Out with the old, in with the new Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point made history on Oct. 12 when the University Center (UC) was officially renamed the Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center (DUC).

Surrounded by people from the campus and community, family members of Dreyfus participated in the naming ceremony, acknowledging what a spectacular event the university was holding in his honor.

Dreyfus's son, Judge Lee Dreyfus said, "The decision to name the student center after him is, of all the things the university could have done, the most precious to him."

Dreyfus's daughter, Susan Fodick, asked her father if the naming of the University Center after him was one of the most important honors and "closest to his heart." His response was a resounding, "Absolutely. And it is because it was given by the students, and that meant everything."

"With the naming of this building it is our hope that his legacy will continue to shine for years to come."

System merged. His 11 years as chancellor of the University were years of great change, both on campus and in the world.

It was also during this time that the infamous red vest began. Dreyfus has been known statewide for always wearing a red vest. But, as his daughter Fodick explained to the audience, he wore a vest every so often, but not with any regularity. However students complained that they were never able to see him on campus.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students staged a rally Tuesday afternoon in response to a proposal by the Board of Regents to change the way segregated fees are allocated to student organizations.

Students lined the main hallway of the Health Enhancement Center armed with posters and signs to express their disapproval of the way the issue is being handled by the administration. The rally was held one hour before what was to be the final meeting before revising the segregated fees policy.

Student Government Association President, Justin Glodowski explained that the situation arose after the Board of Regents designated a Segregated Fees policy committee whose purpose was to review the way segregated fees are spent across the University of Wisconsin system.

The committee includes five administrators and five students from across the UW System. Two of the members are UW-SP Chancellor Linda Burnell and Glodowski.

Rachel Butler, president of the Student Rights Coalition, came to Stevens Point from Madison to be present for the rally and the meeting.

The catalyst for this committee came after questions were raised about whether student fees could be used to fund off-campus space for student organizations at UW-Madison, explained Butler.

UW-Madison has over 700 student organizations on campus.
From Dreyfus pg.1
campus and make clear their
grievances about the Vietnam War. To resolve this problem, Dreyfus said he would wear a red vest every day until the war was over.
The night before the Naming Ceremony, Fosdick was talking to her father, and he told her that, "I didn’t know the war was going to last seven years. That's a lot of red vests."
For health reasons, Gov. Dreyfus and his wife Joyce were unable to attend the ceremo­ny, but his family mem­bers were given many things to take back to them, includ­ing the description of approxi­mately 100 students wear­ing the red vested t-shirt in Dreyfus’s honor.
To welcome the Dreyfus family, students lined the path from Old Main to the new University Center wearing the red vests. Following the walk into the DUC, student Shawn Connolly acts as Master of Ceremonies officially wel­comed guests into the Laid­n room and allowed the campus ROTC present the colors while the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia sang the National Anthem. After a brief introduction by Connolly, current UW-SP Chancellor Linda Bunnell spoke to the audience, remind­ing them that "As long as this university is a place where students come first [and] as long as we embrace our com­munity and our community embraces us, Lee Sherman Dreyfus is here."
Dreyfus’s number one concern has always been the students on the UW-SP cam­pus and the education that they are receiving. He has been a lifelong teacher, continuing strong at 81 years of age, even though there is no classroom to teach in, said Fosdick.
His inspiration and dedi­cation to the students were strong proponents in decid­ing to name the UC after him. "With the naming of this building it is our hope that his legacy will continue to shine for years to come," said Connolly.
Following the Naming Ceremony, guests were invited to the Noel Fine Arts Center for refreshments and reminisc­ing. As for how the DUC looks, students should get ready to be amazed. “It looks beautiful and I think that all of the students are excited to have it back, new and improved!” said senior Kristine Lebher. The Dreyfus University Center will officially open on Jan. 22, 2008.

From Rally pg.1
pus and not enough space to house them all. Therefore, many of the student organiza­tions have to seek space off campus to house their organi­zation. The Board of Regents formed the segregated fees policy committee in response to this issue.
Butler describes the proposal on the table as "very student unfriendly." It takes the control of where the money goes away from the students and puts it in the hands of the adminis­tration. Students are going to know where their money is best spent, not the adminis­tration," said Butler.
The Student Rights Coalition has drafted a docu­ment that outlines four basic principles they feel are rele­vant in deciding who has control over student fees.
"The main point is the first one," said Butler. "The stu­dent Rights Coalition opposes any new restrictions on what segregated fees can be used to fund."
Administrative members of the committee including Regent Tom Shields have con­cerns about using student fees to lease building space because it makes the University lia­ble for what happens in that building.

Students gathered in the HEC to petition keeping control of seg­regated fees.

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From Rally pg.1
Students gathered in the HEC to petition keeping control of segregated fees.

"I am all for students deciding what they want to do with their funds," said Glodowski.
Another meeting to dis­cuss this issue will be held on Nov. 7.

For more information about the details of the com­mittee and what specific­ally students can do to get involved, contact SGA.

NEWS • UWSP The Pointer

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Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the prop­erty of The Pointer.
Follow up: Wisconsin number one drinking state

Rick LaRoche
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Rick LaRoche:

free options for students.”

After recently being ordered to top the drinking state in the United States, Wisconsin has turned its attention to the drinking problem. At the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, officials have taken several different approaches to handling the issue.

Kristen Hoffenberger, the assistant director of Community Development Education and Coordinator of Student Rights and Responsibilities said there are lots of policies directed toward the safety of students and the diversity of their needs. For starters, there are housing options. “For those who choose not to drink or live around individuals who consume, regardless of their age, we do have a total of four floors on campus that are alcohol-free floors,” said Hoffenberger.

The alcohol policy in the residence halls for floors allows for drinking to occur if you are of age and only when of age students are present. There are however parameters for these locations on who is present, times and the amount of consumption.

Anne Hoffmann, the assistant director of the Allen Center for Health and Wellness Programs, said, “The campus has always offered alcohol-free options for students. In fact, the majority of hall programs and activities are alcohol-free. Intraclub, movies, concerts, recreational trips, etc. All of these examples of events and activities that do not involve alcohol. That said, there are some entertainment events in which alcohol is sold to students who are of age and have proper ID. These events are not recent offerings; again, we have a history of alcohol-free options for students.”

Students who choose to drink either under the legal age of 21 should know that the university has its own sanction in addition to those handed down by law or enforcement. “The sanction is dependent of the situation, any past conduct history, etc. These sanctions can include counseling, reprisal, probation, removal from residence hall or campus restrictions, disciplinary leave suspension or expulsion,” Hoffenberger said. Other sanctions include educational and psychological assistance depending on what might be considered best for the student. Hoffenberger added, “These can be applied to students over 21 who show irresponsible behavior when drinking.”

In recent years, it has only been the Stevens Point Police Department that was called to issue citations; however, changes have been made to this policy as well. “We now have officers within Protective Services who can issue chapter 18 (alcohol) violation citations. I think a rise in numbers are partially due to more assertiveness in efforts to help students be responsible and safe,” said Hoffenberger.

As incoming student behavior has changed so has university policy. Hoffenberger said, “Many students are coming to school with more alcohol involvement than in past years... I need to become more strict with my sanctioning to avoid disruptions to the community and in efforts to help the student be successful not only in school but with their personal life.” For more information on Student Rights and Responsibilities or campus policies and code of conduct go to http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights.

Business Response

Taverns, pubs and restaurants are involved in drinking as much as their patrons. Elizabeth Smith, a bartender for over a year at Guo’s on Main, has seen plenty of student-drinking first hand.

“The owner is very comfortable catering to that crowd... almost half the staff is students,” Smith said. “Generally students are very responsible, but it depends on the crowd. The biggest problems we get are people with no ID. Even if I know them, I can’t let them in, and it takes a lot of time to deal with those situations.”

The bartenders and bouncers are fully trained in serving portions, expectations customers have at bars, service, how to check ID’s, penalties, and what their license covers. They are also amply staffed carrying two to three bartenders and a bouncer on busy drinking nights. Sometimes people do get cut off, Smith said, but it usually isn’t too difficult to deal with.

“Usually their friends help out and it ends very peacefully. I have never had to call the cops on anyone,” said Smith. “As for safety, we offer designated driver free sodas and we use Courtesy Cab as well as long as we know where you need to go. Sticking together (and) knowing your limit helps avoid scary situations as well.”

Student Responses

Brittany Treadeau: “It seems like there is a lot more police around this fall than there was in spring, especially on weekends. I don’t think that drinking here is more of a problem than anywhere else. When it is a problem I think that bars have overserved someone who already had enough, I don’t think safety is everyone’s concern.”

Heather Gorski: “I think student safety is the priority and should be. When I lived in the dorms, there were so many people that would be intoxicated and do dumb things. (As for under-aged drinking) I think that the university does what they can and even if they tried to do more students would still just get around it.”

John Zaborsky: “It may make us look bad to the rest of the nation, but it’s really a part of this state’s heritage and cultural make up. A lot of people in Wisconsin are of German descent and drinking is a big part of that culture. If people do it underage that’s their choice, and they can suffer the consequences. Perhaps when you get to college drinking underage is a right of passage because you’re away from your parents and you’ve been inundated with that scenario on TV and movies. Still, kids shouldn’t be dumb about it. (If I were to change anything) I would have harsher penalties for drunk driving.”

Drew Kuchler: “I think that it is only right that Wisconsin is the number one drinking state in the country. We’ve got so many things here that go along with drinking, there’s the Milwaukee Brewers, Green Bay Packers, cheese, and deer hunting. I do think that (this irresponsibility) is treated very appropriately. If some drunken dude is making a fool out of himself and possibly putting people around him in danger, then definitely there should be punishment going on, and that is what the authorities and tavern owners are supposed to do.”

Ryan Fritz: “I can’t speak for tavern owners (being under 21), but the authorities usually handle it pretty well. If you cooperate and are honest upfront with them they will usually give out a verbal warning. Even so, I am against the legal drinking age and feel that it should be age 19, only above 18 to keep it out of high schools.”

http://www.pointer.uwsp.edu/pointer.aspx October 18, 2007 • 3
Colleges Against Cancer promotes breast cancer awareness

Angela Frome
THE POINTER
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According to a pamphlet put out by the American Cancer Society (ACS), breast cancer "can occur at any age, but it is much more likely to occur after age 40." For most college students here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, age 40 may seem like a long way off. "-Stevens Point , age 40 may occur after age 40." For the University of Wisconsin Against Cancer want to spread awareness so there is less worry once that milestone does come along.

"As college students, breast cancer is not of a particular issue to our health in general considering it is generally diagnosed in older women. However it is still important to be aware," said Kayla Schmidt, co-president of Colleges Against Cancer. The group has tied pink ribbons on various poles and trees around campus as a reminder to students that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Booths were also set up in CCC and the HEC this week. Passing students could pick up pamphlets and other information from the ACS regarding early detection and other types of cancers that are most prevalent in women. The group is also selling "Think Pink" t-shirts for $5.

A fake breast was displayed at the table, encouraging students to feel for lumps like they would while performing a self-exam. According to Schmidt, "self-breast exams and clinical exams are encouraged for women 20-39 years old."

Self and clinical exams make it possible to detect cancer in its early stages, when it is easier to treat. ACS pamphlets advise women age 40 and over to start having mammograms because they can detect much smaller tumors than a self exam.

Kimberly Beckman, Colleges Against Cancer co-president, confirms Schmidt's comment. "It is [essential] to communicate the importance of monthly self-exams to college-age women because breast cancer in young women does happen."

In the talk of cancer prevention, the guys are not left out. The booths also have small bags of peanuts to hand out with the slogan "Be Good to Your Nuts." They are there to encourage males to be aware of testicular cancer.

Overall, the message to students is early prevention. "At our age, the best precautionary methods to take are continuing a healthy diet and exercising regularly," said Schmidt.

Colleges Against Cancer will be hosting a candle light vigil at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday in the Sundial for those who have lost their fight with breast cancer. Poetry readings and music will be featured. In case of rain, the vigil will be held in CPS 233.

"Breast cancer affects the students on campus in so many ways, whether it be through a relative or personally," said Beckman. The vigil will be a way for students whose lives have been touched by cancer to meet and share their stories. Colleges Against Cancer is always looking for volunteers to help out with their service projects, including Relay For Life that is held in April, and other programs that are held monthly.

Contact Schmidt at kschm404@uwsp.edu or Beckman at kbeck271@uwsp.edu for more information on Colleges Against Cancer and its programs.

For more information on breast cancer, visit the ACS Web site at www.cancer.org.

PRSSA headed to nationals in the city of brotherly love

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Six members of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) are headed for Philadelphia to participate in the National Conference.

The conference, which lasts six days, will include keynote speakers and specialized sessions in topics like resume writing, portfolio building and other skills that will assist students in their futures.

"Each year the conference is in a different city, and this year's theme is 'Ringing in 40 Years of Success' because this year marks PRSSA's 40th anniversary," said Meaghan Davis, the president of UW-SP's PRSSA chapter. The conference is hosted by the National Committee, which oversees all of the U.S. chapters.

The UW-SP chapter was established in the 1980s, joining chapters of PRSSA all over the country. The organization was formed in the shape of the adult version, Public Relations Society of America, or PRSA.

There is also a National Conference in the spring. It is in a different city, and voting for the new National Committee will be taking place.

The group aims to "get students involved so that when [they] graduate [they] are prepared for the 'real world,'" said Davis. During their weekly meetings, members discuss fundraisers and other events the group is involved with. Professionals in the field are invited to come and share their real life experiences so students can get an idea of their potential career field.

The group also takes field trips to public relations firms, agencies and other businesses in order to see how professionals operate in their specific fields.

Members of PRSSA do not have to be communication majors. "Anyone is welcome," said Davis, "because everyone will be integrating with people in some way. This just helps prepare them more."

PRSSA meetings take place on Wednesday nights at 5:00 p.m. in the Communication Arts building. For more information, contact Davis at mdavis527@uwsp.edu.

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Do you want your student organization featured in the Pointer?
Contact Angela at afrom244@uwsp.edu.
UW-SP students more diverse than ever

University Relations & Communications
PRESS RELEASE

More students of diversity at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point than at any time in the institution’s history

This fall’s enrollment at UW-SP is likely the most diverse student body ever in the 113-year history of the campus, according to Registrar Daniel Kellogg.

Total UW-SP enrollment for the 2007 fall semester is 8,897 (excluding UW-Extension students), an increase of 74 students from the previous fall. Total students of color this fall are 469, an increase of 27 diversity students from the previous fall.

“UW-SP has put a serious emphasis on increasing the number of students of color on campus and much of our continued rise in enrollment numbers is primarily due to a sustained effort by our Admissions Office,” said Kellogg. “We raised our diversity measures in all categories across the board except a slight decrease in the number of American Indian students.”

The entire student body is 54 percent female and 46 percent male. Within the student body there are 6,232 continuing students (152 of whom are graduate students), 198 re-entry students (19 of whom are graduate students), and 688 undergraduate transfer students. In addition, there are 160 international students attending UW-SP this fall, nine more students than in 2006-07.

“It has been a substantial turnaround for diversity recruitment,” said Cathy Glennon, director of UW-SP admissions. “I have to give much of the credit to Scott West who oversees much of our diversity recruitment within our Admissions Office. He puts in long hours and goes the extra mile for students by not only recruiting them to campus, but also serving as an advocate and mentor. Diversity recruitment is truly a personal experience for the prospective student and his/her family and Scott often has a magic touch in helping UW-SP exceed our diversity recruitment goals.”
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Rising ocean levels, a higher frequency of natural disasters, and increasing floods and droughts are just a few of the signs that climate change is here. Though there are still skeptics about the validity of global warming, Dr. Jenny Baeseman, a 1998 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, gave a presentation on global climate change, stressing what problems have or are currently occurring and what can be done to stop further damage.

Baeseman said climate change is the preferred term because it has to do with what's happening all over the world. "Global warming doesn't mean weather will be warmer everywhere," Baeseman said. "That's why we use climate change."

Despite a variety of visual examples, Baeseman showed and explained the various and significant ways our planet has changed. Some of the changes have taken place in as little as the past three decades.

Much of Baeseman's research is in the Antarctic, where the polar ice caps are melting. They are important to the earth and its inhabitants because they radiate many of the sun's rays back into outer space. But with them melting, more of the rays become trapped in the atmosphere. These added solar rays are added to the many greenhouse gases already trapped in the atmosphere, causing temperatures to be warmer. Thus, the polar ice caps melt even more, continuing the cycle of melting and heat trapping.

Along with the polar ice caps melting, other ice forms such as glaciers, permafrost and land mass ice, like Greenland, are melting. As permafrost, soil at or below the freezing point of water, melts in places like Alaska, the ground becomes less stable. This causes the foundations of buildings to also become unstable and many are starting to fall to the ground.

In Greenland, where much of the land mass is ice, more and more of it is melting and breaking away. Melting of this kind causes sea levels to rise, which if continued will cause places like southern Florida and Manhattan to someday be submerged under 20 feet of water. Between 1994 and 2000, the amount of Greenland's melting doubled and between 2000 and 2005 the amount doubled yet again.

While some areas suffer from flooding or unstable foundations, others, even as close as the next village over in places like China, suffer from severe draughts. Once plentiful water sources, such as Lake Chad in Africa or the Aral Sea in Kazakhstan are now nothing more than sand and dry, brittle ground.

Baeseman pointed out that the Aral Sea used to be the world's fourth largest lake. As a way to study what's happening to the environment, scientists are looking to the ice masses still left in existence. To see how today's carbon dioxide levels compare with those of centuries past, scientists measure the amount of carbon dioxide trapped in the ice from years past. As ice melts then refreezes, carbon dioxide becomes trapped, which gives accurate readings of how much carbon dioxide was once present in the earth's atmosphere.

Samples can be tested from as far back as one million years. They can also see what temperatures from the past were like. And the scientists are finding that carbon dioxide levels were never as high as they are today.

"And they project that in 45 years it will be double," said Baeseman.

Every country in the world is responsible for the state of our environment's condition. However, there are some who contribute much more, such as the United States. Thirty percent of the earth's carbon dioxide comes from the United States, which is five times the world average. Baeseman said there are three main factors contributing to society's inability to change. Population explosion, scientific and technological revolution and our way of thinking.

Baeseman said that if world populations continue to grow, "our resources are going to be taxed."

There are many things people can do everyday to become more eco-friendly. Things as simple as turning off unplugged unused appliances, especially computers, using canvas instead of plastic or paper bags, or watching speed limits to get good gas mileage. Also, switching all your light bulbs from incandescent to compact fluorescents can make a big difference. Not only are they good for the environment but they also last about two years and can help save money on electric bills.

Some countries have even begun making laws against the use of incandescent light bulbs. Australia is one such country, hoping to phase out the bulbs by 2010. "It is going to take these big movements," Baeseman said in order for any real change to take place.

As a further way to promote eco-friendly living, Baeseman and some colleagues began a Web site called the Decade of E.D. The premise is that within the next 10 years if no big changes are made to people's ways of life, our earth will be dangerously close to its end. The Web site contains tips and personal stories on ways to live environmentally friendly. Visitors to the site are also asked to pledge ways of changing and implementing those eco-friendly changes into their lives.

For more information on living an environmentally friendly lifestyle, visit the Decade of E.D.'s Web site at www.decadeofed.org, or the number of other Web sites out there dedicated to educating people about global climate change.
P.A.C.E. class costing students more than time

By: Adam Lehmann
SCIENCE REPORTER

Getting caught drinking on campus is now going to cost big money for students who violate the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s drinking policy.

Underage students caught possessing alcohol are required to enroll in the Personal Alcohol Control through Exploration (P.A.C.E.) program. P.A.C.E. is a three hour alcohol education class which allows students to explore the many choices surrounding alcohol and to consider if those decisions are congruent with their college aspirations. Also part of the program is a 30 minute follow-up meeting with a student facilitator. This follow up meeting allows students to meet with the student facilitator and individually talk about their personal consumption habits as well as what can be done to prevent alcohol abuse from becoming a problem.

Previously, money for the P.A.C.E. program came out of every student’s pocket through segregated fees. Now it is going to be a self-funded program through the $90 charged to each participant. The Student Health Promotion Office will be responsible for applying the $90 fee to each participant’s account under the title of “Alcohol Education Sanction” once the student is referred. Those referred to the program are required to register for the classes through the Students Rights and Responsibilities Office on the first floor of Delzell Hall.

Throughout a semester, six P.A.C.E. classes are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays for students to attend. The follow-up meetings take place immediately following the respective P.A.C.E. program. All P.A.C.E. classes and follow-ups take place at the Allen Center for Health and Wellness Programs.

Since 2000, referrals to the P.A.C.E. program are up 92 percent. During the 2006-2007 school year 267 students attended the program. On a scale of one to five, five being the highest, P.A.C.E. participants have rated the program with an overall 4.22.

“The University has taken educational approach to educating students about the possible dangers of alcohol abuse,” explained Dr. Anne Hoffman, Assistant Director of the Centers. “The P.A.C.E. class is our solution to help address this problem.”

Dr. Hoffman elaborated that students on this campus spend a vast amount of money on alcohol, averaging around a couple hundred dollars per student per semester. One student who went through the program reported spending $5,000 on alcohol in one semester at house parties and bars combined.

With this new policy in place, students caught drinking will now get hit right where it hurts: in their pocketbooks.

Sundays at the Planetarium

Every Sunday, the Allen F. Blocher Planetarium hosts “Into the Universe,” a show about the history of various NASA space explorations. Included are the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions. Viewers will explore Jupiter, Saturn and Mars through the Pioneer and Mars Exploration Rover spacecraft. The program also looks at the future of NASA and space programs, as well as the possibility of permanent bases on the moon and Mars.

Upcoming Programs:
- Sunday, Oct. 21 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 28 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 4 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 11 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 18 2:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Randy Olson at 346-2208 or rolson@uwsp.edu.

The Science, Health and Tech Question of the Week

Ever wonder why bees buzz, beer supposedly gives you a belly or the sky is blue? Well, then send these or any other questions you have related to the fields of science, health and technology to The Pointer and we’ll answer at least one a week. E-mail your questions to Science, Health and Tech Editor Sara Jensen at sjens236@uwsp.edu to get your mind-boggling question answered. All questions will remain anonymous and questions will be as accurate and reliable a source as possible.

TECH TIDBIT

[Radio Toaster]

Ever wish you could listen to your favorite radio station while making your morning toast? Well, you can with “The Only Radio Toaster.”

Like your average, everyday toaster, this one has two large slots for getting your bread to crispy perfection. But now instead of standing around idly waiting for your toast to pop, you can jam out to whatever song FM radio stations have decided is the song of the moment.

With a brushed metal case, this appliance will look great in any kitchen. It will also help keep clutter at bay because it will no longer be necessary to have both a radio and a toaster taking up counter space. The radio toaster even comes equipped with an electric sensor that automatically adjust toasting time based on its internal temperature. Other features include easy-to-read dials, multiple toasting settings and a built-in cord to once again help declutter your kitchen.
Keep warm, save bucks and the globe at the same time

Steve Seamandel
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By now you’ve felt some effect of the cold weather, not being able to walk around barefoot, having to wear sleeves and most notably, turning on the thermostat in your house. For those lucky enough to live in the residence halls or apartments with paid heat, you’re laughing at this article right now, probably shirtless and in shorts and sandals and drinking a beverage with a parasade in it. But for those of us not lucky enough to have free heat, it doesn’t take one long to learn how expensive the stuff can be.

However, there are many things one can do to cut down energy costs from your electric bill. Things so simple that you’ll soon realize you have extra Hamiltons and Jacksons in your wallets to spend at the Square on the weekends.

For starters, you can turn your thermostat down a touch when not at home for long periods of time. (Or, in the case of some abodes, turn your electric heaters off.) According to an energy saving online pamphlet at www.ww-energy.com, you can save as much as 10 percent a year on your electric bill simply by turning your thermostat down 10-15 percent for eight hours per day. Translation: when you go to bed, or leave the house for a long day of classes, shave your thermostat temperature down a few degrees. The more you shave, the more you save.

It also helps immensely to cover your windows with clear plastic insulation. Sure, it’s a royal, royal pain to put up, but make a house party out of it. Spending $20-30 on window insulation, $12 on a case of beer and two hours with your roommates and a hairdryer can not only be fun, but it can save you tons of money. (If I’m starting to sound like the Lizard from Cetco, I apologize. But it’s true, you can save a lot of money.) You just can’t bring yourself to plunk down the change for window insulation, at least keep your thermostat down 10-15 percent for eight hours per day.

Translation: when you go to bed, or leave the house for a long day of classes, shave your thermostat temperature down a few degrees. The more you shave, the more you save.

Now when you’re not at home for long periods of time. (Or, in the case of some abodes, turn your electric heaters off.) According to an energy saving online pamphlet at www.ww-energy.com, you can save as much as 10 percent a year on your electric bill simply by turning your thermostat down 10-15 percent for eight hours per day. Translation: when you go to bed, or leave the house for a long day of classes, shave your thermostat temperature down a few degrees. The more you shave, the more you save.

Cover your windows with clear plastic insulation. Sure, it’s a royal, royal pain to put up, but make a house party out of it. Spending $20-30 on window insulation, $12 on a case of beer and two hours with your roommates and a hairdryer can not only be fun, but it can save you tons of money. (If I’m starting to sound like the Lizard from Cetco, I apologize. But it’s true, you can save a lot of money.) You just can’t bring yourself to plunk down the change for window insulation, at least keep your thermostat down 10-15 percent for eight hours per day. Translation: when you go to bed, or leave the house for a long day of classes, shave your thermostat temperature down a few degrees. The more you shave, the more you save.

Keep your doors closed. If you have a draft in a certain room, you’ll not only isolate the cold air of that room, but you’ll be able to pinpoint where the cold points exist in your house.

Heat smaller areas instead of bigger ones. If you live alone or with one other person in a bigger place, you may want to look into using a space heater in the main room you’re occupying at the time and keeping your thermostat set at an otherwise low temperature.

Leave the house! Go shopping, study (yes, the library is well-heated) or go for a jog.

Outdoors

Keep warm, save bucks and the globe at the same time

Steve Seamandel
THE POINTER
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“What’s that smell? Onions...chili powder...cumin. Juicy ground chuck? It’s chili!” If anyone knows their chili, it’s Homer Simpson.

Homer’s distinct ability to smell the goodness of chili is one of the major reasons why the people of Springfield are shaven and in shorts and sandals and drinking a beverage with a parasade in it. But for those of us not lucky enough to have free heat, it doesn’t take one long to learn how expensive the stuff can be.

Spicy hot chili cues what ales ye come fall

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which the Chief claims are, “grown deep in the jungle pri­
meval by the indigenous of a Guatemalan insane asylum.” Homer consumes the peppers, experiences a hallucinogenic over. Those can be the worst.

Now, while the Chief’s Guatemalan Insanity Peppers are prob­ably a tad difficult to obtain, anyone can whip up a mean pot and proclaim themselves “pope of chili­town.” The core ingredients usually consist of something like meat (usually ground chuck, but really anything will do), beans, tomato sauce and spices. No­dles, while a cont­roversial subject with some chili-buffs, can be an awesome addition. Whatever you add, it must be more than that is really up to you.

I have found that making chili in a slow-coker gets you the best results; it brings the chili up to temperature slowly and allows most of the juice to remain in the chili, as opposed to boiling it over a flame on the stove. However, fear not if ye have no slow-cok­ker; throw everything into a huge pot and keep the lowest possi­ble heat on it, stirring every so often. (Don’t ever, ever burn the beans.)

Chili is also a multi­day affair, or “Celebration of Chili” as I like to call it. Cooking up a big pot will usu­ally last you at least 3-4 days, which is more than enough time to bring your body’s fiber content up to normal levels, if you know what I mean.

If you’ve never made chili before, here are some tips. Making chili is easy; fun and gives you a chance to be cre­ative in the kitchen.

- Use about one pound of meat. Meat type can include (but certainly not limited to) beef, pork, turkey, chicken, ven­cin, buffalo, werewolf, the sky’s the limit. If you can kill it, it can serve as chili meat. It helps to brown the meat before adding it in with the beans and other ingredi­ents. Note: For all the veg­gues, chopping up a few Boca Burgers can easily replace any meat. You can make a bean­only chili, but that’s the dif­ference between that and heat­ing up some 7-Bean salad from the deli?

- Add about two cans of beans. Any more beans will far outweigh the amount of sauce and meat (or Boca) you have in the chili. You’re striving for equality of ingredients here, not to increase methane pro­duction via flatulence. There are a ton of different types of beans, but the best for chili are, surprise: chili beans (hot or mild), kidney beans (dark or light red) and a personal favorite, black beans.

- Experiment with differ­ent types of tomato sauces to attain your desired consis­tency. Some people like real­ly soupy chili, which would call for more tomato sauce and paste. Some people like chunky chili, which would call for more chunky cut tomatoes as opposed to sauce.

- If adding noodles, do not boil them before adding them to your chili, and make sure they’re the last thing to go into the pot. The noodles will cook and soften by soaking up some of the excess juice from the tomato sauce and beans. If you cook them prior to add­ing them, they will become mushy. You will see similar effects if you cook your chili for too long with the noodles in it.

- Chili powder is what makes or breaks your chili. Make sure you know how much you’re adding. Remember, you can always put more in but you can’t take it out. Add a little at a time stir your pot and taste. Only add more if you can handle it.

- Add other ingredients to your preference, like onions, spices (cumin and garlic), cilantro, jalapeños and cheese.

- Top off your chili with cheese, sour cream, crackers or anything else you can think of and enjoy while heating up your body!
Students, meet Treehaven

Jessica Spengler
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Remember summer camp? You looked forward to the beautiful summer days of swimming and hanging out with your friends. Well, if you’re a student in the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources major, the thought of summer camp can be chilling, especially when that camp is called Treehaven.

Treehaven is a natural resources education facility located between Rhinelander and Tomahawk, Wis., that, for 22 years, has been home to the CNR’s Summer Field Training Program. The facility was donated to UW-SP by the Vallier family to replace the formerly used Clam Lake Field Station.

For most CNR majors, attending one of the two six-week summer sessions at Treehaven is a requirement. During this nationally recognized program, students learn all aspects of the natural resources program, including forestry, wildlife management, soil science, and water resources.

Students also have the option to attend an eight-week European seminar that takes them to Germany and Poland, but all students must complete one of them.

“What makes the Stevens Point program stand out from other schools is that we require these types of activities from students,” said John Heusinkveld, associate director of Treehaven.

A typical day for students at Treehaven starts at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast, followed by about an hour of lecture. The rest of the day is spent out in the field, doing hands-on, intensive study of that week’s course. They come in for dinner in the evening, after which they may have a project or paper to work on with the others in their designated four-person crew.

“The days get to be pretty long when you are writing up reports or doing mapping until the wee hours,” said senior Molly McKay, a biology and environmental education major who attended Treehaven over the past summer.

Adding to the long days is the pressure of completing seven credits of work in six weeks.

Senior wildlife major, Sabrina Lartz said, “We took two soils classes, where we identify, survey, evaluate and create possible uses of the land; two forestry courses, which also involved surveying, tree species identification and other forestry management; one wildlife course where we set live traps, used radio telemetry for finding col­lar-labeled animals, and evaluated habitat of whitetail deer and fisher. There is also one waters class where we studied fish, phytoplankton, and aquatic plants. The last credit is the identification of scientific and common names of over 200 plants.”

“It is a pretty intense program. Each class is one credit and four days long. They are very hands-on. You are learning to use the tools that professionals use in the field,” said McKay.

All this hard work can lead some students to paranoia.

“One of my crewmates, Horsepower, and I were mapping vegetation of our 40 acres, when like 10 grouse or pheasants dive bombed us and he used me as a human shield. He thought the rustling was a bear,” said Lartz.

The experience is not all work and no play for students, though. On their downtime, students can sign up for sports leagues or rent canoes and kayaks, watch movies and even play a round of disc golf. They also find ways to entertain each other.

“You definitely have time to play,” said McKay. “I played softball and horseshoes. They showed a lot of movies on the big screen and one night a group of students put on a bluegrass concert for us.”

Although the Treehaven program can be difficult, most students agree that the experience is worthwhile.

“I thought it was a lot of work, but the tools they gave us were invaluable. I feel much more prepared for getting a job in my field of study,” said Lartz. “Honestly, I actually miss it up there.”

Outdoors • October 18, 2007 • 9

Outdoor EdVentures

Tip of the Week

Stinging nettles - Urtica Dioica

Brought to you by Jessica from Outdoor EdVentures

Due to its stinging nature many people fear this herb. On the contrary, many people list nettle as their favorite wild edible. Nettles are extremely nutritious. They are high in vitamins A, C, calcium, potassium, magnesium, iron and are also incredibly high in protein content. As famous local forager Samuel Thayer said, “If the deer ever figure out how to cook, nettles are going to be in big trouble.”

Most of you know what they look like: sharply toothed lance-like leaves and it can sting you. If you’re in Nepal, watch out: it grows like bamboo and can get 12-20 feet tall. Ouch!

You can cook it just like spinach but consider that nettles boil down to half its size. You can also use the cooking water as a vegetable broth or drink it as tea. The tea helps with some prostate problems, combats diarrhea, and improves blood flow. If you’re not a tea drinker, your house plants might enjoy this treat.

The young herb also can be used to make wine and beer! They can be harvested all growing season; just cut off the top new leaf generation for eating. It’s best to pick before flowering (May, June), and when harvesting, either use gloves or the tough tips of your fingers and carefully pluck from the ground by the base of its stem. Nettles are a great way to start if you’re interested in foraging. They are easy to identify and they grow about everywhere and abundantly, even in Schmeeckle.

Healthy-Blood Herbal Tea

- 1 plantain leaf
- 2 nettle leaves
- 1 mint leaf
- 1 cup of water

Boil the plants for three minutes. This enriches the blood, drains the kidneys and treats allergies or prostate problems.

PROTECT YOURSELF

If you get an email with an attachment from someone you DON’T KNOW - delete it!

If you get an email with an attachment from a FRIEND, don’t assume it’s harmless!

Scan it with Antivirus software before opening it.

For more information on how to do this: visit:
http://www.uwsp.edu/infosecurity/awareness/email-attachments.jsp
A day of honor...

Above Left: Members of the Dreyfus family are greeted by students wearing t-shirts printed with Chancellor Dreyfus' infamous red vests.

Left: Students enjoy themselves at the reception, eating cookies decorated with Dreyfus' red vest.

Below Left: Members of the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia sing the UW-SP school song, "The Purple and the Gold."

Bottom: Chancellor Dreyfus' two children, Judge Lee and Susan Fosdick, enjoy looking at old photos of their father while at the reception.
...a day of much anticipation

Above Left: Students eagerly gather around the new Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center sign.

Left: Susan Fosdick, Chancellor Bunnell and Judge Lee Dreyfus take a moment to pose for a picture while reminiscing at the reception.

Below Left: The Naming Ceremony, open to the public, drew a great audience, many of whom knew Lee Sherman Dreyfus personally.

Bottom Left: Young learners from the Suzuki Center marched into the courtyard of the Noel Fine Arts Center to entertain the audience members at the reception. Under Chancellor Dreyfus’ leadership, the American Suzuki Talent Education Program and Suzuki Summer Institute were developed.

Below: Student Government President, Justin Glodowski and Master of Ceremonies, Shawn Connelly, hold the new plaque, presented to the students by Dreyfus’ granddaughter.

Below Right: Participants of the Naming Ceremony patiently wait in line for delectables and delights.
Volleyball team takes fourth place at UW-Oshkosh

**VOLLEYBALL**

Rochelle Nechuta

**THE POINTER**

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point volleyball team traveled to Oshkosh this past weekend and placed fourth of eight teams in the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Invitational. The team also upset fourth ranked UW-Oshkosh in a separate match Wednesday night.

The Pointers won their first match against Milwaukee School of Engineering on Friday with a 3-2 victory. UW-SP won their first, second and fifth games, with Pointers Beth Richter, Gina Guell and Katie O'Brien leading the team in kills.

In the third match of the tournament the Pointers also beat Lakeland Colleges 3-1 with a total of 60 accumulated kills. Once again Guell was a team leader, accumulating 18 kills and Shelly Maus was not far behind with 14 of her own.

In their second match of the tournament, UW-SP dropped all three games to UW-Oshkosh. The Titans have a 4-0 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference record and a 25-2 overall record. The Pointers also lost all three of their games against Carthage College in their last match of the tournament. Senior Shelly Maus was named to the all-tournament team.

Wednesday, the Pointers came on strong and defeated UW-Oshkosh 3-2 after their own loss four days before to the Titans. Richter led the team once again with 17 kills.

After the win, the Pointers are 17-10 in overall record and have been victorious in four of their seven conference games. The team will face eight remaining regular season matches in the next two weeks, with the last conference match scheduled for Oct. 24th against UW-LaCrosse. It will be the first match-up for the two teams this season. The Eagles have racked up a 20-6 overall record so far in the 2007 season.

UW-SP will host Viterbo University, Carroll College, Finlandia University, and Luther College at home Oct. 19th and 20th.

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**Senior on the Spot**

**Hannah Dieringer - Cross Country**

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? Running CC Nationals in Ohio on a completely muddy course.

What is your most embarrassing sports moment? When asked at the starting line of a race to show off uniform bundles, I accidentally pulled that down, too, showing the official my underwear.

Have any game day rituals or superstitions? Drinking coffee the morning of a race.

Who is your sports hero? Rebeca Willis (our assistant coach from Ireland who ran at the 2000 Olympics).

What is your sport philosophy? Always try your best and don't get too worked up about things.

---

**Pointers slay the Green Knights**

**SOCCER**

Rochelle Nechuta

**THE POINTER**

rnec@uwsp.edu

Amanda Prawat in the next two goals, which fell within four minutes of each other. Both ladies tied their totals during the game, bringing their overall statistics to 14 goals and eight assists.

Pointers Mary Jean Cornelius and Meghan Vanden Heuvel tallied single goals each, helping UW-SP to the 5-1 score that catapulted them to victory. Goalie Meredith DeCaluwe saved three shots and Green Knight goalie Mallory Ford had 19 saves throughout the game.

The next game for the Pointers will be at UW-River Falls on Saturday. The Falcons are currently 1-2-2 in conference play, and have a 2-10-3 overall record. This season UW-SP has been out-shooting their opponents 296 to 146. The team has outscored their challengers 41 points to 15 points.

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The soccer team has a 11-3-1 overall record so far this year. Pointers Kaylee Weise and Amanda Prawat are currently tied with 14 goals and 8 assists.
Get submerged! UW-SP's swimming and diving team

Ashley Schlosser
The Pointer
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Although the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point swimming and diving team graduated quite a few top-notched seniors last year, this year looks promising with the new young talent.

"We graduated a lot of female sprinters and male distance swimmers," said Alan Boelk, the swimming and diving coach. "This year's team is a little younger, a little less heavy on sprinters for the ladies and less distance swimmers for the guys, but has more depth than last year's team."

Both teams did well last year. The women were far ahead of everyone in the conference last season, whereas the men had one of the closest conference meets to work and compete. We have the ability to go life times bests this year," says Coach Boelk.

"I think every kid on my team has the ability to go lifetime bests this year," says Coach Boelk.

Overall, the UW-SP swimming and diving team consists of 27 men and 34 women competitors this year. The team is a mix of incoming freshmen and returning swimmers and divers who have the talent and skill to succeed. "It's our intrasquad meet where the team is split into two teams—the purple and gold team. This meet is our first shot at the season, and helps us get ready for the next few weeks where we have meets coming up," says senior backstroke competitor Scott Hoppe.

Women's and Men's swimming and diving teams start their season with the Purple-Gold Meet on Oct. 20.

Notable Brits want you to participate in

UWSP's Education Programme in

London, England

During SPRING BREAK: March 15-23, 2008

Don't disappoint them!

Programme Highlights:

Have you ever wondered how other countries around the world teach their students and prepare their teachers? Have you wanted to experience rich, diverse learning environments in another part of the world? Come join us in exploring the Education Programme of the United Kingdom! We will visit primary, secondary and teacher preparation institutes while learning from experts in the British Education system. Opportunities to compare and contrast viewpoints and practice will abound.

In addition, we plan a guided tour of London, an evening theatre performance and personal time to explore such places as Hyde Park, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace with the changing of the guard, St. Paul's Cathedral, the many art galleries, Harrods' department store and other unique sites in the city of London.

Credits:
Participants enroll for three credits of Education 370/570 offered, pending approval.

Application Deadline for application is December 1, 2007. Request an application form from UWSP International Programs or from JoAnne Katzmarek (CPS 472) directly. Return the form to UWSP International Programs with a $250 (non-refundable) deposit. The group is limited to 16 total participants, 15 students and one leader. Applications are processed in the order they are received.

For further information: JoAnne Katzmarek, Associate Professor of Education and Programme Leader, CPS 472, 715/346-3292, jkatzmar@uwsp.edu

OR

UWSP International Programs, Room 108 Collins Classroom Center, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481 USA
Tel (715) 346-2777, Fax (715) 346-3599
intprog@uwsp.edu www.uwsp.edu/studyoabroad
On newsstands now...Jonah Hex #23

Andrew Dallman  ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

If you are looking for something a bit out of the ordinary to add to your monthly reading selections, consider the DC comic book western "Jonah Hex." This character made his first appearance in the June/July 1972 edition of "Weird Western Tales" and has been a popular fixture of the DC universe ever since. His popularity led to his current series, which launched 23 months ago.

The current issue's story was written by Justin Gray and Jimmy Palmiotti and features art by Jordi Bernet. Issue 23 chronicles Hex's journey through Apache country while serving as a guide for a Chicago newspaper photographer and his three companions. Along the way, Hex introduces the bookish photographer to the realities of American expansionism and its effects on the Apache, who are being driven farther and farther from their traditional tribal lands and into conflict with the neighboring Kiowa tribesmen.

Future of the Left is easy to love

Zachary Krogman  ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

It is depressingly rare that an album comes out that seems so easy. It's not like the band did anything special. The musicians rock out, threw in some catchy hooks and infected it with some smile-inducing wit. Unfortunately, this hasn't happened. Since System of a Down stopped caring about their albums, finally, mercifully, Future of the Left dropped "Curses" and gave us rock that's easy to love.

"Curses" is snotty, crunchy, and fun as hell. Every song could exist on an island, yet they each reference one another enough to make listening from beginning to end a necessity. Singer Andrew Falkous fits into the sonic landscape perfectly, and Future of the Left make the most of his versatile and sly delivery. Exhibit A is the ridiculously catchy "Manchess," which showcases Falkous's delivery and demonstrates the tightness of Future of the Left's sound. The song has three distinct parts, all blended together into less than four-minutes of runtime. Each part is fully explored and blends into the others perfectly. If there is one song on this album that represents the whole, it's "Real Men Fit in Packs." The title makes the band's savage wit and preocupation with violence obvious. The camouflaged guitars reveal the brutality of the sound, but the introduction of a piano hook halfway through the song shows the band's tuneful side. It creeps in and makes their sound playful and addictive. Finally, it shows Falkous's delivery at its best, as he throws out lines like "38 minutes in a chicken's nightmare" with the appropriate venom before unleashing the malice on the chorus. It's also the best song on an album filled with songs that are all vying for that distinction.

If "Curses" has a weakness, it's that it makes itself too loved too quickly. The album doesn't grow on listeners; they will love it on the first time through. There's nothing to explore, just immediate awesomeness. Unfortunately, this bodes poorly for continued shelf-life and "Curses" clocks in under 40 minutes. Still, it's hard to hold short play-time against them. Once the album is worn out the first time, it will certainly be worth coming back to. Future of the Left has done what precious few bands can—they bunched out 14 fantastic songs, packaged them together perfectly and made it seem like they didn't even break a sweat. All the listener can do is surrender and enjoy.

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Katie's Curiosities: Seeing socks, or the tall and short of Wilco

Katie Adams  
Arts & Review Reporter

Throughout grade school, I was tall. No, I was not just tall; I was a giant. On picture day, I was always at the end of the height-ordered line (Incidentally, it was the only time that I, with the last name Adams, was ever at the end of the line). I often looked like I was a middle schooler hanging out with second graders because my friends were so much shorter than me. In fifth grade, I was taller than my teacher and had to suffer her endless jokes about having to walk on my knees so she wouldn’t be shorter than her students. Needless to say, I hated being tall with a passion that ran deep in my veins. And then, one crisp fall day during my freshman year as I walked along the sidewalk of Historic Downtown Stevens Point, I came to an astonishing realization: I am short. I am not just of average height. I am actually short. Somewhere along the way, I stopped growing, while the people around me didn’t. All that time I had figured I was tall, just because I had been tall once upon a time. My joy at this revelation was immeasurable.

For three years now I have reveled in being short. I take great pride in the fact that I can identify each of my friends by their nostrils. I love that I have to move the seat forward every time I drive someone else’s car, causing them to squeeze into a little ball in attempt to fit their limbs inside the next time they get into the driver’s seat. I love that I never have to duck under light fixtures or doorways. I have never once in the past three years regretted being short, nor have I held it against others for being tall.

That said, I decided last Tuesday night that tall people are the bane of my existence. "Why," you may ask, "after so much love for tall people and the fact that you are short have you come to such a rash conclusion, Katie?" Well, my friends, it comes down to this: last Monday night I saw a fantastic Regina Spektor concert. I stood at the back of a hot, crowded concert hall with my tall friend behind me so he wouldn’t block anyone’s view, and I could see everything clearly. Last Tuesday, I went to a Wilco concert at the same venue. Wilco fans are tall. Much taller than the young girls and hipsters that show up to see Regina Spektor. So tall, in fact, that I had to stand at the back of the concert hall on the stairs in order to see what was happening onstage. My friends, being tall themselves, crowded up to the front of the audience and were even able to see the red socks of Nels Cline, fantastic European guitarist.

Because I couldn’t see much, I spent much of the concert daydreaming about ways to make the tall pay for their height. For instance, with my new rules, all concert-goers must stand in a height-ordered line progressing from short folks near the stage to tall folks at the back of the hall.

When I was able to see, the concert itself was amazing—there were three encores, and Jeff Tweedy told us that the longer we clapped in time to the music, the longer the band would keep playing. I must tell you, though, even if the concert is amazing, with three hours of fantastic alternative music, smashing guitar solos, and even a non-miked acoustic guitar solo of “Someone Else’s Song” played by the one and only Tweedy, it is not incredibly exciting to watch a concert alone. Of course, I use the term “alone” loosely, standing on the steps with me were dozens of other short people, all reduced to peering over the heads of the tall while trying to catch a glimpse of Cline’s red socks. So please, tall folks, I beg of you: be considerate of the short people who attend concerts with you. I know you don’t even see us when you look straight ahead, but don’t forget that all we see is the back of your shirt. All we want to see is Cline’s red socks.

Download revolutions with Radiohead’s “In Rainbows”

Scott Hintz  
Arts & Review Reporter

It’s been nearly four years since we’ve heard from Radiohead, arguably one of the best bands the world has ever seen. Radiohead has tirelessly striven to create music that was previously believed to be impossible, similar to a few fellow British bands you may be familiar with. However, while the greatness of pioneers like the Beatles and Pink Floyd remains largely unchallenged, Radiohead faces constant criticism. Their music is and has been presented to an audience dominated by cynical critics and jaded music elitists not willing to shell out money for a product that takes a considerable amount of time to create, much more so than the mass-produced pop music that typically flies off the Wal-Mart shelves. The release of Radiohead’s latest effort, “In Rainbows,” is much more fascinating.

Rather than release their album traditionally through a record label that absorbs much of the profit and cares little about the fans of the music, Radiohead decided to release their album via their bizarre homepage with a price that could pry guilt from almost any downloader’s conscience, “It’s up to you.” If you click on the message in disbelief, it reads, “No, really, it’s up to you.”

By leaving the price to the consumer, Radiohead not only satisfies the listener, but also helps countless bands and loyal fans gain knowledge as to how much the music is really worth to the majority of music consumers.

Considering that the hard copy is also being sold as a two-disc, two vinyl “disco” with material not on the download for a whopping 40 euro (81 US dollars), this gracious option would be pure marketing genius and nothing more if the product wasn’t fantastic.
Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide

Bitching and Moaning

Pat "Unbridled Rage" Rothfuss
With help from Galaxy Comics.

Dear Pat,

So, I have a friend. The problem is, whenever she talks, I want to punch her teeth in. She is undeniably the most sanctimonious and self-absorbed person I've ever met. I mean, you can't have a conversation with this chick. You can't get a word in edgeways. And if you do, whatever you say is immediately contradicted or has to be "topped" by how much better or worse her situation is.

Here's a generic example of one of our conversations:

Me: "Hey, how's it going?"
Friend: "Well, MY week was horrible! I had three tests!"

Me: "Really? I had a test, too. It was sort of hard, I guess..."

Friend: "WELL, I'm taking a graduate level class, which is probably about ten times more difficult than whatever you're worried about, and I'm bagging for about five minutes broken by brief silences allotted for me to express how impressed I must be."

Me: "I think...

Friend: "No, you don't understand, you see...complaining for 20 minutes punctuated by asser­tions by me that go along the lines of "That sucks. Wow. Oh.""

It's getting to the point where I'm considering just avoiding her completely. I feel like I need to say something if we're to continue the friendship, but if I did, it would get ugly. Ideally, I'd like to remain friends with her, because between bouts of bitching and moaning, she's actually a cool gal. What should I do?

Really Irritated Friend

Yeah. We all know someone like this. The person who is constantly in the middle of their own endless pity-party. Their classes are hard. Their dog is sick. Their boss is mean. Their mom's a bitch. Their boyfriend is thoughtless. Did they mention that their classes are hard...?

Here's a couple brief public service announcements for y'all:

1) If, right now, you're thinking, "I don't know anyone like that." You might be this person.

2) If your response to "How are you doing?" is to give a deep sigh and say, "Well, you know..." and then go into detail about everything that sucks in your life. You might be this person.

3) If your life sucks, fine. Keep it to yourself. Everyone else's life sucks too, but you don't hear us bitching endlessly about it, do you? Rub some dirt on it and get back in the game.

The key to lasting friendships is finding people with the right sort of problems.

Take me for example. I'm profoundly self-obsessed. But it's not such a bad thing because my megalomania is amusing. My problem actually serves to entertain you. Everyone wins.

Now another example... hmmmm... Let's pick, just at random, you. Based on the fact that you sent a letter to be published in the school paper rather than confront your friend directly, I expect that your problem, RIF, is that you have passive aggressive tendencies. Passive aggression is pretty neutral in terms of personality quirks. Sure you might be avoidance-based and snarky, but odds are you're not going to start any fights, either. So it kinda balances out.

Your friend, unfortunately, seems to have hit the suck-lottery of problems: self-obsessed, negative, AND boring. That's the trifecta of unappealing personality quirks. Oh man, you said she's a topper, too, didn't you? Geeh. That's about as bad as it gets. While it's hard to be around, I can't imagine if it's much fun from her side either.

How can you help her? Boy, RIF, all kidding aside, I really don't know an easy-bake solution for this.

It all comes down to WHY she's doing it. My ha'penny guess would be that a person who fixes on the negatives in her life probably feels as if it's the only way they can get comfort and positive attention. We all want love, RIF, but sometimes love is in short supply. That means people get hooked on love substitutes, like sympathy or pity. If that goes on long enough, they forget there's better options.

If you're lucky, it's just a bad habit your friend has fallen into. She'll need someone to bring it to her attention, though. First that she's doing it, and second, that it's annoying as hell.

But the cynic in me guesses that this is more than just a bad habit. It's pretty likely that your friend might have some self-esteem issues, too. These things tend to go hand in hand. Either way you probably need to confront her. Remember, gentler is better. Odds are you're right, and it's going to be ugly. She's not going to thank you for it. But it might be something she needs to hear. And if she doesn't thank you now, she'll thank you later.

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, RIF will be getting a gift certificate to Galaxy Comics. I expect RIF will use the allure of free stuff to make amends with the topper friend she will soon be having a difficult talk with. Either that, or RIF will realize the truth: if you have enough comic books, you really don't need friends. Galaxy Comics is on 925 Clark Street. Or give them a ring at 544-0857.
Dear Editor,

Within the next week a serious attempt may be made to erode students' rights across the UW system, and students here at The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point need to be involved in preventing this restrictive action. Currently students have the legal right to distribute student funds (segregated fees) as they see necessary and beneficial. Now this right is being challenged, and we the students here at The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point venting this restrictive action.

Currently students have the legal right to distribute student funds (segregated fees) to erode students' rights across the UW system, and we the student funds (segregated fees) to erode students' rights across the UW system, and we the

A committee is meeting to review the system wide segregated fee policy, and certain administrators on the committee are attempting to restrict ability to fund office space, non-university staff and organizational operating expenses. Regardless of how one feels about those particular expenditures, it should be understood that students are in the best position to know what activities students want, and should therefore have full flexibility to meet student needs through the segregated fee process, by distributing and allocating student funds. These restrictions would be detrimental to students' rights, set a dangerous precedent regarding shared governance in general, and there are serious direct implications for individual groups here on the UW-SP campus. For instance the 90 FM radio station has a paid non-university staff member working as a sound technician; if these limitations are enacted the staff member will no longer be able to be funded, and the entire future of the radio station will be put in jeopardy. This is just one example, and other organizations like CRU, Student Government Association and WISPIRG have all seen the threat of this issue and are not tolerating the erosion of long established students' rights. They've made their voices heard. Pointers, now it's your turn! Talk to the organizations you belong to and let them know you care about students' rights to control student funds. Get your president on board and send off a group e-mail of support to our SGA president, Justin Glodowski, jg1670@uwsp.edu. Please take this opportunity to stand up and fight the good fight. We need your support. We need your action.

Passionately,
Sara Polodra

A woman's intuition: Stop baby what's that sound?

There was a rally on Tuesday. Did you know? No? Really, that's interesting because it was all over campus. Plastered on walls, talked about on Facebook... pretty much shouted from the rooftops of Old Main's window. Do you know what that sound was? In case you were wondering, it was about how our segregated fees are being spent and who gets to decide how to spend them. Now, I don't need to tell you all that college is expensive. We know! We look at our bank statements and cringe one day that slip of paper that you might have noticed that direct deposit statement that says your student aid is being deposited. Do you know what parts of your life are covered by your student aid? I would imagine that it would be important enough to make time for.

It was at 2 p.m. in the afternoon, but, again, it seems like something that would be important enough to make time for. You heard about a movement that may possibly jeopardize our state. Do you know what the rally was about? In case you were wondering, it was about how our segregated fees are being spent and who gets to decide how to spend them. Now, I don't need to tell you all that college is expensive. We know! We look at our bank statements and cringe one day that slip of paper that you might have noticed that direct deposit statement that says your student aid is being deposited. Do you know what parts of your life are covered by your student aid? I would imagine that it would be important enough to make time for.

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Comics

Resident’s Evil

Joy Ratchman

FIRE@WILL

Paul Johnson

Muse

Ryan Tidball

Neverland

Lo Shim

Kenanime

Roger Vang

Little Cynics

Joy Ratchman

I CAN’T BELIEVE SHE’S WEARING LAST SEASONS COAT.

Funny When Drunk

Scott Allen

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

Contact Joy Ratchman

at jratc567@uwsp.edu
to find out how
to submit your comics to
THE POINTER!
Captions

What is going on in this photo? Create your own caption for this photo and send it to us at pointer@uwsp.edu by Tuesday night. Catch the winning caption in next week’s issue of The Pointer. Winning submission will receive a prize!

Last week’s winner...

It even puts you to sleep outside of the classroom.
—Ben Whitman, The Pointer

Classifieds

Get ready, daylight savings time ends soon!

so...
don’t forget to change your clocks back onSunday, November4 @ 2 a.m.

although changing your clocks before bed will work just fine