Focus the Nation

UW-SP participates, as one of more than 1,000 campuses, in nation's largest teach-in

Katie Leb
The Pointer
KLEB524@uwsP.EDU

Wisconsin’s weather, as of late, has been plagued with sporadic spurts of melting snow followed by freezing rain. Forecasters have varied justifications for this, including global warming. In recent years a more conscious effort has been put forth to develop alternative energy resources aimed at educating and creating dialogue among people and prevent further damage to the environment.

An example of such an effort is Focus the Nation, the country’s largest teach-in aimed at educating and creating dialogue among people to generate global warming solutions. During the two day period, Jan. 30 and 31, over 1,000 campuses planned activities focused on educating and inspiring civic engagement about global warming.

On the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus, members of Student Government Association and Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group led activities which included a showing of "Revolution Green: A True Story of Biodiesel in America" and a student led forum in The Encore. WISPIRG member Ellie Jackson and SGA Environmental Issues Director Colleen Kiefer developed events for UW-SP with specific goals in mind.

"Because Focus the Nation was also a teach-in throughout the university, the idea was throughout the day to integrate climate change into students’ minds in more ways than that it is just science based,” said Kiefer. "It’s showing students that are in different realms of education...how it applied to them.”

The forum allowed students of all majors to share with their fellow campus members thoughts and feelings about the environment. Students spoke on a variety of issues influencing the environment by reading excerpts from stories, speeches and poems. Student Pete Raisden, shared his poem “Four Cows” with the audience. The poem reflected his thoughts about the effects of climate change brought on by agriculture, and the steps that he believes should be taken for how cows are treated.

In addition to the forum, many activities were going on across campus within classrooms in an effort to support the event.

"There were tons of people talking about professors who had never contacted me who were doing it in their classrooms that day,” said Kiefer. "We got a lot of people signed up to start working on issues.”

Some of the main issues include fighting for UW-SP to get green building certification for all of its structures and making the campus energy independent. To achieve this Kiefer said students need to voice their opinions and stand up for what they believe in.

Many students may think their opinion does not matter, and that the issue cannot be solved by an individual. But, Focus the Nation participant Katie Kloth disagrees.

“It’s not just making big changes, it’s doing one little thing at a time,” said Kloth.

Lecturer brings Martin Luther King Jr, and his message, back to life

Jessica Spengler
The Pointer
JSPEN826@uwsP.EDU

Even in today’s world, the mention of Martin Luther King Jr. will bring in a crowd. The Theater in the Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center quickly filled with eager students Friday, Feb. 1, for King expert and impersonator, Barry Scott.

Scott delivered a powerful lecture, centering on the influence Dr. King had in his own life, from his first time hearing King’s “I Have a Dream” speech in early childhood, to the same speech and its influence on him after a frightening experience of racism as a teenager.

Scott’s belief that the power of Dr. King’s words still hold today was the message most strongly brought forth.

"I’m bringing you this tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. because I feel it is vitally important to you. I believe that perhaps his philosophy is more important to us in the world today, more important than it was 40 years ago," said Scott.

Taking excerpts from four of Dr. King’s original speeches, Barry’s experience as a voice over artist was apparent.

See Lecturer pg. 2
Just as with Dr. King, Scott's emotional depiction of the civil rights leader was invigorating. There was little movement from the audience as all eyes and ears belonged to him.

"It was very moving, I felt like I was there at the actual speech," said senior Lindsey Stanton. "I almost started crying. I can't even describe it. It was just phenomenal."

From King's infamous "I have a dream" speech, an excerpt from "Letters from Birmingham," to a lesser known speech directed to the unborn children to come after his time, Scott used these speeches to convey a message to the people in the crowd.

"While the dreamer was killed, the dream still lives on, it lives on in me, and it lives on in you. But this is what I think, this is what I feel, this is what I believe," Scott said.

What do you think, what do you feel? What do you believe? And does it really matter? Scott asked these questions to the crowd, and much to the dismay of many bill members, picked people to answer the questions.

Crowd responses ranged from problems with the country to complementing Scott on the power of his speech, as well as comments about Dr. King and his impact as it relates to today.

Overall, those in attendance were impressed with Scott, and that his message was something everyone can learn from.

Very powerful and enlightening," said Hines. "I feel like this is something that we need in this current time. I feel like his message would not only enlighten college students, I think he needs to do this at a K-12 level. They are our future."

Scott's lecture, sponsored by Centerentainment, was part of the six-week grand reopening event of the Dreyfus University Center.

Pointers for Life kickoff the semester with rally

Sara Suchy
The Pointer
SSUCH489@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point played host to a pro-life rally that brought together over 150 people from various pro-life groups around Stevens Point in recognition of the National Right to Life week, two weeks ago.

The event included a walk from the Guardian Angel Cemetery to the Dreyfus University Center where Olivia Gans from the National Right to Life Council in Washington D.C. spoke to the crowd about the right to life issues facing the country in light of the 2008 presidential elections as well as what her organization is all about.

"What we [the National Right to Life Council] try to do is open up a dialogue with these women facing an unplanned pregnancy that gives her all the information and doesn't insult her intelligence," said Gans. "Many times when women come to us, there are a variety of issues she is facing in her life, not just the unplanned pregnancy...many women believe that abortion is their only option and that's just not true."

The Pointers for Life plan on having the event next year, but in the mean time, they will be very busy.

"We have a number of events going on this semester," said Jackie Krzykowski, president of the UWSP Pointers for Life.

The Pointers for Life will be hosting a rose/bake sale in the DUC Feb. 14, present two guest speakers on April 1 and display "The Cemetery of the Innocents" by the HEC on April 30 along with a number of other events.

For more information on the Pointers For Life events or to get involved in the organization e-mail Krzykowski at jkzky529@uwsp.edu or visit the Pointers for Life online at https://www.uwsp.edu/storg/pfl.

EDITORIAL POLICIES

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

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

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

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

Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.
Student Law Enforcement to host fishing derby

Rick LaRoche
THE Pointer
MLA9@uwsp.edu

This Saturday, Feb. 9, will be the Student Law Enforcement Association's fifth annual ice fishing derby. The event is the organization's only fundraiser of the year.

For the second year in a row, the derby will be held on McDill Pond where SLEA is expecting a good turn out. "I am expecting 50-plus people to head out," said Wippermann.

The event is going to be similar to past years. The biggest fish of the hour will be announced live, and prizes will be given out at the end of the day. "We will be giving out prizes for the biggest catch of each species and overall prizes as well," Wippermann said. Prizes range from new fishing gear, hunting supplies and gift certificates to places all over town.

All proceeds collected at the event go into the student organization's fund to support the classes and events that SLEA holds throughout the year. "We offer all sorts of classes and awareness courses," said Wippermann. "Members can participate in boaters' safety courses, all-terrain-vehicle safety, snowmobile safety and a variety of hunting and bow hunting classes."

"We really want people to get out and have a good time and enjoy the resources we have right here," added SLEA secretary Logan Cannon. The derby kicks off at 8:00 a.m., and all fish are due in by 3:00 p.m. when prizes will be awarded. McDill Pond is located between Stevens Point and Plover right on Business 51.

Tickets for the event are three for $10 if you order ahead of time, or $5 each the day of the derby. To purchase advanced tickets contact Chad Wippermann at cwigs343@uwsp.edu or Logan Cannon at lvis149@uwsp.edu by Friday evening.

Students, families experience winter fun at CWEStival

Gregg Jennings
OUTDOORS REPORTER

Central Wisconsin Environmental Station had their Winter CWEStival this past weekend. It ran from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2. The cost was $2.00 for individuals and $10.00 for families. There were five different activities winter revelers could participate in.

The initial activity, fire-starting, involved showing how to construct a teepee of dry sticks of various sizes gathered from the forest to get a fire going quickly. They further demonstrated how a person could use dry stinging nettle stalk and other natural materials as tinder to catch the hot coal produced by the bow drill. Participants were instructed to place some birch bark and cat-tail down in the nest made of twine fiber made by a CWES volunteer. The demonstration concluded with an authentic bow drill-produced fire. After about 30 seconds of friction, smoke began to curl up from the fire board. Demonstrators also showed how to use a piece of flint and steel to strike sparks into a nest of tinder that burst into flames almost immediately.

All the participants were then invited to try their hand at starting a fire with a bow drill, and nearly all the participants eagerly made attempts. There were numerous successes of fire starting with the flint and steel followed by shouts of joy every time someone ignited their firestarter nest.

Ginamaria Javurek, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate student gave a presentation with Archimedes, a great horned owl. Javurek explained how owls are raptors and how their ears are asymmetrical in order to triangulate on their prey adding that if humans had eyes like great horned owls they would be as big as tennis balls.

Contrary to how they're inaccurately portrayed in cartoons and movies, owls can move their heads only 270 degrees and not all the way around. However, 270 degrees is still substantial range of movement. Owls have special feathers that make them quiet so they can catch their prey without a sound. The ear tufts on great horned owls serve to mask the noise of the shafts of air moving through their ears. The ears are asymmetrical in order to triangulate on their prey adding that if humans had ears like great horned owls they would be as big as tennis balls.

With their compasses and directions the crew went out into the snowscape to find five buried boxes. They recorded the letters found in the boxes, I, H, C, A, N, and then unscrambled them to spell out the name of the place that the compass was invented and first used, which was China. Pencils, books of stickers, hemp key chains, candy, nature books and other treasures were bestowed on the successful treasure hunters.

A few families enjoyed the CWES forest trails on hikes with aluminum snowshoes. The easy hike was on flat terrain-vehicle safety, snowmobile safety and a variety of hunting and bow hunting classes. The easy hike was on flat ground on trails that wound and the more advanced hike took the winter revelers up and down a hill, cross-country and even out onto a lake. The winter classes lasted about 50 minutes each with a 10 minute break between.

During the breaks, hot chocolate, cookies, bags of popcorn and coffee awaited the bold souls in the Sunset Lodge with a fire in the fireplace. There was an area in the Lodge for children to work on various crafts too. The object of the winter festival was to show human hibernators that winter is a time for outdoor fun.

For future CWES events visit their Web site at http://www.uwsp.edu/CNR/cwes/.

Like Disc Golfing? 
Sign up for the Snow Throw Massacre II at Vulga!

Contact Ian Goldberg, ian.goldberg@uwsp.edu for more info!

http://pointer.uwsp.edu

February 7, 2008 • 3
A healthy alternative at the DUC

Ashley Schlosser
The Pointer
ASHL336@UWSP.EDU

Home Grown Cafe at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has an alternative direction to offer its students. Within the lobby of the Dreyfus University Center, this cafe offers all organic food.

To satisfy the growing demand for crops and animals, producers have had to resort to using pesticides to control disease and insect attack. This makes the producers rich, but it's definitely not good for your health. According to www.organicfoodinfo.net, "if you consumed an average apple, you would be eating over 30 pesticides, even after you have washed it." But the alternative is promising. Organic foods contain 50 percent more nutrients, minerals and vitamins than produce that has been farmed with extra contents.

Organic foods have different production standards for crops and animals. Organic crops are grown without the use of pesticides, artificial fertilizers or sewage sludge, and processed without ionizing radiation or food additives. For animals, no antibiotics and growth hormones are used. Processed organic food contains only organic ingredients or at least a minimum percentage of the plant and animal ingredients must be organic. The minimum percentage in the United States is 95 percent.

The Home Grown Cafe offers such organic foods as yogurt, salads, sandwiches, a variety of snack bars, muffins, vegetables, fruit, and fruit leather. Organic beverages include coffee, smoothies, soda and energy drinks.

Students already seem to enjoy this cafe.

"I like it because it's healthier and you get more opportunities to try new things because you don't get that kind of stuff everywhere," said Jennifer Zeinert, a math major at UW-SP.

"I'm addicted to the fruit leathers," said Rachel Peeters, an art major at UW-SP.

Next time you are passing through the DUC, get happy and healthy with organic items at the Home Grown Cafe.

Halitosis Detector

For the low price of $10.00, just about anyone can afford to purchase this handy device. To get yours, visit restorationhardware.com. Two AAA batteries sold separately.

SUMMER IN MAINE

Meet new friends! Travell to the lower level of the Allen Center. Come to Outdoor EdVentures today and buy a Nalgene and get the second one half off! Outdoor EdVentures is open from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Friday's from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Try a free Pilates class with a certified instructor on Tuesday, Feb. 12 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Enrollment is limited to 25 participants, so stop by the Cardio Center front desk in the Allen Center and sign up today! For free workouts stop by the Cardio Center on Thursdays between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. with a valid photo ID. If you can't make it on Thursdays come on Friday's between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

For additional events happening at the Allen Center check out g2allen.com

Sea Sponge

Scientists at Northwestern University have synthesized a natural molecule from deep-sea sponges like the one pictured at left. The molecules come from the sponges' use of cell-killing chemicals which protect them from predators. Researchers believe the synthesis of this molecule could be useful in developing better drugs for fighting cancer.
Sociology department prof to lead study abroad opportunity

Stephen Montgomery
Pointlife Reporter

This July, UWSP students will have the chance to explore England and Scotland and learn about British society and culture while receiving 3 credits in the process. The trip, which is lead by Dr. Wolensky, is scheduled for July 10 through July 26.

"As an undergraduate, this is the best time to see the world," said Dr. Wolensky. Students will spend 17 days in England and Scotland studying issues revolving around urban sociology and focus on topics including urbanization patterns, land use, environmental integrity, urban sprawl and city planning.

Cities visited will include Edinburgh, Newcastle, Ambleside, York, and London. Along the way, students will have the chance to hike along Hadrian's Wall, which separates England from Scotland and second in length only to the Great Wall of China, visit the city of Milton Keynes, a government planned city, and explore the London Museum.

Aside from being a great learning experience, this is also a great way to see Britain, and also a great way academically to see how another society works, said Wolensky. "International studies broadens people's horizons. It allows you to compare your society to another's, and in comparison there is knowledge."

Stephanie Hermen who participated in a summer internship in London said it was the best summer of her life. "Amazing," is how she describes her time in England and says that it is a place worth seeing. "It was definitely worth the money."

Becca Weinhold, who works at International Programs and also participated in a semester abroad in England, said that "you have to look beyond the price and look at what you will gain as a person."

"This is not a trip for just sociology students; it is open to anyone. "It helps if you had soc. 101, but that is not required," said Wolensky. For Dr. Wolensky, this will be his 10th study abroad trip. He has led five semester trips to Britain, Poland, Germany and Australia. He has also led three short-term trips to Britain, China, and Italy, and bike tour in Ireland.

The tentative cost for the trip is around $4,000 to $4,500, however partial scholarships are available. "On a $4,000 trip, a person could have 20 to 25 percent covered," said Wolensky. There is also grant money available based on financial need and scholarship money based on academic achievement.

Any student interested in the trip should contact the International Programs office located in the Collins Classroom Center. The trip is limited 20 people and requires a $250 non-refundable deposit.
Jammin’ with Jimmie Linville at the Brewhaus

Avra J. Juhnke
THE POINTER
AJUHN2@UWSP.EDU

The intimacy of the Basement Brewhaus here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will be a perfect place for Jimmie Linville to exemplify his “bunch-of-effects place for Jimmie Linville active,” said Linville. “I tell stories.” He said he may even bring audience members on stage to ask them questions. Linville has been playing since he was 18 years old. “I got addicted pretty quickly,” said Linville.

He started practicing everyday and began performing when he was 19 years old with another musician, Matt Holmen. They called themselves ‘Thick as Thieves.’ The music produced by these two can still be found on MySpace. Holmen is now a guitar player for We the Living, formally known as The Profits. Playing with Holmen has enabled him to acquire familiarity with performing. Linville said it is best to “learn through experience.”

Linville is “infinitely curious” when talking about other instruments. He said he can also play the banjo, ukulele, jembe, blues harmonica, bass and piano. During his show, Linville will primarily be playing his guitar, “jazz[ing] up” his solos. Audience members may be surprised to find that the trumpet sound heard underneath the guitar riffs is actually Linville. He does this strictly with his lips and mouth.

He articulately described his personal sound as “what comes out when I pick up a guitar,” with a laugh. His influences include classic singers/songwriters such as Bob Dylan and John Mayer. Linville even claimed he is “rather [a] derivative of John Mayer.” He can be heard online on MySpace at www.myspace.com/jimmielinville. Check out other progressing performers at the Basement Brewhaus every Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to enjoy great music, snacks and drink specials. March 7 is the last show date in this series.

Guitarist Jimmie Linville brings his musical talents to the Brewhaus Feb. 8.

Primarily Primaries: Election 2008

The United States’ foreign policy, regarding Iraq, has caused a great deal of debate among politicians and citizens. What is being done by your party to resolve the debate?

College Republicans - Ryan Wrasse

Despite what some would like to believe, the United States of America is succeeding in the War in Iraq. No, it hasn’t been easy and no, we aren’t finished yet; however, the remarkable progress that we have seen over the past year is hard to deny. The success is so hard to deny that even key Democratic leaders have admitted that the troop surge is working.

Representative John Murtha, leader of the House anti-war caucus, noted after a trip to Iraq, “I think the surge is working.”

While speaking to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Senator Hillary Clinton stated, “We’ve begun to change tactics in Iraq, and in some areas, particularly in Al Anbar province, it’s working.”

The debate is no longer whether we should have gone to Iraq or not – the debate has now focused on the future of Iraq and its people. A quick and complete withdrawal from Iraq would certainly open the door for more violence and oppression. The United States must fulfill its commitment to the Iraqi people and to the region – we will not cut and run, and we will not leave until our job is complete.

According to White House sources:

- Monthly attack levels are down by 60 percent since June of 2007.
- Civilian deaths are down 75 percent from last year at this time.
- From January to December 2007, ethnic-sectarian attacks and deaths have decreased by 90 percent in the Baghdad security districts.
- Coalition forces cleared nearly 7,000 weapons caches in 2007 – double what they cleared in 2006.
- Iraqi forces have now taken control of nine of the 18 Iraqi provinces.
- The Iraqi security forces grew from 100,000 to 500,000 in 2007.
- Inflation has decreased by 57 percent.
- The Iraqi government reached its 2007 target of $30.2 billion in budget revenue.

What is success? When the Iraqi people can finally stand up and defend their country and protect their citizens. I am a strong believer that freedom works...

The alternatives to not fighting the ongoing War on Terror are clear, as former Congressman Bob McEwen always says, “We can fight them in Boston or Baghdad, and the choice is ours.”

College Democrats - Saul Newton

Iraq has been, and will continue to be, a major factor in politics as it affects so many people. After the 2006 election which Democrats took control in the House and Senate, there were thousands of more troops to patrol a civil war. The troop surge has brought devastating consequences upon our troops. Last year, was the deadliest year so far for American troops, and one year after the troop surge began, the Iraq government is just as weak now as it was then.

Because Iraq is such a hot topic, the presidential candidates are naturally making their views well known. Senator Obama has a history of opposing the war. He has been a strong critic from the start. In January of 2007, he introduced the Iraq War De-escalation Act of 2007 which would stop President Bush’s planned increase of 21,500 troops and begin a phased deployment of troops, planning to remove all combat forces by March 31 of this year. His Web site states that as president he would remove one to two combat brigades a month and have all of them out within 16 months. He plans to use diplomacy to get the Iraqi leaders to come together and take responsibility for their country and continue diplomatic relations.

Senator Clinton has a similar three-step plan. She plans on starting a phased withdrawal her first day in office if elected. Clinton plans on stabilizing Iraq by directing aid towards who­ever would get it to the Iraqi people. She would like to appoint a high level U.N. representative to help bring peace between the Iraqi parties. Like Obama, she plans on having intense diplomatic relations in the region.

This question is of utmost importance. Who can keep our country safe as President? The war in Iraq is making us less safe by the day. Once again, we have a clear difference between leaders who would end the war in Iraq responsibly, and individuals who will continue us on the same track from which we can. You can have a president that would make this country safer, or one that puts our troops lives in jeopardy by keeping them as media­tors in a civil war. Where are their priorities?

Compiled by Katie Lcb
Two students perform a song from the musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

A student artist displays the "skirt" beneath the outer layers of her dress in the wearable sculpture fashion show.

Patrons of Art Bash were encouraged to wear "creative attire." Here, four patrons examine a work of student art.

Student volunteers staffed the event. They counted the number of patrons entering the gallery, served food and beverages, and worked the sound and lights.

The performances opened with a stretching-ropes-inspired dance by students from the Department of Theater and Dance.

Two student artists prepare for the wearable sculpture fashion show.

Students from theater and dance volunteered to wear other students’ creations.
Fresh from the presses: the English department's much acclaimed latest addition

Jessica Spengler
THE POINTER
jspengler26@uwsp.edu

Professor Ben Percy, assistant professor of English, once dreamed of a career in archeology where rolling boulders, beautiful women and Nazis around every corner would give him a life of great fulfillment and happiness. After two long summers of intense heat, grid digs and adventures, the fantasy wore off, and Percy decided that he could put his imagination to better use. "I started to realize that a life of the mind, a life of fantasy that I was already living, was in fact my strength," said Percy.

Encouraged by his, wife, Lisa (his girlfriend at the time), Percy began taking creative writing courses at Brown University and found that he enjoyed them. Soon after, he started submitting work to any magazine he could. Although he received mainly rejections, the experience invigorated him. "I was submitting to magazines way out of my league, such as 'The New Yorker' and received very kind rejection letters, so that stoked the fire," said Percy.

During his first year of graduate school at the University of Southern Illinois, Percy sold his first story to "The Mississippi Review," a journal published twice a year by the Center for Writers at the University of Southern Mississippi. The sale gave him a bit of relief from career anxieties.

"It's scary when you pursue an MFA in creative writing," Percy said. "I was told my first day of graduate school that we had a better chance of making it as a professional baseball player than a professional fiction writer...That first publication was incredibly gratifying because I thought, 'maybe I can do this.'"

He was relieved for other reasons as well.

"Having dragged my wife halfway across the country, I figured I sure as hell better deliver. I felt an obligation to her," said Percy.

It was also during his years as a graduate student that Percy discovered his love of teaching. "As part of every graduate experience in creative writing, you teach even as you take classes. I began teaching and found that I enjoyed it very much," Percy said. "It made me become a better writer because it forced me to look at different books. By reading and critiquing others' writing, I had a lot of breakthroughs. It became a natural compliment to my own writing."

Upon receiving his MFA, Percy was hired as a visiting professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee. He taught there for three years before coming to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He currently teaches English 101, Creative Writing (Fiction) and Novel Writing.

Throughout his teaching he has continued to write, mostly short stories set in the small communities of his home state of Oregon. His most recent publication, "Refresh, Refresh," is a book of short stories surrounding the war in Iraq, not necessarily of soldiers' experiences in the Middle East, but of how the war affects those back home.

"There's a curious situation as a writer, how you are permitted to write about wizards, knights in shining armor and astronauts even if the experience does not belong to you. To write a war story, you have to have the frontline experience to write with credibility," said Percy. "I knew I couldn't write about sand dunes and desert camis and scorpions the size of your fist, so instead I wrote about the war at home, and the way that there's a battleground here as well."

The title of the book was inspired by a news article Percy read about a small town in Ohio that lost more than a half dozen men in one night to the war in Iraq. He imagined what kind of cavity the tragedy may have opened up and wanted to portray what he thought the hole may be.

"He was, however, wary that his work might be perceived as preaching," said Percy.

"I wrote a story about a political subject, but not in the traditional sense," said Percy. "I didn't want to come across as an 'after school special.' I wanted it to say, 'this is war.'"

Because of his lack of taking a stance, Percy has been criticized and commended by both liberals and conservatives for either being too much or just the right amount of another. Percy finds this fact encouraging.

"If you please everybody and piss off everybody, I guess you're doing something right," he said.

Percy is definitely pleasing the critics. The short story "Refresh, Refresh" has been published in the 2005 "Paris Review," as well as "Best American Short Stories," a publication that chooses only 20 stories from a pile of thousands. In the world of short stories, publication in "Best American Short Stories" is equal to receiving an Academy Award.

Other awards that Percy has received include the 2007 $10,000 Plimpton Prize given by the "Paris Review," the 2007 Pushcart Prize Fellowship, and his first book, "The Language of Elk," another book of short stories, was short-listed by the Carnegie Mellon University Press for the prize in 2006. His works have also been read at the Symphony Space in New York, an exciting opportunity for Percy.

"It was one of those completely gratifying experiences. I was able to hear people react, hear them gasp at certain points in the story. All I could think to myself was, 'it doesn't get any better than this,'" said Percy.

Percy's current projects include co-editing an anthology with Harvard Director of Creative Writing, Anthony Johnston, of-authoring a screen play based on "Refresh, Refresh," as well as helping to convert "Refresh, Refresh" into a graphic novel. He also recently finished another book of short stories and a novel that he is currently trying to sell.

Despite his busy career, Percy enjoys spending time with his wife and two-year-old son and feels strongly about his position at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"I'm really excited about the position I have here and have seen some excellent work from the student body so far. I look forward to my time here."
Young blood shows promise

Ashley Schlosser
The Pointer
Aesch336@uwsp.edu

With the 4x200-meter relay team with a 1:46.87 time, the distance medley ran for first in 13:42.72, and Angela Sheridan blew away opponents in shot put with a throw of 12.09 meters. Sheridan also placed fourth in the hammer throw with 14.29 meters.

"This is an extremely young team. About half of our roster right now is made up of freshmen," said Christina Peterson, the head women's track and field coach. "They are going to see a lot of growth in the next few years... However, we have a good little group of returners who have been doing a great job guiding the new people."

According to Coach Peterson, the Pointers are extremely dedicated, though some days "the only word that can describe them is just silly." Peterson believes her team should have a ton of fun while developing their athletic abilities.

"I really believe in trying new personal bests, and just like any other team, hopefully staying injury free."

To catch the UW-SP women's track team in action, attend the Pointer-hosted Eastbay Invitational meet this Friday and Saturday in the Multi-Activity Center here on campus.

White out
K.B. Willett Arena on Friday, Feb. 8th, 7:30 p.m. for the Pointer men's hockey game against St. Scholastica.

Wear white to support the Pointers in their last regular home games of the season.

Senior on the Spot
Eric Bath - Wrestling

Major: Sociology
Hometown: Pulaski, WI

Do you have any nicknames? Wheels, Ebay, EB.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? My favorite sports memory was having a teammate short right after weigh ins from cutting to much weight, and him having to wear the same jeans home. That all went down and taking third at nationals.

What is your most embarrassing sports moment? Getting splashed and pinned at Wisconsin Open.

Have any gameday rituals or superstitions? I don't eat oranges, they're bad luck.

Who is your sports hero? Brett Favre

What is your sport philosophy? My sports philosophy is to have no regrets when everything is over and to have fun.

Hoops stomps Blue Devils

Rochelle Nechuta
The Pointer
Rnec142@uwsp.edu

The Pointer men's basketball team disposed of the Blue Devils in an 86-58 win on Wednesday night at the Quandt Gym.

The first half ended with the Pointers leading UW-Stout by 10 points, and the second half was much of the same story. The Pointers fought and held the Blue Devils to only 25 points in the second half.

Pointers Steve Hicklin and Pete Rortevedt matched with 18 points each in the game. Hicklin made the 1,000 club already this semester during the UW-Eau Claire game on Jan. 23, while Rortevedt follows not far behind. He needs only four points to make it to a grand despite fighting injuries that have kept him on the bench now and again.

The Pointers are now 16-4-0 overall and have an 8-3-0 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference record after the conference game against UW-Stout.

Next up for the Pointers is a game in Superior against the Yellowjackets at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8.

UW-SP Athletes of the Week

Men's Basketball - Scott Hoezel
Women's Basketball - Chelsea Kranz
Men's Hockey - Thomas Speer
Women's Hockey - Katya Lankey
Men's Track Events - Keith Ingram
Men's Field Events - Derek Stone
Women's Track - 4 x 200-meter Relay Team
Liz Caine, Andrea Irvine, Erin Faller, Laura Simons
Women's Field Events - Angela Sheridan
Wrestling - Chase DeCreno

Sponsored by:
Welcome to the other side my friends! Birds are singing! Animals are cute and fuzzy! It's like being able to say the radio will never play "Hey There Delilah" ever again. Or Tom Cruise has vowed never to be heard from or seen ever again. It's been a few days, but the euphoria really hasn't dimmed in the least.

I suppose a thank you must go to the Giants. All season I hoped and prayed that the evil of the Patriots would be stopped with a soul-crushing loss. I dreamed I'd see Tom Brady knocked down again and again. These wonderful men from the Big Apple made these dreams a reality. God bless them. I'll never make a joke about Michael Strahan's teeth again.

I know that Tom Brady still got to go home to his multimillion dollar home to do nothing but collect fat checks and fornicate with Giselle for a few months. I'm not the least bit bitter though. I'll always have the satisfaction of knowing that on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008, Satan's minion probably sat down in the locked room and wept hot steaming tears of failure while Bill Belichick locked himself in his underground bunker and probably considered taking his own life.

But he knew in life or death, the Senate would get him.

In closing, thank you Giants. And thank you readers. It's been a lovely season with you. If you miss me terribly, send me a new idea via the Pointer. They'll know where to find me. Otherwise, I'll see you next season! That's all folks!

Think Pink

It's "Think Pink" night at the Berg Gymnasium when the Pointer women's basketball team takes on UW-Eau Claire on Wednesday, Feb. 13 in an attempt to raise breast cancer awareness. Wear pink!

Don't forget to register for your study abroad program for summer 2008 - because the world calls you and you just have to get out of Wisconsin!

Consider participating in these incredible study abroad opportunities:

I. The Nazis and the Holocaust: Germany, Austria, Poland and the Czech Republic
II. Art, Architecture & Design in Italy
III. Theatre in London
IV. Business Internships in China
V. Teach English in Japan
VI. Kilts, Kings & Castles: A Sociology Study-Tour of Britain
VII. Political Transformation in China
VIII. Intensive Spanish in Mexico
IX. Health Promotion & Wellness in Austria

Financial Aid Applies. Scholarships. All credits count!

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
Room 108 Collins Classroom Center
UW - Stevens Point, WI 54481 USA
TEL: 715-346-2717
intapro@uwsp.edu www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad

Application Deadline is February 15, 2008

Women's hockey wins another

The women's hockey team once again won another game bringing their overall record to an impressive 17-0-2.

The Pointers won 3-2 against Gustavus Adolphus College on Feb. 5 after a power play goal from UW-SP's Jamie Lewandowski.

Pointers Kelly Nelson started the action in the first period with a goal assisted by Katy Lankey and Michelle Swieszowski. In addition to the final goal, senior Nicole Grossman tallied a goal on a power play in the second.

Next up for the Pointers is a two game series in Superior on Feb. 8 and Feb. 9.

Men's track and field

The team is on the right track so far this season after winning a second consecutive invite. Placing first with 187.5 points, UW-SP beat their closest opponent, Aquinas College, by 100 points after winning seven of 19 invite events.

Pointers Keith Ingram won both the 55-meter dash with 6.52 seconds and the 200-meter dash with 22.63. Nick Ver Duin took the 600-meter run and the Pointers' 4x400-meter relay team also placed first. The Pointers swept the first four spots in the 3,000-meter run, with Travis Nechuta in first with his 8:28.61 time, Phil Richert in second, Dominick Meyer and George Carlson also placing.

The team also did well on the field when Derek Stone placed first on the high jump with 1.97 meters and Mark Cufaude pole-vaulted 4.72 meters for first.

Freshman take conference awards

The Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference picked two freshmen from UW-SP for their Athlete of the Week award in both men's hockey and men's track and field.

Thomas Speer is the goalie for the Pointers and has been racking up big wins for the team to help bring them to an 11 game unbeaten streak. He currently holds a .943 save percentage.

It's the second time this season that Speer has received this award.

Keith Ingram is a part of the men's track and field team. He recently placed first in the 55-meter dash with 6.52 seconds in the Todd Metzger Invite at Carthage College. Ingram also took part in a first place finish with the 1,600-meter relay team and won the 200-meter dash with 22.63.
Letters & Opinion

Letters to the Editor

Unless you live on a mountain more isolated than my hometown of Ladysmith, you're bound to notice the prominence of eating disorders in our society. I once read that Jamie Lynn Sigler was so anorexic she burned the calories she absorbed chewing gum through exercise. Well Ms. Sigler that's quite impressive, but I have you beat. Try running on nothing more than two pieces of gum for three days in a row while attending school, building a house, lifting weights and jogging five miles a day. Who's the anorexic now?

Anna Carolina Reston, that's who. I can think of nothing more depressing than being known as the model that died on a diet of apples and tomatoes. Of course, this is coming from a person who, at one point in time, lived on 300 calories worth of broccoli, spinach, apples, seaweed and Boca burgers a day.

If you ask me, the media's obsession with thin celebrities glorifies eating disorders. Maybe if we'd concentrate less on their guns and more on their talent, they wouldn't do this to themselves. MAYBE we should start concentrating less on celebrities in general. Why use withering corpses as models for health and beauty? Believe me, being 90 pounds at 5'6" is neither healthy nor attractive. I've been there, and spent two months in a hospital desperately trying to regain weight as a result.

I am not alone in this. One in 10 Americans have been diagnosed with an eating disorder. If maybe we'd concentrate on their talent, they wouldn't be hosting monthly support meetings to people with anorexia, bulimia, or overeating, and are open to the public. True Beauty also hopes to instate a qualified eating disorder therapist at Delzell Hall for University students. In the future it would like to become more involved with the community, and raise the wellbeing of all.

Eating disorders are fatal illnesses, and cannot be taken lightly. If you or someone you know needs help, please consider attending a meeting. For more information contact biors47@uwsp.edu.

-Briana Soroko

UW-SP student

UW-SP students to participate in NSSE surveys

Freshman and senior students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are among those invited to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement.

Online surveys are now being sent to random samples of freshman and seniors at more than 770 four-year institutions in the United States and Canada. UWSP is participating for the fourth time since 2001. UW-SP students who participate are eligible for two pieces of cash prizes for the campus.

"The NSSE provides UW-SP an opportunity to find out what we're doing well as an institution and helps us identify possible areas for improvement," said Mark Nook, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW-SP. "It also helps to see how we are doing over time and whether changes we've implemented are positively affecting students' experiences."

Both Academic and Student Affairs at UW-SP use the results to make improvements. "Some departments might decide to implement new teaching strategies or programs for students," Nook said. "For example, after previous administrations of the NSSE, UW-SP increased its efforts to enhance the overall advising experience. That is our goal with all surveys and assessments that we do - to make the findings relevant to our work for the benefit of our students."

"The NSSE survey, developed by the Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University, has proven itself a strong and credible source of information," he added. "One of the strengths of the NSSE is that results for our campus are compared to those from a set of national peers, which helps us understand the level of engagement of our students relative to similar students across the country."

Nook encourages UW-SP students who are selected for the survey to take a few moments and participate in order to help improve their own education as well as the education of future students. "Please help us make this university as strong as we possibly can," he said.

UW-SP is also one of the institutions participating in the NSSE/USA Today partnership and the Center of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is hosting monthly support meetings for people with eating, body-image, as well as illness. These meetings are not exclusive to people with anorexia, bulimia, or overeating.

UW-SP Relations and Communications

SGA Update: Upcoming Events

Involvement Fair! Students can visit booths from some of the many organizations available at UW-SP. SIEO sponsored booths will be set up on Feb. 7 in The Laird Room of the DUC from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Soul Food Dinner! Enjoy hearty soul food and live entertainment! There will be live performances from Greg Anderson, and from De'Shawn Ewing and Nigel Wade. There will also be a live, local jazz band.

Dinner includes: Collard greens, mac & cheese, catfish, chicken, poach Cobbler, and much more!

When: Feb. 18, 2008
Time: Doors open at 4:30 p.m., dinner starts at 5:00 p.m.
Where: The Laird Room of the DUC
Cost: $10.00 general admission, $5.00 UW-SP student w/ ID, $3.00 children 12 and under

Presidential Debate! Come get informed about individual candidates and about their views and policies! Funny clips will be shown of campaign advertisements and bloopers from your favorite Presidential candidates. UW-SP students will represent all major Presidential candidates and Canada.

Where: The Encore Room in the DUC
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sustainability Reserve Fundraiser! All next week the Sustainability Committee will spearhead a fundraiser for the Sustainability Reserve. Tables will be set up in the DUC throughout the week. Donors can put in requests for the undertaking of projects and green initiatives. The residence hall that collectively raises the most money will get a tree planted in their name!

Celebrate Language! Students are needed to read poetry in a variety of different languages. If you are interested in participating, please contact Laurie by Feb. 14 at 715-346-4775 or lagroo@uwsp.edu.
ROOMATE WANTED: One or two females to sublease spring semester 2008 with four other females. $1390, heat included private room. Call 715-340-7285.

University Lake Apartments for 2008/2009
3 Bedroom Apartments
For groups of 3-5
1 Bath, appliances, A/C
Extra Storage, On-site laundry
Responsive managers
Starting at $280/month/person
340-9838 (Rhian)
715-341-6352
www.offcampushousing.info

Available immediately
1233 Franklin St. One bedroom furnished apt. $485/mo. Includes heat, A/C, water, garage with remote, Individual basement storage, laundry. No smoking or pets. A nice place to live 344-2899.

Available 2008-2009
Houses: 1700 Briggs 6 Bdr/2 Bath
 Duplexes: 2257A Clark 5 dr
 Main 5 bdr
 2301 Main 4 bdr
 1517 Brawley 2-4 Bdr units
 Call Mark @ 715-341-1133 or Sue @ 347-3305 for appt.

Roommate wanted:
12-20 females to sublease spring semester 2008 with four other females. $1390, heat included private room. Call 715-340-7285.

ROOMATE WANTED: One or two females to sublease spring semester 2008 with four other females. $1390, heat included private room. Call 715-340-7285.

Available Immediately
1233 Franklin St. One bedroom furnished apt. $485/mo. Includes heat, A/C, water, garage with remote, Individual basement storage, laundry. No smoking or pets. A nice place to live 344-2899.

University Lake Apartments for 2008/2009
3 Bedroom Apartments
For groups of 3-5
1 Bath, appliances, A/C
Extra Storage, On-site laundry
Responsive managers
Starting at $280/month/person
340-9838 (Rhian)
715-341-6352
www.offcampushousing.info

Available immediately
1233 Franklin St. One bedroom furnished apt. $485/mo. Includes heat, A/C, water, garage with remote, Individual basement storage, laundry. No smoking or pets. A nice place to live 344-2899.

Available 2008-2009
Houses: 1700 Briggs 6 Bdr/2 Bath
 Duplexes: 2257A Clark 5 dr
 Main 5 bdr
 2301 Main 4 bdr
 1517 Brawley 2-4 Bdr units
 Call Mark @ 715-341-1133 or Sue @ 347-3305 for appt.

Roommate wanted:
12-20 females to sublease spring semester 2008 with four other females. $1390, heat included private room. Call 715-340-7285.