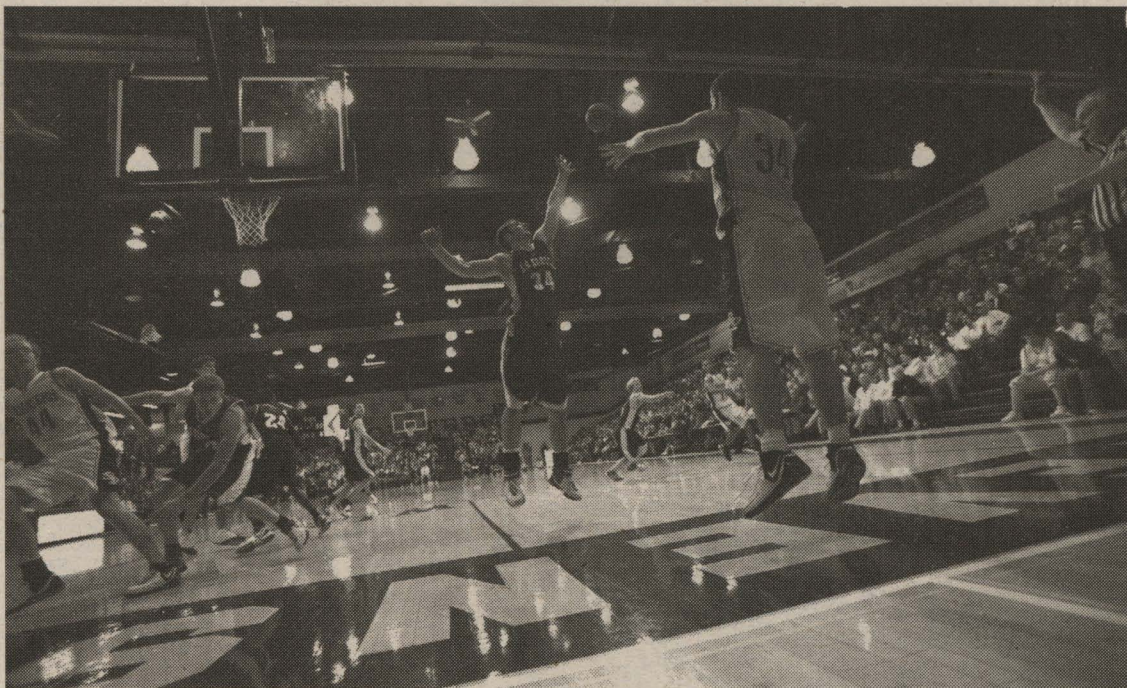


Photo by Drew Smalley

Pointer men's basketball team ran the floor against their WIAC opponents to earn their third conference championship in four seasons.

ten minutes of the half. Like the semifinal game against Whitewater, Point used a big run early in the second half, this one a 15-2 run, to pull away from their opponent. A three-point barrage by Krull and Pete Rortvedt built an 18 point lead with less than six minutes remaining.

All five Pointer starters scored at least 13 points, led by Bryan

Beamish's 16. Rortvedt and Hicklin each added 15 as the Pointers ran their winning streak to nine games. It is the second nine-game winning streak of the season for the Pointers, who earned a first round bye in the NCAA Division III Tournament this week.

The Pointers also earned a home game for their second round match against the winner of the St. John's (Minn.)/Loras (Iowa) game to be played on Thursday, March 1. The Pointers will come into

the game winners of nine straight NCAA Tournament games after winning back-to-back national championships in their previous two appearances in 2004 and 2005. UW-SP, WIAC's lone representative in the tourney, has also won 21 of their last 22 post-season games.

The game is scheduled for 7 p.m. Saturday, March 3. The winner of the game will advance to the Division III sectional tournament on March 9-10 at a site yet to be determined.



Photo by Drew Smalley

Eight excited fans pitch a tent for Pointer tickets

Stephen Kaiser
THE POINTER
SKAIS309@UWSP.EDU

There is a line between dedication and insanity. Unfortunately for eight University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball fans, that line was buried underneath a foot of fresh snow in the recent blizzard.

Tickets for the Pointer's second round contest in the NCAA Division III tournament went on sale Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 8 a.m. Not wanting to miss the opportunity to purchase tickets for front row seats in the student section, these young men set up camp in front of the University Store the night before.

"We got the tents from Outdoor Ed Ventures," Ben Bishop said. "We

are absolutely pumped!"

The students began the long night at 9 p.m. and were in good spirits after the first hour of holding down fort. A mini-basketball hoop was set up while Snoop Dogg was bumping in the trunk. In between huge dunks and impossible shots from 20 yards away, the night looked like it would pass fast for these young fanatics.

That was until the need for sleep and heat took over. In the middle of the night, five left with images of the next day's early morning classes and frostbitten limbs dashing through their heads.

When the sun rose and droves of fans made their way to the doors, three brave souls remained in the

see Pitch a tent pg. 11

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Pointers women's hockey finish regular season with sweep

Women's Hockey

Julianne LaClair
SPORTS REPORTER

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's hockey team finished the regular season on a winning note with a pair of conference victories over Finlandia University. It was all Pointers as they won 3-0 on Friday, Feb. 23, and 6-1 on Saturday, Feb. 24.

It took half the game to get the Pointers on the board in Friday's game, as Chris Hanson sparked the offense by slipping one past the Lions' goaltender. Adding another pair of goals on the game was Jess Suter, scoring just six minutes apart in the third period with one coming on the power play and linemate Jenna Daggit assisting on both.

The Pointers outshot the Lions 44-12 on the game. Freshman goaltender d'Andra Phillips picked up her first career shutout on the game, stopping all 12 shots she faced.

"I was excited to get my first shutout here at Point. It means a lot to me because I got the chance to play and help my team out on a big win," Phillips said, "I knew we had to win and that I needed to step up and play well."

The Pointers won Saturday's game in even more convincing fashion. Leading the six-goal game was Nicole Grossman, scoring the first two goals. Her first goal came on the power play with a shot that beat the Lions' goaltender early in the third, and she tallied her second on a shorthanded breakaway just three minutes later. Grossman led the team in scoring in the

regular season with 25 points. Also notching a pair of goals on the game was Tracy Butler. Suter tacked on another and Jessica Edward picked up her fourth of the year.

Saturday's game was yet another opportunity for a freshman goaltender to shine. Ann Hulme made her first start and picked up her first win with 17 saves on the

game.

"It's always exciting to play in games and even better to win," Hulme said. "I'm just looking forward to playoffs, and I'm glad I could do a little more in helping to get us there."

The Pointers again held the advantage in shots, 35-18.

Next weekend starts the post-season with the NCHA

Conference Tournament hosted by UW-Superior. The Pointers will face UW-River Falls at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 2 in the semifinals. Saturday's games are 2 p.m. for third place and 6 p.m. for the championship.

"Our main goal is to put ourselves in the position to play as long as possible," said senior captain Hanson.



Photo by Stephen Kaiser

A group of anxious students eagerly await the chance to be the first purchasers of tickets to the national tournament game.

from **Pitch a tent** page 10

front of the line: Kevin Roney, Jeff Hintz, and Dan Brinker. The three survivors received accolades from the fans who arrived that morning. Over 75 people showed up before the University Store opened their doors.

One of the men, Nick Brehm, couldn't bear to stay for a few more hours.

"I left at 2:30 in the morning. I couldn't feel my legs, so I decided to call it a night," Nick Brehm said later. "I give the three that stayed mad props and some hot chocolate."

Looking ahead to the Saturday, March 3 showdown against either Loras or St. John's, the confidence level was soaring. Comparisons to past Pointer championship teams were already being made before the current squad could even hit the court for their first playoff game.

"I think the Pointers will play their way into the Division 3 championship and then bring home another national title to the campus of

UW-SP. Believe that!" Roney said. "This year's team can flat out shoot the lights out. I don't think we have had a team in past years that has had so many players that are so dangerous behind the three-point line."

Hintz made similar comments, but noted the team's lack of size. "This domination reminds me of my freshman year when the team went to the Final Four in Salem and won," Hintz said. "We play a smaller lineup than I can remember in years past, but who said talent is measured in feet and inches?"

One of the crucial elements on the road to the championship is a home court advantage. The Pointers won 14 of 15 at the Quandt Fieldhouse this season, outscoring their opponents by a combined 112 points.

"The Pointers should have home court advantage as long as they are in the tournament so that will be of great advantage," Brinker said. "Quandt is probably the biggest home court advantage in the country for Division 3 basketball."

Senior on the Spot

Michael Ormond - Men's Track and Field

Major - Health Promotion.

Hometown - Marshfield.

Do you have any nicknames? - Ormo, Mikey.

What are your plans after graduation?

- Going on to more schooling for firefighting and EMT paramedic.

What has helped you become such an accomplished athlete?

- The help and support from my coach and teammates. I could not have done it without them, and also all the hard work and dedication I put in to my sport.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory?

- Making it to the NCAA DIII Cross Country Championships my sophomore year.

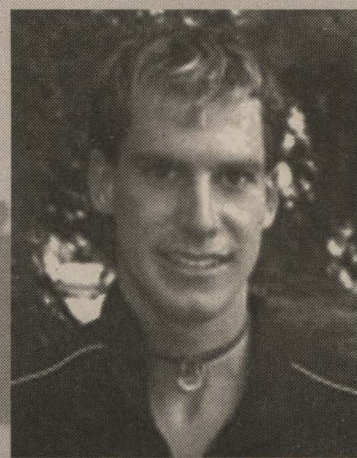
What's your most embarrassing moment? - Ummm ... ask any one of the guys on the team and I'm sure they could name a few.

What CD is in your stereo right now? - None at the moment.

What DVD is currently in your DVD player? - Four Minutes.

What will you remember most about UW-SP? - Running for the greatest cross country coach and team in the conference and nation. The euchre games we would always play on the bus or van rides to and from meets. Being part of a DIII National Runner-Up Cross Country team and just being part of something awesome for four more years. I am taking away many memories from my years here and I wish they would never have to end.

What are the three biggest influences in your life? - My family, coaches and teammates, and friends.

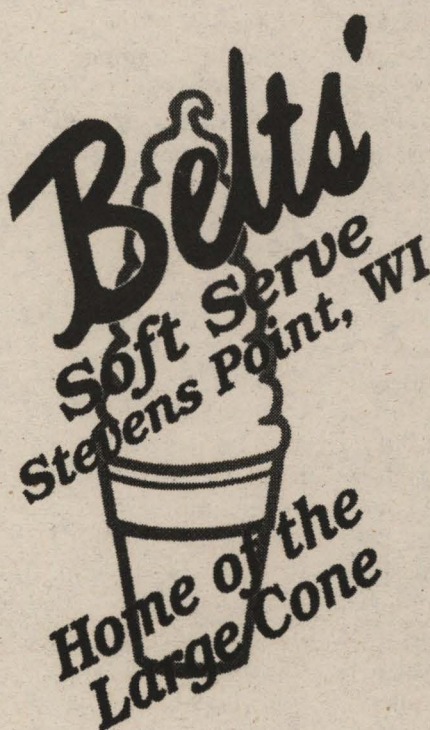


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Arts & Review

New professor shares creative dance vision

June Flick
THE POINTER
JFLIC713@UWSP.EDU

Michael Estanich shared the feeling it takes to choreograph a work of dance.

"It is the process of falling in love. I have to fall in love with my work before I show it to an audience," said Estanich. Estanich is a new assistant professor of Dance in the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

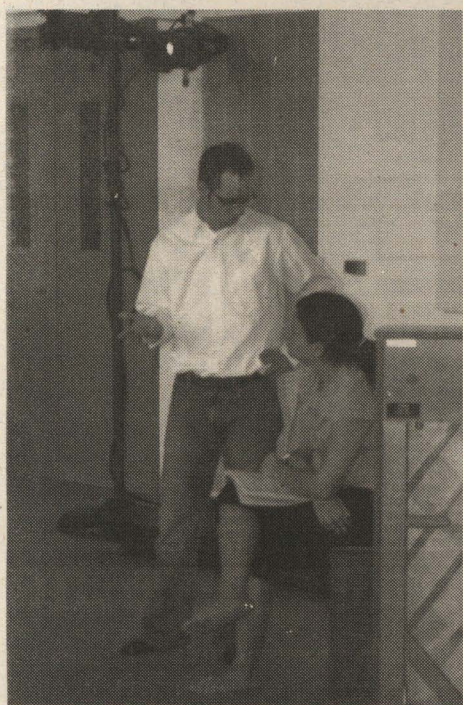


Photo courtesy of June Flick

Estanich discusses choreography with a student.

Estanich started teaching at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point after graduating last May with a Master of Fine Arts degree in choreography from Ohio State University.

"I was blessed enough to get the position right out of grad school. I moved here in August, and it's been the hardest year of my life," said Estanich.

Estanich started his college career at Denison University in Ohio. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre and Dance in 1995. He was honored with the President's Medal, which is Denison's highest standard of achievement. Estanich said that it is an award given to five to seven seniors for their commitment to their work and university.

Estanich then moved to Chicago and danced with Mad Shak Dance Company. He also co-founded MOTIVITY.

"MOTIVITY is a collection of young choreographers who

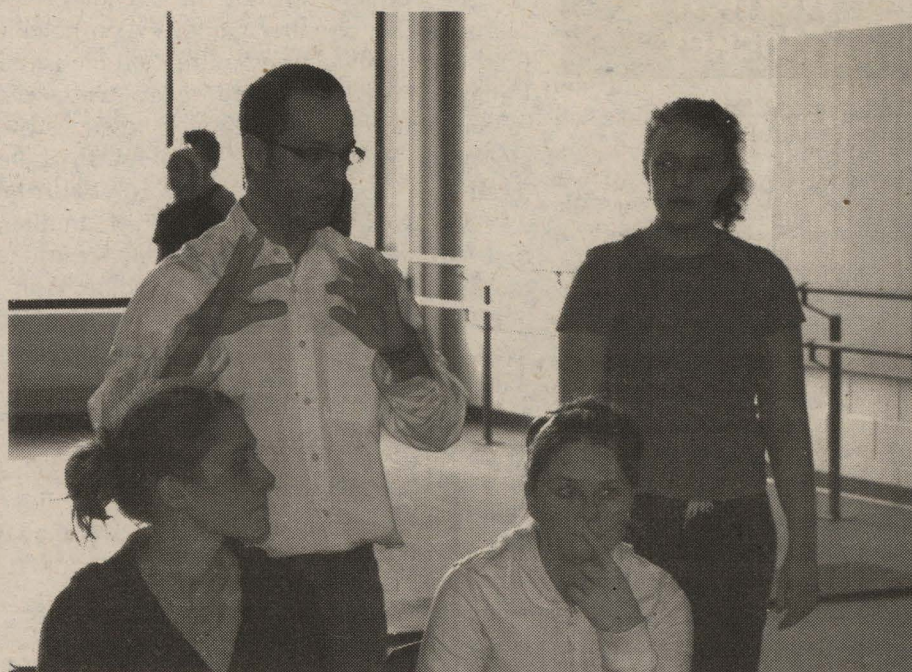
don't have a lot of money. We created a festival dedicated to young emerging choreographers in Chicago," said Estanich. "We built a community and a connection so you didn't feel all alone in the large city."

After six years at Mad Shak, Estanich went to Ohio State University.

"While in grad school, you get narrow-minded. It's so serious," he said.

"I started to look at dance as a visual art. What visual experience can I provide? If I can't justify why somebody should leave the stage, they never will."

After his experiences in graduate school, Estanich decided to seek a teaching position. Estanich chose to attend grad school in the first place because he wanted to continue developing his choreography and also knew that he wanted to teach.



Estanich explains his vision to a group of students.

Photo courtesy of June Flick

He applied to about 20 different positions including the open position in the UW-SP Dance department. After a phone interview, Estanich was invited to campus for a two day trial teaching session.

"I got here, and it felt so wonderful," he said. "I wanted to be part of a small faculty where there was a cohesive, fluid connection. The Theatre and Dance department here is known as a quality program in the Midwest."

Estanich is also excited

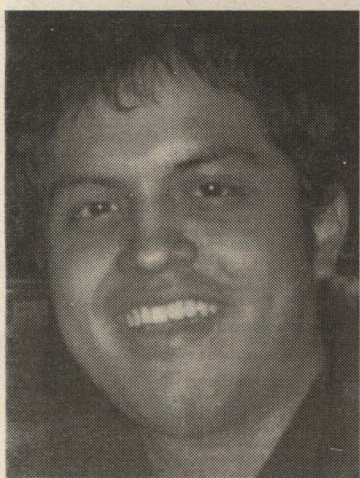
that all of UW-SP's art departments are under one roof. He is excited about the potential for collaborative efforts, as well as the vibrant creative energy of the atmosphere.

Most of all, Estanich is eager to collaborate with students.

"They are open to new ideas, and I wanted to pour my artistic energy into that," he said. "To be inspired by students is as important as them being inspired by me."

CINEMA CRITIQUE CORNER WITH NELSON CARVAJAL: "THE NUMBER 23"

Nelson Carvajal
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER



Courtesy of Nelson Carvajal

In Thomas Pynchon's novel, "The Crying of Lot 49," the central character Oedipa obsesses herself with the unraveling of an antithetical secretive organization that rivals the government postal service. She begins to see their emblem of a muted horn everywhere she looks. I couldn't help but think of this story when watching Joel Schumacher's latest plunge into dark territory, "The Number 23."

The film stars Jim Carrey

as Walter Sparrow, a middle-class dog catcher who is happily married to Agatha (Academy Award nominee Virginia Madsen) and is a hip dad to his son Robin (Logan Lerman). As the film opens, a title card reads "February 3" (2/3, get it?) and Walter informs the audience, through flashback narration, that it is his birthday. After a run-in with a stray dog, Sparrow meets Agatha at a local bookstore, where a blood-red-covered book has caught Agatha's eye. The book is called "The Number 23" and its author's name is Topsy Kretts. Agatha buys the book as a birthday gift for Walter and he jokes, "I'll just wait for the movie."

Before long, however, Sparrow has his nose buried in the book and finds himself drawn toward the book's protagonist, Fingerling. Both Fingerling and Sparrow share similar childhood experiences, and both have a knack for playing detective (Sparrow is a dog-catcher, remember?). Once Fingerling comes across the number 23, Sparrow too finds himself immersed in the possible real meaning of the

number.

The number 23 is everywhere, Sparrow soon concludes. The human body contains 23 chromosomes from each parent. There are 23 axioms to geometry. September 11, 2001 even is connected (9+11+2+1=23). Oh, and Sparrow first met Agatha on September 14 (9+14=23). See where this is going?

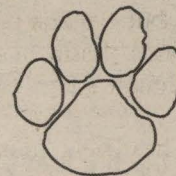
Where the film's most engrossing material lies is in these opening passages where the storyline cuts between Sparrow's and Fingerling's lives (Fingerling too is played by Carrey). And at times Carrey is truly convincing as a paranoid and compulsive believer in the number 23; though those times are few and far between. The sad truth is that Carrey is ultimately miscast as the film's protagonist. Robert Downey Jr. ("A Scanner Darkly") could have struck the notes the role called for. Carrey, on the other hand, struggles to find the sort of elusive place in between the ordinary guy and eerie schizoid. Much of this problem is due to the displacement of plot within the

screenplay. The idea of the number 23 being the secret to existence sounds enticing in the synopsis—but since the film relies solely on the coincidence of the values of certain dates and names, much of the possibility for an involving thriller is lost.

The point at which the film really loses whatever legs it was walking on comes about two-thirds of the way into the movie, and by then, any sense of wonderment or provocative revelation is completely inaccessible. I imagine both Schumacher and Phillips realized that the film's main idea had run out of juice, so they tacked on a ridiculous—and strongly disconnected—subplot of an unsolved murder. That's a shame too, since so many obtuse questions and ironic connections were introduced up until then.

In Pynchon's "The Crying of Lot 49," Oedipa never really does figure out the whole significance of the muted horn and that ending of ambig-

Excellent!



Good



Okay



Forget it



ity resonates deeply with the reader. I wonder how much more effective "The Number 23" would have been if it were under braver direction, and if everything wouldn't have been spelled out in order to provide a happy Hollywood ending.

Dolorean's "You Can't Win" a melancholy masterpiece

Zachary Krogman
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

If you're wearing out your Wilco albums and prefer your Neil Young "Helpless," Dolorean wants to be your drinking buddy. In "You Can't

Win," this Portland, Or., based band's lead singer and songwriter Al James explores just that idea to its resigned and heartbreaking end.

While the band's sound isn't terribly original, it has a haunting quality. It's heavily indebted to both Neil Young and Wilco. James' voice lacks a lot of the dynamism of a Young or Tweedy however, and it never moves away from their most melancholy elements.

That's not to say that "You Can't Win" is a bad album. On the contrary, its opening title track takes a unique approach as a keyboard drone slowly moves to the forefront and James repeats "You can't win" like a mantra.

From there, Dolorean

doesn't stray far from a folksy feel. Piano elements in "We Winter Wrens" conjure up a countrified Counting Crows and reveal a brief glimpse of whimsical melody. Unfortunately, James' voice never grows above a disheartened mumble, tempering the track's attempts to build momentum.

This often suits James, especially the standout track "Beachcomber Blues," which aches with each refrain. Just as often, James sounds like he's about to fall asleep at the mic. James doesn't have an optimistic bone in his body. Where similar acts like Jason Collett are defined by an undaunted optimism, Dolorean leaves no room for that sort of thing. "You Can't Win" has no rousing rock.

This could hurt the disc a lot more, except that "You Can't Win" creates a

perfect atmosphere. In this atmosphere, the lyrics come to the forefront. James is a talented writer, and nowhere is it more apparent than on "What a Bottle Can Do." While the song hinges on the familiar theme of drinking to forget a lost love, it avoids cliché. It celebrates getting rid of thought, be it through drinking or less destructive means.

In the end, the album feels like a quiet walk on a brisk autumn day. As James sings in "What a Bottle Can Do," "I've grown quite fond of what one bottle can do." In a sense, the album replicates that feeling well. It's a numb feeling that doesn't necessarily feel bad or good but can be beautiful. "You Can't Win" makes itself a perfect companion for a melancholy day when winning seems just out of reach.

Jen Chapin Trio to perform at Clark Place

Joy Ratchman
THE POINTER
JRATC567@UWSP.EDU

On March 16 Jen Chapin and her Trio will bring their unique brand of Urban Folk to Stevens Point's Clark Place for a memorable performance. The show will feature songs from Chapin's latest release, "Ready," her breakout album "Linger" and covers from influences Van Morrison and Stevie Wonder. The Jen Chapin Trio consists of Chapin, her husband Stephan Crump and guitarist Jamie Fox.

Joining the trio on tour is Chapin and Crump's young son Maceo Crump, the inspiration for many of the songs on "Ready." Music is very much a family activity for Chapin. She grew up with the influences of her father, the activist singer-songwriter Harry Chapin. She now performs with her husband and various close friends, following in her father's footsteps as both singer-songwriter and political activist.

Chapin's lyrics focus on the expectation and joys of motherhood, as well as social activism, political frustration, personal challenges and romance. Chapin focuses on delivering her messages through vivid but esoteric images. The Onion calls Chapin's album "a smart, smokey [sic] set of original songs that touch on jazz and pop."

The Trio's music is of the ambient sort, not music to dance to, but music that sets an atmosphere. Chapin's voice has a unique, breathy brightness. The music is driven by heady syncopation and the throb of a walking bass line. The style is an urban kind of folk. The sound leans heavily toward jazz, but with shades of Macy Grey and Norah Jones and a hint of country twang. It wouldn't be out of place at a coffee shop's open mic night.

While on tour, Chapin holds lyric-writing workshops focused on such topics as "Music and Social Action." She also teaches jazz and improvisation master classes. In addition, Chapin is an advocate of world hunger awareness and conducts workshops about hunger and poverty. She is the Chair of the Board of Directors of World Hunger Year.

The Chapin Trio's show begins at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 16. The trio will play two sets. The cost is \$8 dollars for students and \$10 for the general public. In her song "Ready," Chapin advises the audience to "Do your thing and get ready / cause I'm ready for you."

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Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide
Clown Sex.

By Pat Rothfuss

WITH HELP FROM THE NEW MISSION CAFE

Pat,

After all your prompting in the column, I finally went downtown to check out the place you're always talking about, the Mission Coffee House. They're open until Midnight every day of the week? How come you never mentioned that before? I would have been here months ago if I'd known there was a place I could get coffee that late at night!

Your fan,
Jenni

Actually Jenni, it's called the New Mission Cafe, they're under new management now. If you'd stopped by a year ago looking for midnight coffee you would have been terribly disappointed. They've only been staying open for night owls like us for about a month now.

And besides, I'm pretty sure I mentioned it in the column before, along with the fact that on Saturday nights, they're actually open ALL night.

But just in case I did forget. Hey everyone, the Mission is open until midnight. Check it out.

Moving on....

Pat,

I've been a fan of your column for some time. Your advice has helped to accelerate my academic progress, elevate my social status, and perpetuate my debilitating insomnia through indiscriminate abuse of caffeine products. However, a recent trend I've noticed in your writing has left me feeling a bit disturbed: your obsession with clowns.

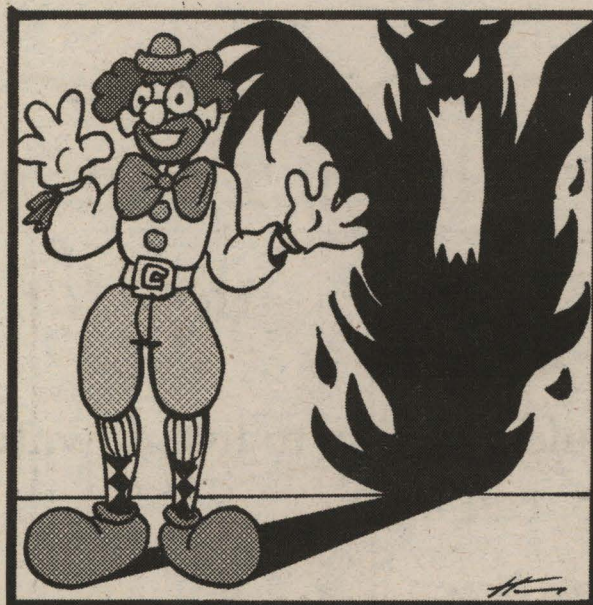
As a clown, I'm extremely offended by the defamatory representation of my people. I can't believe such a progressive publication as The Pointer would allow such derogatory, vocation-ist slang as "clown" to be printed. Jester-American is the preferred nomenclature; "clown" is our word.

What I'm particularly concerned with is your well-documented obsession with clown sex. As a Jester-American who has engaged in many a lustful roll in the silly-string with a buxom, red-nosed clowness, I'd like to dispel a few stereotypes that seem to persist. Sex between

two consenting clowns (or one clown and one "normie") is a beautiful, beautiful thing; the union of two funny souls into one hilarious being. Unlike the common misconception, we generally don't make any unusual honking noses while doing the deed, and no, confetti doesn't burst out of us if we get too excited. Clown sex is just like any other kind of sex, albeit with a bit more whoopie-cushion for the pushin'.

If the Circus Rights Movement is teaching us anything, it's that these stereotypes must end. Shame on you, Mr. Rothfuss for your debasing treatment of clowns. Maybe if you could walk a mile in my ridiculously oversized shoes, you'd realize that clowns have feelings too.

-Winkie the Clown



First off, Winkie, I have to straighten you out on a misconception you seem to be laboring under. Sex is not beautiful or funny. Sex is a filthy, disgusting act that should only be shared between married heterosexuals who love each other. Even then the only reason to have sex is to make a baby. Preferably a manchild.

Clowns are a whole separate issue entirely. Clowns are, to put it simply, pure evil. There is so much proof of this that I could write a book about

it, but there's no need because someone already DID write a book about it. It's called the BIBLE, and it was written by GOD!

1. In the creation story of Genesis, you'll notice that god does not create clowns. That means that they must have been made by the Devil. Or perhaps spawned from the loins of that brazen hussy Lilith after she was thrown out of Eden for back-sassing Adam and demanding oral sex.

2. Leviticus 18:21 reads: "Thou shalt not lie with livestock as with womankind; it is abomination." But this was recently discovered to be a typo. It's not "livestock" it's "laughing-stock." So sex with clowns is abomination. And yes, that does mean it's okay to have sex with animals now. Because God is never wrong.

3. Lastly, as you must be aware, young children often cry at the very sight of a clown. This is because their pure little souls, as yet untainted by the liberal media and Henson's damned pagan Muppets, can sense the dark, sticky evil lurking underneath that too-bright painted smile that you people hide behind.

In closing, all I really have to offer you is a choice. Either accept God's infinite love and forgiveness by changing your sinful ways OR burn forever in the fiery pit of hell.

Either way is fine with me.

Keep sending in your letters to proth@wsunix.wsu.edu. Though honestly, I can't ever imagine getting a letter better than this one. Winkie, whoever you are, I salute you.

Every weekend the New Mission Cafe has shows, y'all know that by now. You can get the most recent updates at newmissioncafe.com. But in addition to those things, did you know that they have stuff going on most weekdays too? Like every Wednesday they have Karaoke. They're actually running a contest with the chance to win 200 bucks. So if you like to sing or just like making fun of people who THINK they can, head down on Wednesdays and get a piece of the action.

Chivalry alive and well at UW-SP

Dear Editor,

chivalry - (shiv'uh l-ree) - n.

1. the qualities expected of a knight, as courage, generosity, and courtesy.

Chivalry is alive and well at UWSP. I know - I encountered it last night while trying to negotiate a five-foot snow bank to get to the cardio center. As I searched for an opening or trail to cross over, I saw a young man make the trek and I made my way in an attempt to follow in his foot steps. Lo and behold, the young man turned around and offered me his

hand to help. The SHOCK of the gesture took my breath away - my first thoughts of "hey, I'm not a little old lady yet" finally subsided and I was able to see the sincere kindness of a student willing to turn around with an offer to help. We made small talk until he went left and I went right. I went right with a renewed feeling of . . . thanks to the student (knight) that so genuinely was helpful and courteous in the darkness of night.

Sally Reese
UW-SP Text Services

Allen Center steps it up

Dear Editor,

I am writing to say that the Allen Center's 28 Days of Wellness was great. They had so many deals that my roommate and I could take advantage of. The days we especially liked were the days that the Cardio Center had free samples of healthy snacks set out for us. During the month there was also great Group Fitness classes offered. I never like taking classes like that because the instructors were usually intimidating, but the teachers at the

Allen Center were friendly and helped keep participants motivated to do their best. All in all, I think that Allen Center did a great job to motivate students to become more active. They have always had such great opportunities for UW-SP student and I'm sure more are coming.

Sincerely,
Jennifer
UW-SP student

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with your story ideas!

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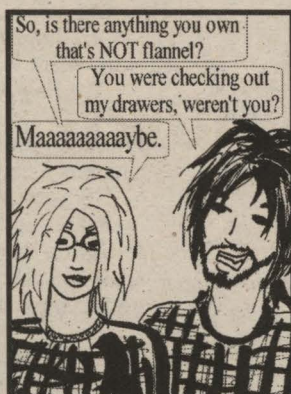
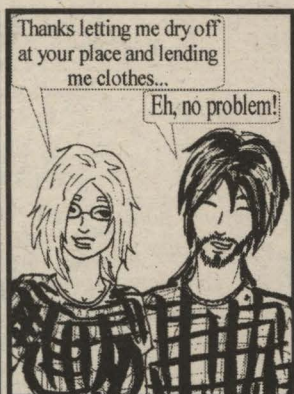
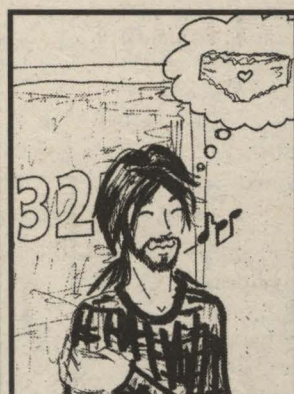
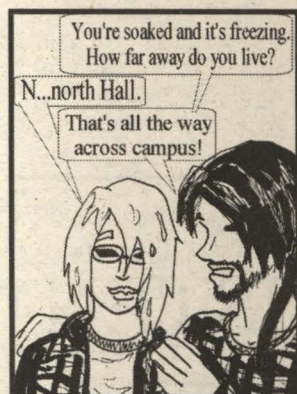
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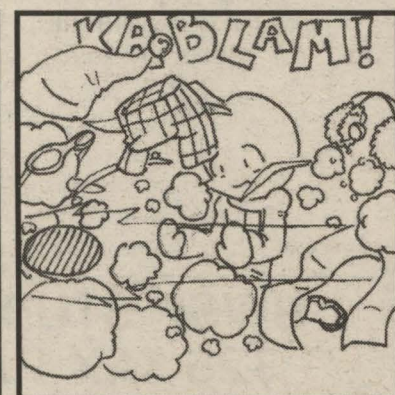
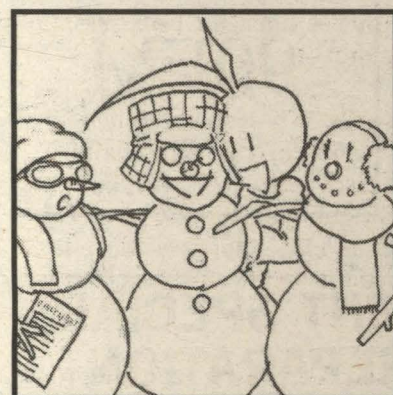
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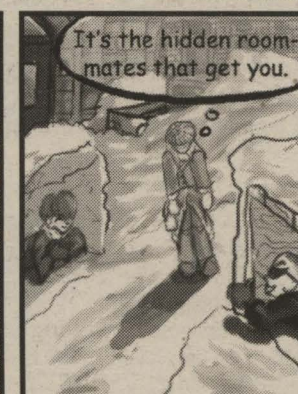


Angela Kau

Muse



Ryan Tidball



Neverland

Lo Shim



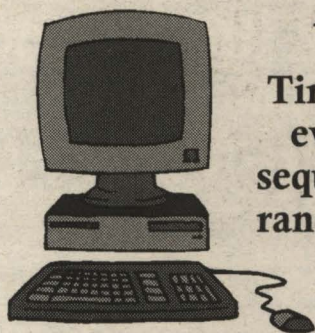
WORD SEARCH: FRUIT

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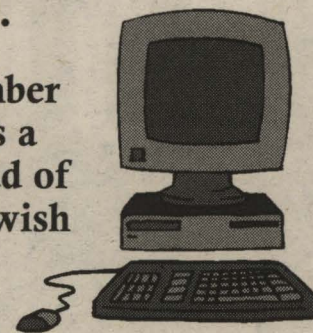
banana mango apple pear lychee peach plum
raspberry tomato avocado blueberry starfruit

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Tired of trying to come up with a good password to remember every 6 months? Try a passphrase instead. A passphrase is a sequence of words combined to use as your password instead of random gibberish. An example of a passphrase is: "gEE, I wish I could pick @ good password"



Some advice to make a Memorable Password:

- Don't over do it. Nobody wants to type a story.
- Add a number and an upper-case letter or two, but otherwise keep the phrase intact.
- Misspelling a word in an odd way increases the security of the passphrase.
- Don't pick famous quotes or something that someone who knows you could easily guess.

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