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.

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 sidewalks and the shovelers don’t coordinate with each other. It just creates a mess,” said Janicki, referring to Monday, when the sidewalks leading to Nelson Hall were cleared, but the handicapped 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.

“People are frustrated with us right now,” said Joque.

There had been complaints in the past of a handicapped parking stall being used as a holding place for snow.

“He knows that we are not handicapped by a disabling condition and he is getting frustrated with us right now,” said Joque.

According to Joque, the 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.

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 snow comes.

Heavy snow accumulation makes it difficult for students with disabilities, like UW-SP senior Andy Janicki, to get around campus.
"Vagina Monologues" to be performed at UW-SP

Brianna Nelson
THE POINTER
BRIANNA NELSON@UWSP.EDU

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.

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) 698-3578.

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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 grounds thaw to move the handicapped staff 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.

Editors

The Pointer is a student-run newspaper published weekly for the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. The Pointer staff is solely responsible for content and editorial policy.

No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

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 pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication for any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length or 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.
International Programs encourages students to leave town

Katie Leb
THE POINTER
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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. With travel aficionados, the men and women of International Programs, said that the people 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 a few 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 UWSP. International Programs realizes this and works as hard 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 an 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 UWSP, 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.”

Angela Frome
THE POINTER
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Every University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point stu­dents who is 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.

While some UW-SP stu­dents stick around and use the opportunity to earn some money or catch some rays, others won’t 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!

Another suggestion is to make your travels less stressful.

Photos 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.

Mark Koepke
Associate Director of International Programs

Deadline Extended
Still Time to Apply!

International Programs still has openings for YOU in its fall 2007/08 Semester Abroad Trips to:

Britain -- based in London w/ a continental trip to Italy, France, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

Poland -- with an entry tour through Germany, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Germany: Munich -- with a tour to Prague (CZ), Vienna (A) and Berlin.

Germany: Magdeburg -- with a tour to Berlin. (The only Fall 2007 program w/ language prerequisite.)

and .... Australia -- with entry and exit tours to New Zealand and Fiji.

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors from all disciplines - everyone benefits from studying over-seas.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
Room 108 Collins Classroom Center
UW - Stevens Point, WI 54481 USA
TEL: 715-346-2717
E-Mail: intprogp@uwsp.edu -- www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad
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 starch 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 sting rays and sharks, which was amazing to witness how tame they have become to humans.

Unfortunately, it ended up raining everyday 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.

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www.uwgb.edu/summercourses

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
GREEN BAY
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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 programs focused on state-owned and national forest lands, according to the new coordinator of the state Forestry Certification Program.

“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.

For more information, contact: Paul Pingrey (608) 267-7595.
Belay is on! Climbers prepare for competition

Anne Frie
The Pointer
April 14/07/UWSP.DU

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, delay 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. Top 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 Cliff 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.

Anne Frie
The Pointer
April 14/07/UWSP.DU

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

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 climbs 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 on the first Sunday in March. For more information contact Joe Hennessy at (608) 267-9427.

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Sturgeon spearing lasts entire 16-day season

Press Release
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Sturgeon spearing was 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.
UWSP BECOMES LATE-SEASON 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°
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 13-4 run to end the half, keeping La Crosse scoreless for the final 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. 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 tournament, 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.

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
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' goalie. 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 know 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.

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

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 eurocno 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.

Open 7 days a week
11am-10pm all season
New professor shares creative dance vision

June Flick
THE POINTER
June 1, 2007

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.

Estanich started teaching at the University of Wisconsin – Platteville 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 the initiative dedicated to young emerging choreographers in Chicago," said Estanich.

"We built a community and a connection so you didn’t feel alone in the large city."

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

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

"I started to look at dance as a visual art. What visual experience can I provide? 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.

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 want to pour my artistic energy into that," he said. "To be inspired by students is as important as being inspired by me.”

CINEMA CRITIQUE CORNER WITH NELSON CARVAJAL: “THE NUMBER 23”

Nelson Carvajal
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

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 while 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 3rd (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 Topher 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 everywhere he goes. He becomes fascinated by Sparrow’s and Fingerling’s lives. The film really loses what’s going on at the point at which the film really loses what’s going on at the point at which the film really loses what’s going on at the point at which the film really loses what’s going on at the point at which the film really loses what’s going on at the point at which the film really loses what’s going on.

While the film’s most engaging material lies 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 these 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 eccentric 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 inescapable. 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 strangely disconnected—subplot of an unsolved murder. That’s a shame too, since so many obscure 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 ambiguity 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 & 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, Ore. based band’s lead singer and songwriter Al James explores just that idea to its resigned and heartbreak ending. 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.

Yet, 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 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 clichéd. It celebrates getting rid of thought, be it through drinking or less destructive means.

In the end, the album feels like the inspiring sets and heartfelt stories that are the backbone of most folk music. 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 clichéd. It celebrates getting rid of thought, be it through drinking or less destructive means.

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Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide

Clown Sex.

By Pat Rothfuss

With Help From The New Mission Cafe

Pat,

After 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 told me 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 right now until about a month now.

But 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 defamation of my race. I can’t believe such a progressive publication as The Pointer would allow such derogatory, vocation-ist slang as “clown” to be printed. I’m a proud American who has engaged in many a lustful roll in the silly-string with a buxom, red-nosed clown. I’d like to dispel a few stereotypes that seem to persist. Sex between two consenting clowns (or one clown and one “nornie”) 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 noises 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 pizzas.

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.

-Winkle the Clown

First off, Winkle, 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 “a laughstock.” 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 prothe@uwaxx. uwa. edu. Though honestly, I can’t ever imagine getting a letter better than this one. Winkle, wherever you are, I salute you.

Every weekend the New Mission Cafe has shown, 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 ree) – n.
1. the qualities expected of a knight, as courage, generosity, and courtesy.

Chivalry is alive and well at UW-SP! 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 footsteps. 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 kindess 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 the 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 Students and I’m sure more are coming.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

UW-SP student
It's that time of year again!

It's time to change your password.

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 a 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.

Security Office Contact Information:

The mission of the Information Security Office is to support the goals of the University by assuring the availability, integrity and confidentiality of information. A major part of the mission involves investigating computing system intrusions and increasing information security awareness at UWSP.

If you suspect that someone has broken into your computer or become aware of a security issue regarding UWSP’s computing or network resources, contact us at InformationSecurityOffice@uwsp.edu or via phone at (715) 346-4408.
## HOUSING

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