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THE POINTER

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Recording Student
Voices Since
1895

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT

Locked and loaded: UW-SP Protective Services to introduce armed police officers to campus

Sara Suchy
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Students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point might be seeing more armed police officers patrolling campus in the near future after a committee organized by the Board of Regents to evaluate security of UW campuses presents their report next week.

"Immediately following the Virginia Tech shooting last spring, President Kevin Reilly [president of the University of Wisconsin System] commissioned a committee to look at the UW-security system," said Bill Rowe, director of Campus Security.

The committee is expected to recommend that every UW-System campus have armed

police on campus 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Currently we are the only campus in the UW-System to not already have armed police officers," said Bob Tomlinson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

Chancellor Linda Bunnell is also expected to mandate that the UW-SP campus have armed police officers before the entire UW-System requires it.

Currently, there are three full-fledged police officers on campus and that number is expected to climb to seven in the near future.

Tomlinson explained that not every protective services officer would be armed; only the seven officers that have been trained at the police academy.

"We are doing this because our officers are encountering

an increasing number of people who are hostile towards them. Most of these people are not students, but it is not fair to our officers to put them

"Our number one concern has always been the safety of our students; we take that very, very seriously."

Student Government

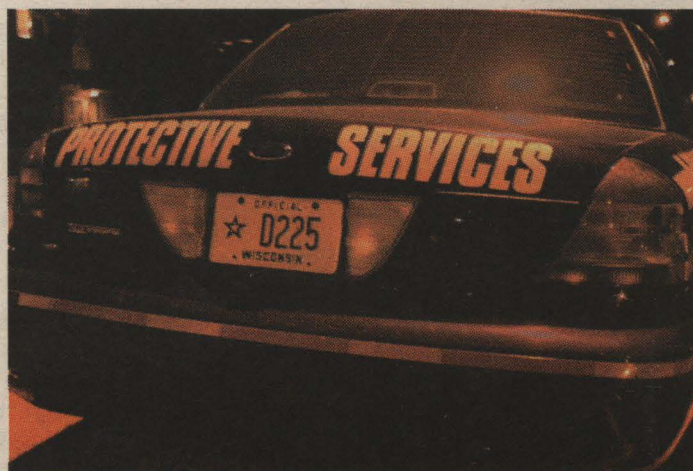


Photo by Kaitie Lebl

Soon specially trained UW-SP Protective Services officers will be carrying loaded guns.

in that kind of situation without the means to protect themselves," said Tomlinson.

Association President Justin Glodowski expressed concern that administration did not

consult SGA before making the decision to arm police officers.

"Some students are concerned that having guns on campus will provoke violence. Some students actually feel unsafe having guns around campus," said Goldowski.

Tomlinson views the initiative as a means of preventing a tragedy like Virginia Tech from happening at UW-SP.

"If something like Virginia Tech happened here, the first thing people would say is we need to have armed police on campus to keep the students safe. I say why do we have to wait for someone to get hurt, why not take the initiative," said Tomlinson.

The committee organized by the UW-System is looking at several different aspects

See Police officers on pg. 2

Do not fear, Caption Courage and your "Everyday Heroes" are here

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ambitious and clearly well rested students competed in the Apple Insomnia 24-hour film festival.

Lee Vaughter, Jeremy Kraemer, Jeff Swanson, Erin Jaspersen and Cory Scharrer had 24 hours to create the best quality short film they could while following the specific criteria set by Apple.

While most University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students were slowly awakening to a wicked hangover from the homecoming festivities, five

The five-person team created "Everyday Hero." Each member of the group was somehow involved in virtually every aspect of the film. They wrote a script, found all the props, shot the footage

and edited the film all in the space of 24 hours.

"We were all really nervous the night before," said Kraemer, "so we didn't get a whole lot of sleep."

The team woke up at six

a.m. on Saturday morning and waited for Apple to release the final instructions so they could begin.

In order to ensure that

See Heros on pg. 2



Photo courtesy of Lee Vaughter

Don't forget it, set it...back.

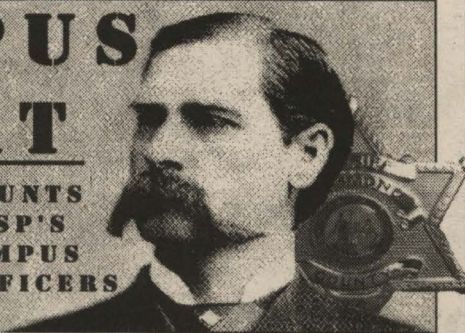
Daylight savings time starts Sunday, Nov. 4 @ 1 a.m.

Inside This Week



CAMPUS BEAT

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



NFAC

October 24, 2007 6:32 p.m.
Type: SUSPICION

Suspicious behavior outside of NFAC. Drama department was distressing clothes for a play.

HEC

October 26, 2007 12:49 a.m.
Type: VANDALISM

Individual confronted outside of HEC while carrying a street sign. Individual ran and hid. When found, individual complied with request to return sign.

LRC

October 26, 2007 10:03 p.m.
Type: INDESCENT EXPOSURE

Individual climbing up generator on Portage Street seen urinating in public.

Unknown Location

October 28, 2007 12:12 a.m.
Type: PUBLIC INTOXICATION

Two intoxicated individuals seen outside South Debot area. Described as being sparingly clothed with writing all over their bodies.

Unknown Location

October 28, 2007 12:35 p.m.
Type: PUBLIC INTOXICATION

Reported intoxicated individual on a bike. Officers will keep their eyes open.

LRC

October 29, 2007 2:29 p.m.
Type: COMPLAINT

Call stating there was an individual rollerblading on the stairs of the west side of the LRC.

From Police officers on pg. 1

of campus security and crisis prevention and management.

"One of the things they are looking at is making our counseling center more visible to the students," said Glodowski.

From Heros on pg. 1

the movies were made in the allotted time, Apple released a list of materials of which three must be used in each movie.

"We used a park bench, and old person and the line 'don't you tempt me,'" said Kraemer.

With the requirements in hand, they took two hours to write the script of "Everyday Hero" starring Kraemer as Captain Courage, an ordinary, maybe a little bit nerdy, guy who wants to be a super hero.

After the script was complete, they spent the majority of the day finding props and shooting the footage.

"We worked until sunset then spent the rest of the night and into the morning editing. We finished at 4 a.m. with four hours to spare," said Kraemer.

Right now, SGA feels that not many people know that the counseling center exists or is available to students.

"We want the students to know that there is a place that that they can go to get the support they need," said Glodowski.

Now, the world can view "Everyday Hero" on Apple's Web site and the creators of "Everyday Hero" are really hoping a whole lot of people check out the film.

The films are voted on by people who view and rate the films on Apple's Web site. The top 25 will be critiqued by 10 celebrity judges including Nora Ephron, Terry George and James Mangold, have the film featured on apple.com and promoted on iTunes music store. The creators of the top 25 films will also receive Mac books.

To view and show some love to UW-SP's one and only entry into the Apple Insomnia Film festival, go to http://edcommunity.apple.com/insomnia_fall07/contest.php and search "Everyday Hero." The voting closes on November 9. Also, stay tuned to STV to see the cable premiere of "Everyday Hero."



Photo courtesy of Lee Vaughter

SGA Weekly Update

The bike program is up and running! We have bikes available for students to rent for free. Rental periods will be for a semester at a time. You will be issued a helmet with your rental. If the bike is not returned at the end of the semester, your student account will be charged for the bike. We are looking for donations of bikes in working condition as well. If you have a bike that you would like to donate to the program, or would like to rent a bike, please contact Colleen Kiefer at colleen.kiefer@uwsp.edu.

SGA is looking to form a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) committee. One issue this committee will be discussing is gender-neutral bathrooms on campus. If interested, please contact Melissa Phinney at mphin278@uwsp.edu.

We are looking for participants for an International Fashion. If you have a country you would like to represent please e-mail Xixi Meng at xmeng556@uwsp.edu.

Sara Eberhardy
SGA Communications and Public Relations Director

THE POINTER

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



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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Daylight saving time comes to an end on Sunday

Angela Frome
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This coming Sunday will mark the end of daylight-saving time (DST) and also serves as a reminder of the upcoming winter season. Early Sunday morning, clocks are to be changed from 2:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., giving students here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point a much needed hour of sleep.

There may have been

some confusion as to when the time change was supposed to occur. The dates of DST have been changed, so the period of time is now four to five weeks longer.

In years past, DST would begin on the first Sunday in April and end the last Sunday in October. Starting this year, DST began four weeks earlier on March 11 and will also last one week longer, ending Nov. 4. States do not have to participate in DST, but if they choose to, they must adhere to the

established starting and ending dates, according to info-please.com. The site also says that there are a few United States and territories that do not observe DST, including Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Guam.

The U.S. Naval Observatory Web site states that the regular time change was established by the Uniform Time Act of 1966. Since then, the starting and ending times of DST have been changed in several instances. Most recently, the

Energy Policy Act of 2005 enacted the changes we are subject to in the year 2007.

DST functions as a way to better utilize the amount of daylight. The sun appears to rise and set one hour later, making the day seem longer and allowing people to participate in activities much later into the evening. It is also beneficial because there is less need for artificial light, so less energy is used.

Students here at UW-SP will also be feeling the effects of DST on their schedules in

the coming week.

"I'll get an extra hour of sleep," said UW-SP student Matt Zastrow, "so I'll probably go to bed an hour later." In spite of those positive effects, Zastrow said "The hardest part is readjusting [to the time change]."

Communication major Emily Groves agreed that the end of DST is tough.

"I hate the sun being up when I get up," she said.

What would Hannah Arendt say today?

Briana Soroko
POINTLIFE REPORTER

Hannah Arendt passed away over 30 years ago, but her contributions to the study of mankind were so great the innovative thinker's ideas are still considered. On Monday Oct. 29, the philosophy department of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point hosted a lecture entitled "What would Hannah Arendt say today?" and surmised how the theologian would feel about the war in Iraq, environmental pollution and other current issues.

Although many consider Arendt to be a contemporary philosopher worthy of Socrates and Augustine, she always refused the label. Arendt considered herself to be a political theorist and was most interested in the affect that power and authority have over society. As a Jew growing up in Nazi Germany,

Arendt was undoubtedly familiar with how people can be manipulated by a dictatorship. Her two most influential books, "The Origins of Totalitarianism" and "The Human Condition," were used at the lecture to surmise how she would feel about our government today.

"The Origins of Totalitarianism" was published in 1951 and ruffled many feathers because it suggested that Stalinist Communism and Nazism both stemmed from the same identity. It can be safely surmised from this work that Arendt would not approve of the "War on Terror." She believed that war should only be fought for true freedom. What the Bush administration has implemented upon the people of Iraq does not pass her definition of this precious liberty.

"The Human Condition" states that all of men's activi-

ties can be broken down into three categories: labor, action and work. Labor is what we do to survive, such as foraging for food. It's an endless task and, in her own words, "thankless." Action, said Arendt, is the only permanent activity men can perform. Rulers fall, regimes end, but their deeds and words cannot be erased. Work is the products we make. They are not permanent since all inventions eventually break, decay or are discarded. If Arendt had lived today, she might have rethought her assessment. The polluting byproducts of work do not go away, as we are now experiencing.

Arendt's message pertains to the world today as much as it did 50 years ago. Governmental control and true freedom must be regulated, as history shows. It's a delicate balance, and her studies reveal ways in which this harmony can be achieved.

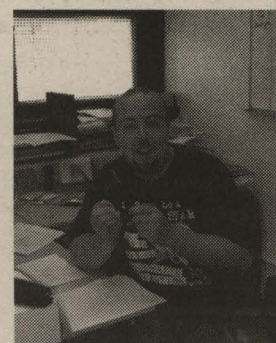
Pointer Poll

What was the best Halloween costume you saw this year?



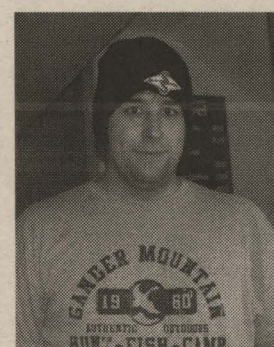
Kristen Olsen - Senior

I'm going to have to give a shout out to my cousin. He and his friend dressed as Mario and Luigi and then had the guts to go eat at Debot like that! During our meal, their friend, dressed as Quail Man, joined us, so I felt pretty special!



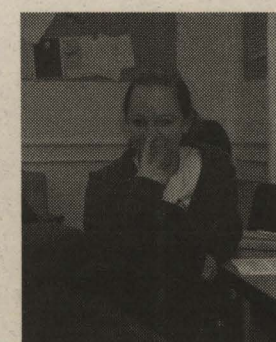
Jesse Salcido - Senior

Down in Madison, I saw someone dressed as a hotdog with mustard and relish.



Dan Enge - Sophomore

I saw a guy with a stuffed pitbull and dog collar wearing a Michael Vick jersey.



Kris Hess - Sophomore

PUZZLE HUNT

Your Mission:

Solve the puzzle below. When you think that you have the answer, e-mail your answers along with your mailing address to puzzlehunt@yahoo.com. The first five people to send in the correct answer will receive a free large 2-topping pizza or triple order of Toppersticks. Winners will be at the judges discretion. Answers are due Tuesday at midnight the week following publication.

Your Puzzle:

There is a common English word that is nine letters long. Each time you remove a letter from it, it still remains an English word - from nine letters right down to a single letter. What is the original word, and what are the words that it becomes after removing one letter at a time?

Last Weeks Answers:

What comes next in the sequence?

1113213211

Outdoors

My beef with fall raking (now meatless!) I'm the culprit: committing random acts of leafing

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People in Stevens Point really love to rake. On my walk to class, I see people raking. Driving around town during rush hour? More raking. My neighbors? They suck up their leaves with some sort of new fangled leaf-vacuum, which is actually much noisier than raking.

And the point of raking? To enjoy a nice, green, leaf-free lawn for possibly 10 minutes, before another leaf inevitably falls from one of the (presumably) hundreds of thousands of trees in the greater Stevens Point area. Even if you don't have a

single tree in your yard, leaves will blow, fall or be thrown (explanation forthcoming) onto your lawn.

Newsflash: raking is a losing battle. If you seriously have so much excess downtime that you find it necessary to remove the leaves from your lawn, I have a few English papers that need writing and a psychology requirement to fulfill. Don't worry, the professor tells me these requirements are easy and won't consume more than 30 minutes of my time.

In fact, 30 minutes is roughly a third of the time that the guy down the road spends raking per week; that'd still allow him a full hour of close-and-personal time with his beloved leaves.

In fact, after a frustrating mid-term exam and a dark walk home last week, revenge was mine. The greenest of all green lawns that I pass every day on the way home from campus was just in the wrong place at the wrong time and received a fistful of leaves from the gutter. There was something about that blank canvas that I couldn't leave undisturbed. And yeah, it totally made me feel better.

I've always loved the crunch of leaves under my feet in the fall. Hell, that's why they call it "fall" in the first place. Leaves are not only expected, but acceptable. That is, until the ol' lawnmower comes through.

Don't be a leaf Nazi; allow the leaves to congregate as they

wish. Think twice about piling them on the curb, awaiting imminent death by garbage smothering. They'll just blow back into your lawn anyways.

The leaves have won, sir...the leaves will always win. And when they don't, beware of random leafers lurking around that dark corner.

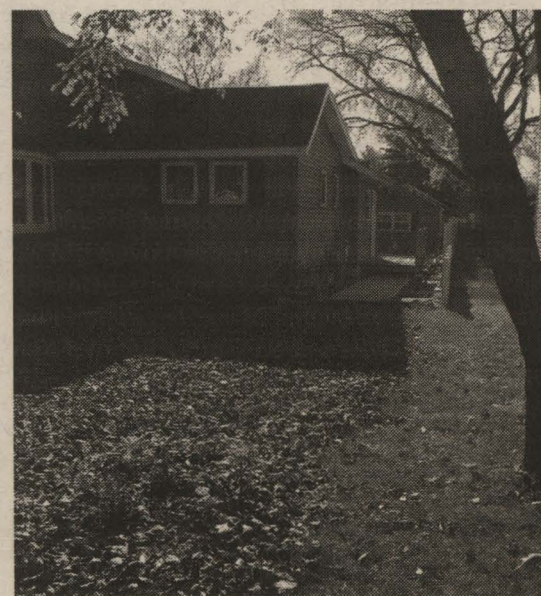


photo courtesy of Steve Seamandel

My leaves are safe for another day, until the lawnmower gets fired up after midterms.

Outdoor•Ed Ventures Tip of the Week [Finding the perfect hiking boot]

Brought to you by Sara Jensen
of Outdoor EdVentures

So you're heading out into the woods, going into the wilderness and have yourself a general blast of a good time. You've got your awesome gear and some good friends. All set right? That's when you see the awful condition of your dingy old sneakers.

Time for new boots! First things first, you need to get yourself measured, properly! Measure both your toe length and arch length of both feet. Whatever is the largest reading, that's where you start. Always get your size from the larger foot, because all feet are not created equal.

You want to have at least a thumb's width of space between the end of your foot, and the end of the shoe and no touching of toes on the top or side of the boot. Wiggle those guys around and make sure they are happy. (You are of course trying on the shoe with the hiking sock you plan on

wearing with them; let's not have any surprises when you get home).

Next, hold the boot in front of you and bend the heck out of the darn thing. If the toe is bendy, that's awesome. If it's giving away right by the arch of your foot (the narrowest part of the shoe), forget it. I know it's a pretty shoe, but back away and try another. That is the point of the shoe that is supporting your arches, which support your ankles, which support your knees, which support your pelvis and spine.

You're going to want that support, so don't leave the store without it. As far as ankle support goes, it's all preference with the height of the boot. That's up to you.

Now, I know you gave yourself plenty of time to break these puppies in before your trip. Wear them around for an hour or two a few days in a row to loosen them up and let your feet get to know them, lengthening the time as you go. When your feet are happy, you'll have a much happier trip!



Hunters urged to target wild pigs

Press Release
WI DNR

State wildlife officials are encouraging hunters to help eliminate a growing population of feral pigs by reporting feral pig sightings or shooting them if they encounter them in the field while pursuing other game.

Feral pigs are also known as wild pigs, wild hogs, wild boars, European wild boars, Russian wild boars or razorbacks. They are found in as many as 23 states. In some states, they are descendants of European swine released by Spanish and European explorers. In others, they are descendants of escaped or released domestic swine or even hybrids of European and domestic swine.

A fact sheet on feral pigs in Wisconsin including a list of counties where feral pigs have been sighted or killed is available on the Department of Natural Resources Web site. Maps showing public hunting grounds can be found at dnr.wi.gov -- select Maps, then DNR Managed Lands, then Recreational Lands for opportunities to find wild pigs on public hunting grounds.

Feral pigs have been documented in Wisconsin since at least 2000, but they have appeared in many additional areas in the past couple of years and have now been found in at least 29 counties. Biologists say that finding these animals in the wild is likely the result of unintentional escapes from domestic swine facilities, releases from game farms or illegal stocking.

"Free roaming pigs can be found across a wide variety of habitats and are highly destructive because of the rooting they do in search of food," says Brad Koele a DNR wildlife biologist.

"They're also efficient predators preying on many species including white-tailed deer fawns and ground nesting birds like grouse, woodcock, turkeys and songbirds."

Feral pigs are known to carry a number of diseases of importance to the domestic swine industry, including swine brucellosis, pseudorabies and leptospirosis; infected feral pigs have not yet been documented in Wisconsin.

"Our goal is to aggressively remove these animals from the landscape and we are encouraging any hunters who encounter them to shoot them on sight," said Koele.

Feral pigs are considered unprotected wild animals and may be hunted year-round. The only day they cannot be hunted with a gun is the Friday before the nine-day gun deer hunting season. Also, hunting hours are the same as deer during the nine-day season. During the rest of the year, there are no hunting hour restrictions.

There is no bag limit on feral pigs. Landowners may shoot feral pigs on their own property without a hunting license. Anyone else can shoot a feral pig as long as they possess a valid small game license and landowner permission if they are on private land.

State officials do ask that anyone shooting a feral pig call a DNR service center or contact a DNR wildlife biologist so that blood and tissue samples can be collected for disease testing in collaboration with USDA and the State veterinarians office.

Feral pig sightings can be reported through the DNR Web site or by calling Brad Koele, Wildlife Damage Specialist at (608) 266-2151.

Science, Health & Tech.

Love your body everyday!

Briana Soroko
SCIENCE, HEALTH & TECH. REPORTER

"You are more than what you weigh" is the message that was driven home at this year's Love Your Body day. On Oct. 25, the Women's Resource Center hosted a potluck in lower Debot, complete with goodies ranging from celery sticks to brownies. Pink ribbons and heart-shaped balloons set the mood while the Health Promotion Office and guest speaker Paula Kramer discussed ways in which we can improve our

body image.

There were standard methods mentioned, such as eating healthier, exercising, and embracing our curves, as well as ways you wouldn't generally think of. Kramer, of the New Directions Counseling Center, described how dressing according to our DISC personality style greatly increases confidence.

Once the presenters were finished, the Dancers of Shaharazad performed and instructed the proper way to swivel hips. It was, all in all, a relaxing evening, filled with food, talk and

dancing.

One in 10 people in the United States suffer from an eating disorder. Anorexia, the most fatal psychological disorder, is prevalent among women between the ages of 18 and 24. For this and many other reasons, the Women's Resource Center will be holding a monthly support group. These meetings are for anyone who has suffered with an eating disorder or is simply fed up with idolizing withering corpses. For more information, e-mail bsoro437@uwsp.edu.

Want to have some fun and support a good cause?

Jessica Spengler
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JSPEN826@UWSP.EDU

On Saturday Nov. 10, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Women's Studies Program will be holding the Third Annual Belly Dance Fund Raiser Event for the Portage County Family Crisis Center at Clark Place in Stevens Point.

The fundraiser begins at 5:00 p.m. with a silent auction and live music and entertainment by groups such as the Bongura Club, a group that explores different dances from India and belly dancers from all over Wisconsin, including the Dancers of Shaharazad, the UW-SP belly dancing club. Their faculty advisor, Pamela Luedtke, is the organizer of the event, and will also be dancing.

The Dancers, along with others from Stevens Point, Eau Claire, Nekoosa, Marshfield, Appleton and Wausau will be performing their different styles throughout the night and will end with a group dance that everyone in attendance is encouraged to take part in, even if they are not a dancer.

"This is about dancing and about being together and exploring ideas," said

Luedtke. "It doesn't matter what you dance like."

Three years ago when Luedtke came up with the idea for the belly dancing event, her reasoning was two-fold. First, she wanted to bring community awareness to domestic violence after losing a friend to it, and second, to celebrate life and the support given by the Family Crisis Center by using belly dancing, an activity Luedtke feels is confidence boosting.

"When a woman comes into my class for the first time, I notice a huge transformation of confidence from the time she walks in to the time she leaves," said Luedtke, who also teaches belly dancing.

Luedtke and her fellow organizers are very clear though that domestic violence is not confined only to women, and that men, children and the elderly are also victims.

"It comes down to the root of how we treat each other," said Luedtke. "Domestic violence is not gender or age based."

Accompanying the belly dancing fundraiser this year was a community forum held on Tuesday Oct. 30 at the Portage County Library. The forum included speakers discussing how to notice when domestic violence is happening and what to do if you suspect someone is being abused.

This was the first year the forum was held.

Luedtke hopes both the education from the forum and the publicity from the fundraiser will help the community become involved and make their voices heard.

"In exploring issues of domestic violence, education and awareness are crucial," said Luedtke. "I think it's important to realize how the community feels about domestic violence."

The support for the belly dancing fundraiser has increased over the last two years from only making \$100 in the first year to \$2,000 last year. Their ultimate goal is to make the same or even more this year.

Doors at Clark Place open at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday Nov. 10. The cost is \$5 at the door, but anyone wanting to give more is welcome to. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Local artwork and donations from other area stores will be available to bid on at the silent auction. Proceeds will go to the Portage County Family Crisis Center.

Anyone interested in volunteering can do so by contacting Ian Dreger at (715)345-6063 or by e-mailing ian.r.dreger@uwsp.edu.

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

Do you want a FREE t-shirt? Then Register today for the Fifth Annual Cold Turkey Trot sponsored by the Student Health Promotion Office. This year's fun run will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 10:00 a.m. The first 100 UW-SP students to sign up will receive a FREE t-shirt, so register today! You can register at The Student Health Promotion Office which is open 9:00-4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and is located at 004 Lower Allen Center. Additional t-shirts will be available for a \$5 bill to your student

account.

The "trot" will begin at the Allen Center and will continue throughout Schmeckle Reserve. You may choose to run or walk 3K (1.8 miles) "the gobble" or 5K (3.1 miles) "the trot." Free food will be available at the event for all participants, and several door prizes will be given away too! Grab a friend and join in on this year's Cold Turkey Trot celebration! Visit go2allen.com for more information or for more upcoming events!

TECH TIDBIT

No more unnecessary dipping!



Photo courtesy of www.techeblog.com

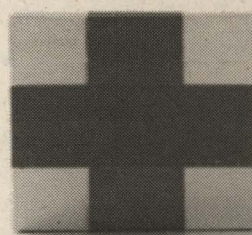
Sara Jensen
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biology lab. The top half of the stick holds the sauce, and when squeezed, only the amount you desire will be dispensed onto your delicious piece of sushi.

Sick and tired of unsuccessfully dipping your sushi into soy sauce while using chopsticks? Ever wish there was an easier way to enjoy your favorite Japanese cuisine? Well then look no further than the Sauce Dispensing Chopsticks.

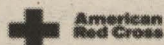
These unique utensils have the same basic idea as a pipette you might find in

The chopsticks are made from ABS and polypropylene, both types of plastics which means these may not be the sturdiest of chopsticks. However, they are able to withstand temperatures ranging from negative five degrees to 90 degrees. And at \$21 for two pairs, how could you go wrong?



UWSP Blood Drive
Tue., Nov. 13, 10 am - 4 pm
Wed., Nov. 14, 10 am - 4 pm
Pray-Sims Hall, L Level
Appts. call 346-2260
Sponsored by Student Involvement & Employment Office
Appts. may call 1.800.GIVE.LIFE or online givebloodgivelifelife.org

THE GIFT OF LIFE RUNS THROUGH YOU. GIVE BLOOD.



Get your free
flu shots
at Health
Services.

Sports

A fresh start for the UW-SP men's ice hockey team

MENS HOCKEY

Ashley Schlosser
THE POINTER
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's hockey team has a fresh sheet of ice this year with a new head coach, who plans to encourage the team to be winners both on and off the ice.

Head Coach Wil Nichol believes his players should not only play hard on the ice, but also get their education and be good members of the community.

"If they leave UW-Stevens Point under my watch, and they're just hockey players, then I feel like I have failed them. I want to teach them to be more than just being a hockey player," said Nichol. He has high expectations and 10 years of experience in coaching to back up his style of coaching.

Nichol expects the

team to work hard every second of every practice, but also "have an environment where they want to come to," he said. He wants them to enjoy the game, but also realize how small the window is to be a college athlete.

"I don't want them to take anything for granted. I don't want them to waste any time. I want them to set high goals and try to attain those goals," he said.

As a former UW-SP hockey player, Nichol brings back a lot of tradition to the UW-SP men's hockey team. He has educated the team about past teams and what they have accomplished.

"I've done that in hopes that it lights a fire under our guys... that they will add to that tradition and create their own legacy," he said.

The past season for UW-SP men's hockey was not as successful as most would have hoped. Nichol plans to change the team by starting this year with a "fresh sheet of ice."

"You have a new coach and a new stage and we're starting a new chapter in Pointer hockey together," he said.

This new chapter will include hard work and dedication. "We're going to be kind of a blue collar, lunch pail, punch the clock, hard-working team," he said.

The UW-SP men's hockey team belongs to a very competitive conference called the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA). Nichol

believes this conference keeps the team honest. "If you go out and try to cut corners and you're not prepared, then it's going to show up on the scoreboard. There are no easy nights in our league, and I love that. It makes you better as a coach and bet-

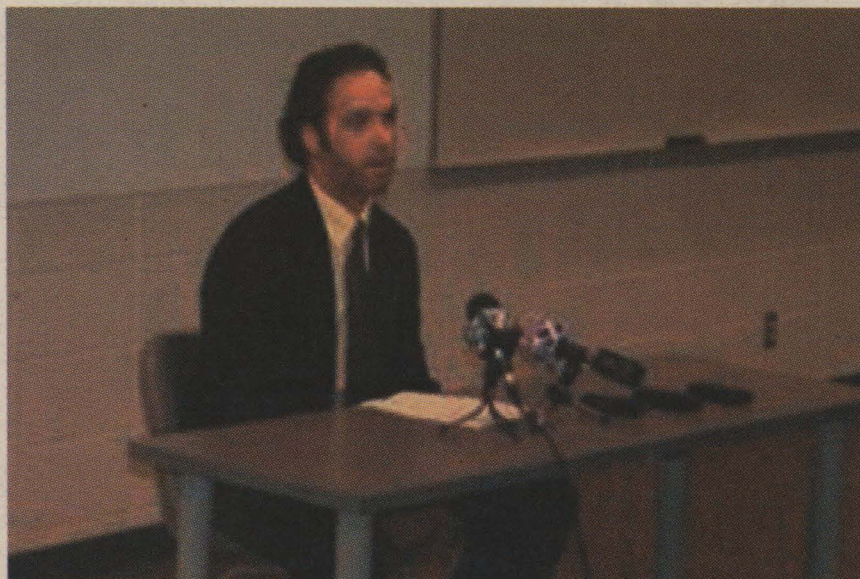


Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletic Department

The hockey team starts the season with a new coach and a challenging work ethic. Just a reminder that the first 130 students to arrive at K.B. Willett arena will receive free items.

ter as a team," he said.

The first home game of the season is this Friday against St. John's. The team strongly encourages its fans to come support the team. The "rowdy crowd" and the student section are an important part of the game. "It's almost like you were up

two goals before the game started because the other team was so intimidated," Nichol reflects on his own UW-SP hockey experiences.

Do not forget that the Pointers will be offering free items to the first 130 students to arrive at the arena.

Women's hockey preview

WOMENS HOCKEY

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It's all about consistency. That is what University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's ice hockey head coach, Ann Ninnemann, is looking for in the Pointers this year. Well, that and a steady and unwavering amount of hard work in order to top the third place standing the Pointers took last year in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III tournament.

"I would like the team to constantly keep improving and developing their skills and team play," said Ninnemann regarding the team's goals for the 2007-2008 season. "So far the first few weeks of the season I have seen great improvements from our team in various areas, both on and off the ice."

This year the team faces a few changes in the roster, including a change between the pipes after starting goalie Amy Statz played her final

game for the Pointers last March, while key defensive player Chris Hanson also made tracks and graduated last spring.

"Graduating a starting goalie has a challenge of its own, as there is a process of



photo courtesy of Athletic Department

Ninnemann

filling a void that has been consistent for four years. We have a couple of good young goalies who are working to step up and fill in the starting goalie position," said Ninnemann.

Not only are the goalies looking to step up, there are a few freshman additions to the roster that Ninnemann hopes to see fill both offensive and defensive spots.

Returning to lead the team offensively are experienced juniors Nichole Grossmann and Michelle Sosnowski. Grossmann led the team with 17 goals and 12 assists last year, while Sosnowski tallied 24 points overall.

"Our bread and butter is hard work. We work hard on and off the ice throughout the season. Also, we have a great sense of being a family and putting the team first before individuals," said Ninnemann. "I believe that we have the personnel to achieve great things this year, it's all a matter of putting it all together to consistently play best we can every night."

After a 20-7-2 overall record last year, the Pointers will start the season traveling across the Midwest, visiting Minnesota and Michigan before hosting their first home game in Stevens Point on Nov. 30 in a two-game series against UW-River Falls.

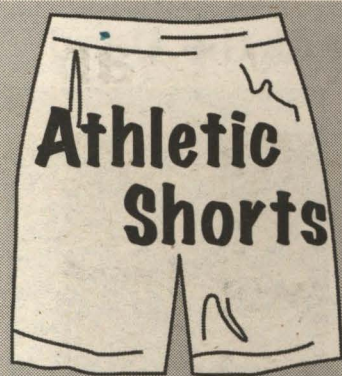
The Pointers start their season against St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. on Nov. 2 and on Saturday the team will face Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn.



INTRAMURAL NEWS

Block 1 champions! Congratulations to all participants!

Kickball	Team: Wilson
DI Basketball	Team: War Dogs
Women's Basketball	Team: All Day
Outdoor Soccer	Team: Kickers United
Flag Football	Team: NARBS
Outdoor Volleyball	Team: AH
DI Volleyball	Team: We Dig Your Balls
Women's Volleyball	Team: Hottah
Ultimate Frisbee	Team: Remember The Titans
Trench	Team: PE 4 Life
Single's Tennis	Sunhoon Kim
Double's Tennis	Steven Christianson & Alex Christianson
Racquetball	Jimmy Jones
Horseshoes	Team: 21 Pointers Travis Hunter & Derek Tesch
Disc Golf	Andrew Barten
Badminton Singles	Sebastien Freund
Badminton Doubles	Team: Unbeatable Mitchell Brachman & Justin Crossen



Men's Cross Country

The Pointers tied with UW-Platteville placed second of nine teams in the WIAC Championships this past weekend. They qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Midwest Regional tournament on the Lake Breeze Golf Course in Oshkosh Nov. 11.

Pointer Cory Towle led the team with a fifth place standing with a 25:04.06 time. Phil Richert placed eighth and Dominick Meyer finished 11th in addition to winning a spot on the conference All-Sportsmanship Team. Towle was named in the All-WIAC First Team, while Richert and Meyer were listed as All-WIAC Second Team.

Women's Cross Country

The women's team took fifth place in the WIAC Championship and will also visit the NCAA Division III Midwest Regionals on Nov. 10.

Hannah Dieringer was the only Pointer to place in the top 10 in the championships with a 22:43.89 time. She earned a spot on the All-WIAC First Team. Ashley Woest took 21st place and Pointer Kimberly Multerer was named on the All-Sportsmanship team.

Football

The Pointers lost their second game in a row to UW-Whitewater. UW-Stevens Point now posts a conference record of 3-2 and an overall record of 6-2.

The Pointers began the scoring with a field goal from Ryan Graboski. The only touchdown from the Pointers came from Jack Marx off a seven-yard run. The Titans scored 20 unanswered goals in the second, third and fourth quarters. The game-ending score was 27-10 in favor of UW-Oshkosh.

The match-up Nov. 3 will mark the last regular season home game for UW-SP. Kickoff is 1:00 p.m. at Goerke Field.

Volleyball

The Pointers lost a quarterfinal game 0-3 against the UW-La Crosse. Though UW-SP fought hard to come back in the third game, the Pointers lost to the Eagles by only two points.

Pointer Shelly Maus went out in style, accumulating 11 kills during the match and finishing with a career kill record of 1,715. Maus also beat the school record for blocking assists with 153 total this season.

Soccer

UW-SP will be extending their season this weekend after winning their quarterfinal game against UW-River Falls in the Point Soccer Bowl. They advance this week to the semifinals against UW-Whitewater Nov. 2 in Eau Claire. Pointer Amanda Prewat scored four times for UW-SP, while Emily Bieschke and Emily Walsh scored singles of their own. The ending score was 6-1 in favor of the Pointers.

UW-Whitewater is listed third in WIAC standings. The Warhawks currently hold a 5-2-1 conference record after winning their quarterfinal game.

Pointer midfielder Katie Waterman was awarded the WIAC Soccer Defensive Player of the week for Oct. 22-28.

Wrestlers hit the mats with big goals

WRESTLING

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With nine starters returning, a winning group of new freshmen and a set of high goals make the 2007-2008 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point wrestling team the one to watch this season.

Of the nine returning starters, three of them, Eric Bath, Craig Bollig and Jake Calhoun, were national qualifiers in 2006-2007. Bath finished his season third in the country and received All-American honors.

Coach Johnny Johnson is confident that Bath and the other seniors on the team have set a good example for the younger guys coming up.

"The leadership on the team is very strong. They have a great work ethic and desire to take the program to the next level," Johnson said.

Adding to Johnson's confidence is the group of incoming freshmen on this season's squad. Many of them competed in state tournaments during their high school careers or have winning records, but even those who do not, Johnson is excited to work with.

"Some of the [freshmen] haven't wrestled very long, but they are fun to work with because their learning curve is so big," said Johnson. "The kids who have been wrestling are winners and have lots of talent. I am very happy with the freshmen that we have."

UW-SP squad placed second at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference meet and 20th at the NCAA Division III championships this past season, making the goals for the 2007-2008 team very high.

"Our team goal is to get a trophy at the national tournament, which means we have to be in the top four," said Junior 133-pounder Jered Kern. "We have the right guys, and the right team to do it."

Johnson agrees.

"This is really the group that could set the standard for the future of our program," said Johnson.

Besides the national tournament, Johnson's expectations for the team are quite simple: everyone is expecting to come in every day, work hard, set lofty goals and try to achieve them. He would also like to see the team take first place at conference.

Kern is excited to see where the team ranks nationally at the end of the season.

"I think we're going to surprise a lot of people," Kern said.

The Pointer wrestling team will begin their season on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Pointer Open at the UW-SP Multi-Activity Center at 9:00 a.m. The open brings in over 300 wrestlers from all divisions in a five state region including conference rivals UW-LaCrosse and national rivals Wartburg College from Iowa and Augsburg College from Minnesota.



Photo courtesy of David Davila

The wrestling team starts their season Nov. 10 with the Pointer Open in the UW-SP Multi-Activity Center.

Senior on the Spot Greg Haak - Cross Country



Major: Wildlife management

Hometown: Belleville

Do you have any nicknames? Haaker

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? Placing third at Drake relays in the distance medley relay.

What is your most embarrassing sports moment? Getting disqualified at indoor nationals in the distance

medley relay after finishing fourth overall.

Have any gameday rituals or superstitions? Don't consume dairy products.

Who is your sports hero? Travis Nechuta.

What is your sport philosophy? "If you're not going to run well, at least look good while doing it." -Rick Witt

Arts & Review

The 90FM album of the week: Serj Tankian: "Elect the Dead"

Dan Neckar
90FM DJ

Having put alternative-metal giants System of a Down on an indefinite hiatus since May 2006, singer Serj Tankian made his solo debut on Oct. 23 with a new album, "Elect the Dead."

"Elect the Dead" begins with "Empty Walls," a loud, explosive berserker that has Tankian shouting, "Don't you see the bodies burning?" over a barrage of guitars and other assorted havoc.

Fans of System of a Down will immediately recognize Tankian's eerie chanting and delirious political rants in songs like "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" and

"The Unthinking Majority." In these songs, he assaults his listeners with a tone that lies somewhere between passionate and annoying.

The majority of the album sounds a little forced, and at least half of the songs sound incomplete, but Tankian is relentless in his vocal delivery. He chants and screams like a banshee for 45 minutes without slowing down until he reaches the title track. He ends the album by crooning, "Love, we know, comes from the inside, but all I want is me," which is more than enough to alienate the average listener.

Anyone who has listened to System of a Down will identify with pounding drums and bass but will also recog-

nize the toned-down guitars that surface in the absence of System of a Down guitarist Daron Malakian's furious shred. Despite this slight weakness, Tankian's instruments (he plays almost everything heard on the record) are incredibly sharpened throughout the album, which is more than can be said about his voice.

When Tankian isn't trying to incite a riot with undercooked political slogans, he's singing uninspired love songs like "Saving Us," which features such brilliant lines as, "But you were the one for me/ and now you're going through the door/ when you take that step I love you/ baby more and more."

Another low point on the

album is the incredibly annoying "Baby," where Tankian cries, "Baby, oh baby... I miss you, la la la la." It's really no wonder that Tankian put these songs on his solo album, as many of the corny love-themed numbers would never fit on one of his band's albums.

Not everything on the album is bad; it just feels unfinished. Many of the songs are sporadic and spontaneous, but in all the wrong ways. While Tankian is undisputedly giving his emotional all, one can't help but feel a little annoyed by the mediocre lyrics and political rants that we've all heard before.

Dan Neckar hosts "The Big Takeover" on Saturdays from 6:00-8:00 a.m. on 90FM.

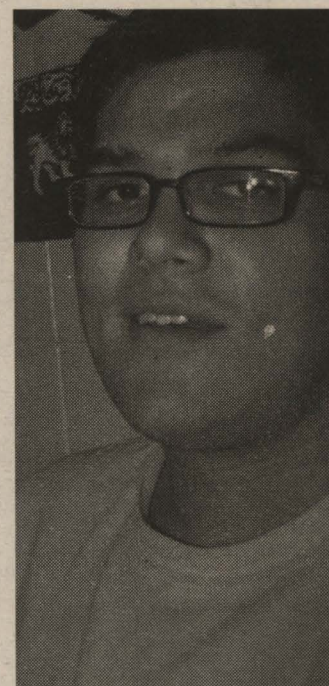


Photo courtesy of Dan Neckar

More praise for Radiohead

Zachary Krogman
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

There was once a short article in The Onion titled, "Bill Gates Finally Getting Into Radiohead's 'Kid A.'" The fake Gates is quoted, "I liked 'Morning Bell' and 'Optimistic,' but the rest just seemed like this intentionally weird mess. Then I took it out again maybe a month ago, and it finally started to sink in. Now I think I even like it better than 'OK Computer.'"

This perfectly encapsulates post-"Kid A" Radiohead, prickly and uninviting at first, but with a little patience and persistence, the incredible emerges. There's something special about going through a process to love an album, especially when it yields a masterpiece on the level of "Kid A." Such growing love for an album often makes the album better.

Then again, that long slog can sometimes lead to a less-beautiful place. While both "Amnesiac" and "Hail to the Thief" were wonderful albums, they never felt like the pay-off was quite worth the effort. After "Amnesiac" and "Hail to the Thief," listeners could be pardoned for wanting an album like "OK Computer" or "The Bends." These albums made an impeccable first impression.

"In Rainbows," Radiohead's seventh album, made a unique kind of impression. The band announced details of the album, obtainable via download on their Web site, 10 days before its release. As for the price, the Web site quixotically said, "It's up to you." In short time, the news had spread from the Internet to mainstream media outlets and created more buzz than any advertiser could dream up. "In Rainbows" became an

event before anyone had heard a note.

While this revolutionary announcement was incredible, the most important aspect of the whole thing was the democratization of the album release. It ensured that the music industry elite heard the album at the exact same time that any average music fan with an Internet connection did. Music critics didn't get an advance copy, nor could computer nerds download the advance copy and smirk above others with their early knowledge. The only ones left behind are the luddites waiting for the CD to hit the shelves in early 2008.

It would be easy to say that we should leave behind the two elephants in the room, Radiohead's past discography and status as our generation's Beatles as well as the unconventional album release, and focus on whether the music is any good. That's impossible in this case because the music is so intricately tied to what's occurred around it. "In Rainbows" is the beginning of a new era for Radiohead; it is a definitive break from the "Kid A" through "Hail to the Thief" mold, and the new release system reflects that. Radiohead sounds, and is, generous. "In Rainbows" is at times tuneful and soulful. It leaves behind much of the paranoid dread of Radiohead's previous albums and instead sounds like an uncertain smile.

In "House of Cards," the band creates a tender ambience that permeates much of the record at large. It's an easy sound, soft on the ears with a healthy dose of cautious joy. It's the sound of a band that has lived on the sound of alienation reaching out for contact and finding it.

Most of the credit for this change in attitude lies with the rhythm section. They

Students jam and groove at two-band concert

Dan Neckar
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

Students gathered on Thursday, Oct. 25 in the Faux-core for a concert featuring two bands—the Chicago-based jazz-rock band The Family Groove & Company and Chinese Fingertrap, a Milwaukee funk-jam band. The concert was sponsored by Centertainment Productions.

Jordan Wilkow, the lead vocalist and organ player of The Family Groove & Company

described his band's sound as "groove informed jazz-rock," with influences from The Beatles to Herbie Hancock.

"College audiences crush for us," said Wilkow, when describing the crowd in Stevens Point. "It seems like the people at these college shows are a lot more active compared to the people we play to in bars. The kids come ready to rage."

While the band currently resides in Chicago, they met in Los Angeles in 2001. "Everyone in the band was going to school out there, and

after playing together for a little while, we decided to move out to Chicago." The band has been playing out of Chicago since 2002 and has toured the United States.

The other band at the Faux-core that night, Chinese Fingertrap, mixed in elements of funk and R&B.

"It was spectacular," said Scott Halvorson, a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. "I ran into a lot of friends and really enjoyed dancing with everyone."

The Sweetwater Meltdown is delicious

Sarah Isaacson
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

On Friday night, the New Mission Café rapidly filled with a cast of characters usually only found together in a wild dream. Two of the three "Beastie Boys" were there, along with a handful of faux-Rastafarians, a tree lady, vampires, transvestites, Barney Rubble, a corruptible Catholic cousin from Utah and a man in a shiny purple wig claiming to be Jimi Hendrix. They congregated in the smoking room of the New Mission Café, awaiting The Sweetwater Meltdown's concert. The Sweetwater Meltdown usually tours in Illinois, so the opportunity to catch them in Point was a treat for the assembled figments of imagination.

Captain Moonlight opened for The Sweetwater Meltdown with a bang. The painful/beautiful electric riffs in "Awakening" got every character in the house to

their feet. "Take Down The System" turned the crowd into a stumbling mosh pit of grinning lunatics, screaming, hooting and flailing without a care. Captain Moonlight's set was short-lived but heavily applauded by the audience.

Captain Moonlight consisted of Ean a.k.a. Dorothy, in a sultry red housedress, on lead, Barney Rubble on the keys, Mike, a self-proclaimed "Jewish cowboy" on bass and Gump on the drums. Although the band members are still in high school, their sound is mature, rare and radiates adrenaline. They'll be playing next at Stevens Point Area High School's "Battle of the Bands."

After Captain Moonlight's set ended, the crowd waited patiently for The Sweetwater Meltdown. And waited. And waited. At midnight, the five-piece band finally began to warm up and pile tie-dyed Sweetwater Meltdown merchandise onto the tables.

The Sweetwater Meltdown's opening song was

a 180-degree turn from the previous act's mosh-inspiring jam, and the audience's dancing evolved from a stomping punk craze into a smiling free-love jive. As the band began to play, the waves of bluegrass, funk, reggae and psychedelic jam that pulsed from their instruments drew in people from the streets.

Particularly striking were the contrasts between the sweet melodic sounds and the lyrics of the song "Tomorrow Never Comes." The song's sunlit and dance-worthy melody makes the listener work hard for its message, found in its final line: "If human life is vanity it is a fleeting thing/ in this world that has become so fragile/ we are thin glass in a pane."

When asked to describe their sound, the band said, "Pick the clouds! Put em' in yer ear!" To hear The Sweetwater Meltdown's mellow melodies or find more information about the band, visit www.myspace.com/thesweetwater-meltdown.

keep most of the songs moving at a nice clip. In "Jigsaw Falling Into Place," the band delivers one of their catchiest

songs. Even as Thom Yorke and Johnny Greenwood try to bring down the tone, the rhythm section keeps it just

light enough.

In essence, the band has

See Radiohead on pg. 9

Katie's Curiosities: Is Halloween a broken holiday?

Katie Adams
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER



Photo courtesy of Katie Adams

When my mother was a young girl growing up in Detroit, everyone in her neighborhood knew everyone else, and all the kids played in the street until the streetlights went on. On Halloween, my mother and her brothers went out alone, dressed in their homemade costumes to trick-or-treat at familiar doors where they received apples, dimes and hand-made popcorn balls. Even in a city famous for being dangerous, my mother was able to experience Halloween as a time of joviality for connecting with friends and neighbors.

Thirty years later, around

the time I turned eight, nighttime trick-or-treat became a thing of the past. We had just moved from Utah to Wisconsin and my new friends were incredibly excited about their Halloween costumes. We all wore our costumes to school for a Halloween parade, and my friends all had thin, short-sleeved costumes: Theresa was a sock-hop girl with a poodle skirt and a white t-shirt; Marja was a gypsy with a flowing skirt and a thin lace blouse; Becca was a hippie with a long tie-dyed dress and a "PEACE" headband. Meanwhile, I was a bunch of grapes: a smock covered with purple balloons, designed to be easily worn

over six layers of long pants and sweaters. I remember quite clearly the confusion I felt. Why were all of these girls wearing so little? Trick-or-treating happened at night at the end of October. It was a cold event!

My new friends must have thought I was crazy. They had never gone trick-or-treating at night. My new town in the Midwest held trick-or-treating on the Sunday before Halloween from two to five in the afternoon. The afternoon was usually sunny and warm, and nobody wore a sweater under a costume. So, on the afternoon of the Sunday before Halloween, the four of us

trundled out in our costumes with pillowcases for collecting booty from our neighborhood acquaintances. We didn't know everyone in the neighborhood, but tagging along behind us, waiting on the street while we rang doorbells, were our moms: chatting, making quick repairs to our homemade costumes and keeping a watchful eye on the neighbors they didn't know very well.

Last Sunday, 15 years later, I went trick-or-treating on the weekend before Halloween. From three in the afternoon to six in the evening, kids and their parents walked up to the doors of houses of people they'd never met, in costumes

they'd purchased from stores, requesting candy. As we took my friend's 2-year-old daughter up to different houses, we discussed how strange this Halloween holiday is. On what other day of the year is it acceptable to hide your identity, ring doorbells at random houses and take candy from strangers? Gone are the days of hand-made treats—the threat of razor blades and needles in them have made sure of that. Gone are the days of homemade costumes—most people don't even know how to sew anymore. Halloween is a broken holiday. Where it can go from here is a mystery.

From **Radiohead** on pg. 8

returned to the crowd-pleasing songcraft of "The Bends" without sacrificing the artistic growth they earned while making "Kid A." If the album strikes a balance, it's not so much because it is attempting to, but rather because the band's entire attitude has shifted. It lays bare the diminishing returns of the "Kid A" paradigm and makes going back and listening to "Hail to the Thief" a revealing experience. "Hail to the Thief" shows a band that was tired, cynical and unable to make truly inspired music, but with "In Rainbows," something has come together, and it makes for fantastic listening.


In this spirit, the album closer, "Videotape," follows the tight and fast "Jigsaw Falling Into Place" and explores the band's meditative side. The song is devastating in its effectiveness. Yorke sings, "When I'm at the pearly gates/ this will be on my videotape/ Mephistopheles is just beneath, and he's reachin' up to grab me/ this is one for the good days/ and I have it all here for red, blue, green."

In other words, Yorke is making a case for the goodness of it all: the world, himself, the band, you and me. Musically, it can't quite match the band's twin masterpieces of "OK Computer" and "Kid A." As an event, and as it fits into the band's history and personality, "In Rainbows" is undeniably a master stroke. In Yorke's own album-closing words, "Today has been the most perfect day I've ever had." Spot on.


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Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide

Red Fish, Dead Fish

Pat Rothfuss

WITH HELP FROM: GALAXY COMICS.

Dear Pat,

I used to have a great piranha who was with me through hell and high water (pun intended), who survived no matter how badly I moved him between residences. When he died (through no fault of mine, I swear), I got a couple plants, a crab, an algae eater and seven fish over two months. My problem is that they keep dying! I only have the bottom feeders and two fish left! My boyfriend (who is sort of fish-savvy) says that sometimes fish just die for no reason, like a fishy version of AIDS. I've checked the water a zillion times, and it's fine. A worker at the pet store said that my tank looks great, I should have no problems.

Now, I'm not asking for advice on how to keep them alive. I just want to know when should I give up? I could deal with it if it were somehow my fault and I could fix it. But everyone keeps saying that fish just die, I should move on. "C'mon," they say, "it's just fish. Who cares?" Well dammit, I care!

Poor little guys. Now somehow the crab has also disappeared, and one of the other fish has died - I'm down to the algae eater and one fish.

Finding Ichthyology a Saddening Hassle

P.S. Man, thinking up clever acronyms is harder than I thought. If you just want to put "Morgan Mills" on the end, you're totally forgiven.

P.P.S. Coffee, candy and board games are all awesome, but whatever happened to "I am not Pat Rothfuss" t-shirts?

Y'know, Morgan, I'm always amazed when people remember the "I am not Pat Rothfuss" t-shirts. What's more, I'm always surprised when people actually want one.

For those of you who are new to the game, a little background story:

Years ago, someone wrote in a letter telling me how much they hated me, my column, my face and my politics. It happens from time to time. However, on this particular week, I didn't have any other letters, so I printed the hate mail, replied to it in a polite yet scathingly humorous manner and made a joke about how I'd give the author an "I am not Pat Rothfuss" t-shirt if they wanted one.

They didn't, but everyone else asked for one. I printed up about 20 shirts, and they were gone within a week. The second printing came a couple years later, and they were snatched up too. The last batch was printed to help promote the release

of the "College Survival Guide" back in 2005. I have a few of those left over. I wear them when I want to confuse people. Or when I'm feeling ironic. Or when it's laundry day.

So the question is: would people really like more "I am not Pat Rothfuss" shirts? Even in lieu of cool gift certificates? If so, drop me a line at proth@wsunix.wsu.edu. However, be aware that shirts are only given to the faithful, so it might be a good idea to include some specifics of what outrageous lengths you would be willing to go to in order to obtain said shirt. If I get enough e-mails with amusing, ideas I'll print up a batch of shirts and do a column on it.

On the main subject of your letter: here are my theories.



SUICIDE

It's a little-known fact that fish are biologically predisposed to ennui. You can help by giving them things like colorful gravel, tiny treasure chests, and cleaning their tanks so they don't have to eat their own poop. But even so, the least depressed fish ever is still only a hair's breadth away from smoking clove cigarettes, cutting itself with razors, and writing poetry about how life is pain.

Now, obviously not all fish are emo. Piranhas are punk, for example. And goldfish are new age. But those are the exception to the rule. It takes very little to push fish from plain ennui to suicide. If you have a few emo tendencies yourself, it might be too much for them to handle.

Alternately, you might want to come to grips with the fact that your fish might hate you. Maybe

they're taking their own lives in a desperate attempt to escape your presence. Just a thought.

My solution: Start wearing brighter colors, stop reading your poetry to them, and take your My Chemical Romance CD off repeat. Seriously.

ALIENS

In my experience, crabs just don't "disappear." (Don't read too much into that statement, folks.)

It seems logical to me that aliens don't just start out mutilating cattle and probing hillbillies. They have to work their way up to that. Or maybe you're being plagued with small, underachiever aliens who don't feel up to the hassle of shoving a tazer up some yokel's hoo-ha.

My solution: Start wearing a tinfoil hat.

MURDER

Maybe one of your fish is a sociopath and is slowly killing all the others. The missing body of the crab seems to support this theory, as it was undoubtedly disposed of to hide incriminating evidence. However, uncovering the murderer is going to be tricky without a long, costly investigation. My money is on the bottom-feeder, though. Those things give me the wiggins.

My solution: Wait until all the fish but one are dead. That fish is the killer. Hold a brief trial and mete out some Texas-style capital punishment. That way, barring a Ten Little Indians scenario, you can at least be sure that justice has been served.

Truth is Morgan, fish are the Bic disposable lighter of pets. If you get too attached to them, you're just setting yourself up for heartache. If you find yourself getting too attached, you might want to trade up to something with a little more survivability. Like a hamster, or a nice fern.

Send in your pitiful, mewling cries for help to proth@wsunix.wsu.edu. Pat will either mock or assist you, according to his whimsy.

This week, thanks to our beloved sponsor, Morgan will be getting a gift certificate to Galaxy Comics. There she will be exposed to geeky delights beyond all mortal understanding, including board games, CCGs, comics, and much much more.

Galaxy Comics is on 925 Clark Street. Or give them a ring at 544-0857.

Letters to the Editor

As you know, Governor Jim Doyle and legislative leaders came to UW-Madison last Friday to sign the 2007-09 State Budget into law, and held a second budget ceremony on the UW-Milwaukee campus the same day. Those events marked the end of a lengthy process that touched all of us in one way or another.

The Governor's choice of venues is significant, reflecting his personal support of a solid UW System budget - one that funds our ongoing commitments and invests wisely in the Growth Agenda for Wisconsin. Even more significant is the broad

statewide support that brought us to this point. Legislators from around the state tell me how impressed they were by the letters, phone calls, e-mails, postcards, and personal comments they received from constituents who wanted to ensure that higher education remained a top priority in this budget. They heard directly from faculty, staff, students, alumni, business leaders, chambers of commerce, parents, labor unions, and other stakeholders.

Thankfully, our elected leaders are listening. As a result, the Associated Press reported earlier this week that

"the University of Wisconsin System is about to get bigger," citing Growth Agenda initiatives at various institutions. In my opinion, the headline should be: "Wisconsin is about to get better."

The Growth Agenda is not about making the University bigger. It's about expanding educational opportunities, enhancing our quality of life, creating new jobs, improving the state's business climate, strengthening local communities, and boosting per-capita income. In the end, it's about creating a brighter future for our children and grandchild-

dren.

We've taken one important step toward that future, but the journey is far from complete. We must focus now on working with the State to provide a competitive pay plan for faculty and staff. Where certain campus initiatives and building projects were not funded by the legislature, we must renew our support for these vital initiatives.

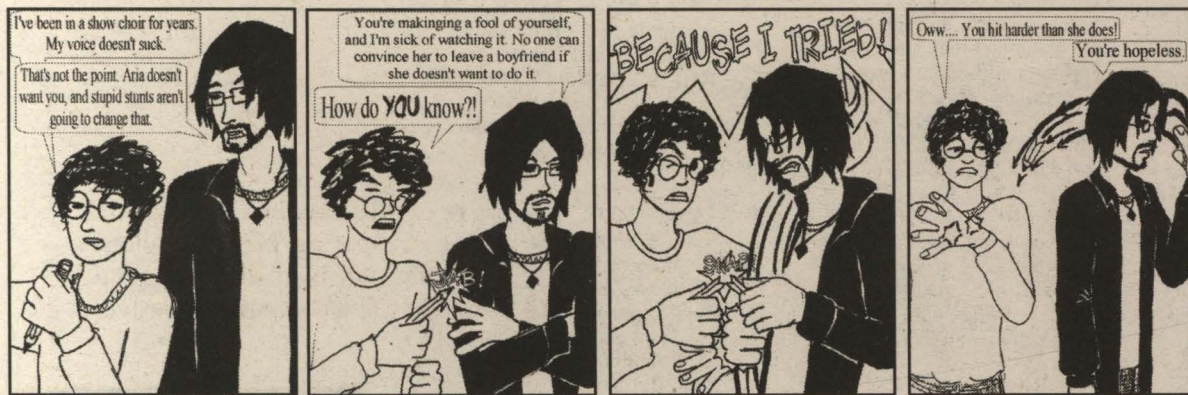
As we gear up for the efforts ahead, I want to take time to recognize all the good work you have done to advance the Growth Agenda. Although the long budget delay certainly

contributed to some anxiety at our institutions, the final outcome should be reassuring for our entire university family.

Thank you for your contributions to this positive outcome. Working together with our allies throughout the state, I believe we made a successful argument this budget cycle about the central importance of the University of Wisconsin to the future of our state. We'll build on that success in the years ahead.

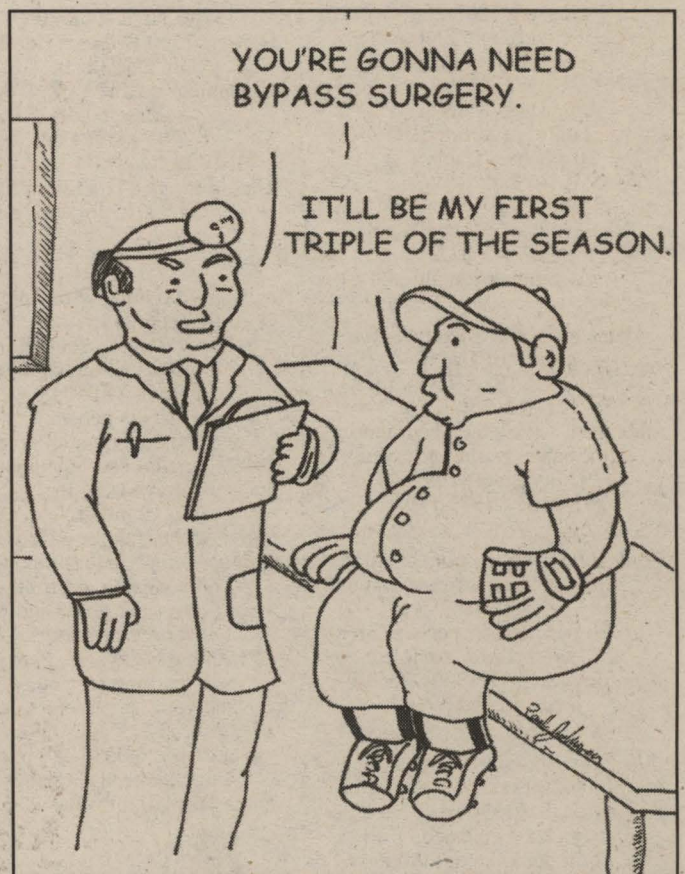
Kevin P. Rielly
UW System president

Resident's Evil



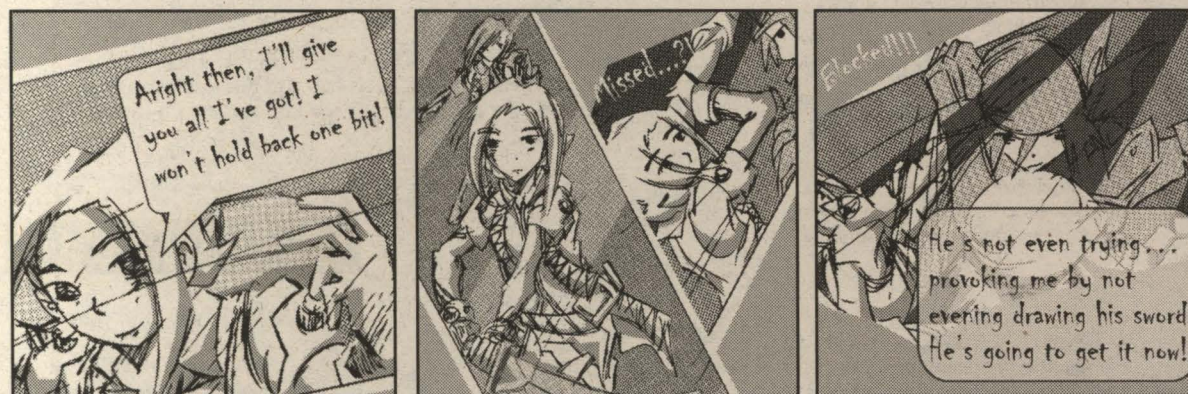
Joy Ratchman

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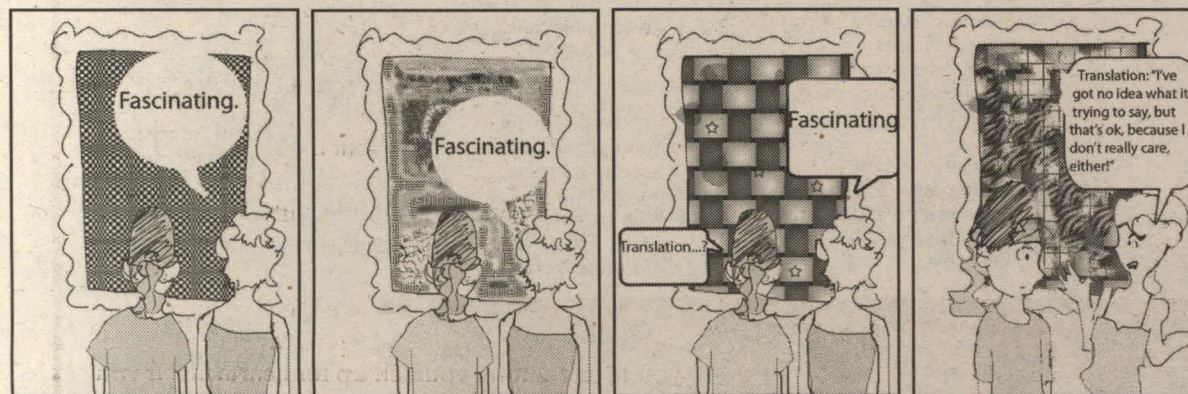
Paul Johnson

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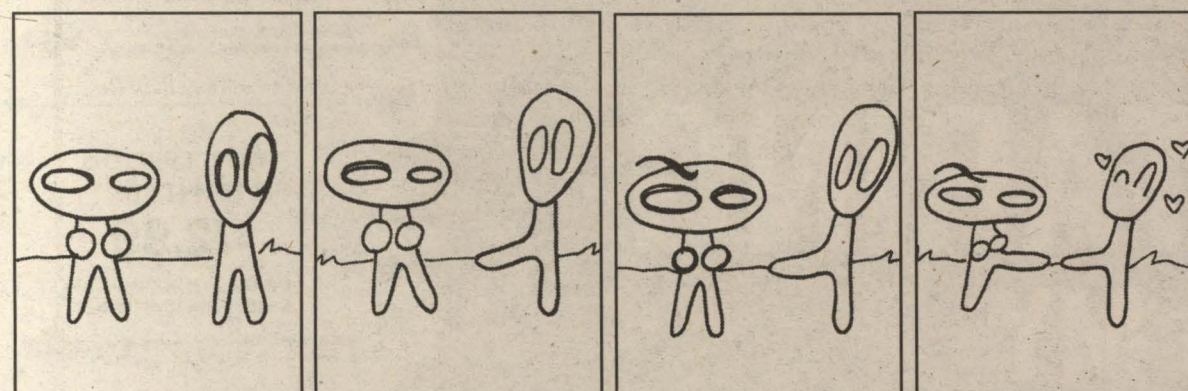
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WORD SEARCH: CREEPY CREATURES

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