Students listen to the candidates

SGA President and Vice President Nominees
Left: Jenn Boyd and Matt Guidry
Right: Erika Wardle and Katie Kloth

Breaking down barriers

Leah Gernetzke
NEWS REPORTER

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students from different background had the rare opportunity to see outside perspectives at "Boxes and Walls." Student organizations including Hmong and S.E. Asian American Club, Social Justice Issues Committee, Sociology & Social Work Organization, Women's Resource Center and Student Alliance for Latino Studies and Adv. sponsored the event. Each group featured an interactive site designed to raise awareness about a relevant social issue, using skits, videos and open discussions to allow students to exchange thoughts and ideas.

Budget results are in...

Katie Leb
THE POINTER

"For annual budgets, we are given the requests weeks in advance," said Assistant Budget Director Rachel Von Holdt. "We can sit down on our own time, go through the budgets, [and] do research." Feb. 9 and 16 were used as presentation days, giving organization representatives opportunity to explain specific items of their budget requests and allow members of the committee to ask questions. While time was limited to 10 minutes for each organization, there were ways to get more time. "We can make motions to extend the time," said Vice President Adam Lehmann. "We spent lots of time on certain organizations who had vast amounts of line items." One of those organizations included SGA, which requested and were allotted the highest budget ($73,787.43). The committee allocated just over $550,000. However, some organizations were disappointed to find out that the committee were things like fees, budgetary issues, getting SGA more representation, as well as issues that SGA has been struggling with in the past years and how they plan to resolve the issues.

Differences in campaigns were quickly apparent in issues including the difficulty with the judicial branch of SGA and what should be done to resolve it. "I believe the only way is to literally clean it out," said Guidry, "and put a fresh set of judges that are better trained." The Klo thy/Wardle campaign disagreed. They have been very efficient, but we also believe they were put in for a reason, and it shouldn't just be resolved" said Klothy. "It is not what we are planning to do."

However, both campaigns focused much of the debate pointing out the importance of getting students involved on campus. "A lot of students aren't represented," said Wardle. "We've been focusing on trying to reach out to those students and make them aware. No matter what kind of student you are, you are in SGA."

The Guidry/Boyd campaign pointed out the need for making everyone hear, "These people need a voice," said Guidry. "We need to make sure we get the students back in the student government."

A very important part is making sure that SGA is rep

See Candidates on pg. 2

Inside This Week

Katie Leb
THE POINTER

Now that the Wisconsin primary is over, students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are gearing their energy toward another presidential campaign. Students at UW-SP have only a few weeks to decide who they would like to elect as the 2008-2009 president and vice president.

Contending for this year's positions are Matt Guidry and Jenn Boyd against Katie Klo thy and Erika Wardle.

Students had their first opportunity to meet the candidates on Wednesday, Feb. 27, in the College of Professional Studies building, Kyle Borkenhagen, chair of the election committee, explained to the audience the rules and purpose of the debate before it began. "This debate is to inform the students on the positions of the two presidential teams that are in this election season," said Borkenhagen.

Heather Gedamke, who sits on the election committee and served as moderator for the debate, explained the process for deciding which questions were to be asked. "When we were coming up with the questions, we thought about the issues that students would want to hear about and what is important to them," said Gedamke. "Included were things like fees, budgetary issues, getting SGA more representation, as well as issues that SGA has been struggling with in the past years and how they plan to resolve the issues."

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Social Justice Issues Committee addressed domestic violence against women. This segment featured a domestic violence scenario, followed by role-playing to create strategies against non-violence in the home.

The most eye-opening experience was role-playing as a victim because it really puts you in that position," said junior Kayla Schmidt.

See Boxes on pg. 2
From Candidates on pg. 1

resenting all students, not just a majority of students," added Boyd.

While not all the issues were able to be addressed, stu-
dents were encouraged to have a one-on-one conversation with the candidates after the debate. Overall, both campaigns felt the debate went well.

"The debate went really well," said Boyd. "I feel like it gave both campaigns a really good chance to get their mes-
sage across, and I'm glad we got the opportunity to talk to so many people."

Wardle agreed and added,

From Budget on pg. 1

passed a motion to not allo-
cate any money for the next school year. Organizations receiving no money include Recreation Advisory Council, UW-SP Psychology Peer Mentoring Program, History Club, South Asia Society, National Student Organization, Sociology and Social Work and Women's Rugby.

Other organizations are allowed to appeal back to the finance committee on two different grounds.

"If an organization was unhappy with what they [were] allotted, they can go to administrative, error or viewpoint neu-
trality," said Von Holdt.

Among others, organiza-
tions such as Psychology Club, Men's Rugby, Black Student Union, SALSA and Judo Club were fully funded, as request-
ed.

Reasoning for fully fund-
ing an organization is a case by case basis said College of

Individuals are meeting with an officer in Stein's Hall lobby.

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Tom McCracken

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Lara Fornash

EDITORIAL POLICIES

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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 Stevens Point, WI 54481 or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length. Names will be withheld from all material submitted to The Pointer, including the right to deny publication for any letter. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names edited will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

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erty of The Pointer.
Mythical lizards and resilient plant life in TNR

Ashley Schlosser
THE POINTER ASCH 336@UWSP.EDU

Argus Monitors, plant life and a wet wall are all part of an exhibit no University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student should overlook. Located within the College of Natural Resources, the Vivarium offers beauty, onlooker participation and allows students to gain both biology and herpetology experience.

The main attraction most would say is the Varanus panoptes, more commonly known as Argus Monitors. These lizards that live within the Vivarium are named after Argus, a giant from Greek mythology that had a hundred eyes. The numerous spots on the lizards resemble the eyes of the mythical giant.

Subspecies of the monitors are located in New Guinea and North Eastern Australia. As a family, monitors represent what is perhaps the most intelligent group of reptiles. Their preferred habitat is open eucalyptus savannas and primary forests. All monitor lizards are carnivorous with an exception of one subspecies. Argus Monitors will eat a variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates. This is why no other animals may live in the Vivarium with the monitors.

UW-SP students, with the help of faculty members, plan and take care of the plants and monitors. "The Vivarium facility itself is managed by the Department of Biology’s Botany coordinator. The plants are cared for by the student greenhouse crew, which is composed primarily, but not exclusively, of biology and CNR majors. The animals are tended by the Herpetology Society’s Vivarium managers and volunteer Herpetology Society members," said John Hardy, the botany coordinator.

According to the Vivarium project, the "intent is to conduct a long term behavioral study of captive lizards and integrate public participation." Onlookers are urged to list timely behaviors of the lizards on a provided clipboard located in front of the Vivarium. The onlooker must first identify which lizard he or she is observing. The male has a blue band painted around his tail, and the female has an orange band.

The monitors are usually found sun-bathing beneath their heat lamp, but can be quite active throughout the day; sometimes causing trouble. "We’ve run into some problems with them. For one, they knock the plants down, so we don’t have as many plants as we have in the past. The male wants to mate with the female, so he’s aggressive. He can hurt her because he’s a little bit bigger. When she tries to escape and climb up on the walls, she can fall and hurt herself," said Erik Wild, the advisor of herpetology.

But the involved students are in the process of fixing some of the Vivarium’s problems. "Right now, we’re dealing with how to deal with these two guys and making it aesthetically pleasing. And when I say we, I mean the students. Most of them have planned it and are carrying it out under supervision of myself and John Hardy," said Wild. Experience is gained for UW-SP students studying in this area by caring for the plants and animals. "We kind of just look over their shoulder a bit to make sure they don’t go too far astray. It’s their baby to take care of," said Hardy.

From the 20 species of plants to the mythical aggressive monitors, do not pass by the chance to see and participate in this special Vivarium exhibit located in the CNR.

The resident Argus Monitors in the Vivarium in the TNR.

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Winter goes to the dogs: major sledding events approaching

Gregg Jennings
Outdoors Reporter

Dog sledding is enjoyable not only for the riders, but the dogs love what they do also. They love to pull sleds in the snow. Mushers love their dogs and take good care of them. They feed them well and adorn their feet with booties so they don't get cut on the ice, and it keeps snow balls from forming between the dog's toes.

The common voice commands used in dog sledding are "gee" for turning right, "haw" to go left, "hike" to get going, "on by" or "swing" to start. The dogs direct the sled and the people who are connected to the sled. The commands used in dog sledding are the "swing" dogs. They hook up a fish weighting scale to the tow line and found that it pulled only 12 pounds to the tow line. One musher hooked up a fish weighting scale to the tow line and found that it pulled only 12 pounds of weight. Most sled dog courses are flat and are generally groomed by snow machines. The mushers will help push the sled with a foot like on a skateboard and get off to help push up hills. Besides, the musher would get very cold if they just rode on the runners all the time.

There are many types of sleds made from traditional wood to lightweight titanium.

The runners usually have an attached plastic or Teflon slides on them that are also waxed.

Reducing the weight of the sled and reducing the friction of the runners can allow a sled to be pulled along at about 20 miles per hour or more.

The sled still needs to be able to stop, so they are equipped with a brake. It is as simple as a pedal with a metal fork-like protrusion that points down and is connected to the handle bar by a bungee-like cord. The musher steps on it to keep the sled from running into the team as he says "Whoa."

When sled dogs are hooked up to a sled, all they want to do is pull, so an anchor, a large two-pronged hook, is stomped into the hard packed snow or ground to keep the sled in place.

The world's most famous dog sled race, the Iditarod, starts in Anchorage, Alaska on March 1. A new and closer race is the WolfTrack Classic taking place in Ely, Minn., March 2. It is the first dog sled race in Ely, Minn. since 1985 when the All American run last.

Wisconsin has several races, too. The closest is the Pine River Run in Merrill, Wis. A great Web site to consult for dog sled racing schedules and other information is http://www.sleddogcentral.com. See you in Ely this weekend!

 UW-SP students train to be Type II firefighters

Gregg Jennings
Outdoors Reporter

The last two weeks of Tuesday and Thursday evenings saw about two dozen dedicated University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Fire Crew members participating in the S-131 course.

The course, taught by Brad Kildow and Dan Puckett with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Unit 1, familiarized the Squad Boss trainees with the Fireline Handbook and Incident Response Pocket Guide. These guides are used to quickly look up how to address the many situations that can arise from a forest fire.

For example, in exercise one, the "dog sleds" must build a fireline downhill with his or her crew. Building fireline downhill with a fire below it is a dangerous situation, or a "watch out situation."

However, on page nine, item three in the IRDG suggests establishing what is called "The L.C.E.S. System." That is to have a lookout in place that can see both the fire and the crew at the same time; to have communication with the fire crew in case the fire behavior or the spread of the fire changes; to have designated escape routes that the crew is aware of, and safety zones for crew to resort to in case fires occur.

Ace-Holes fare well in Massacre

Toni Osiecki, a UW-SP Ace-Hole, brought home the second place trophy in the women's division at the Snow Throw Massacre II at Yulga on Saturday. The Ace-Holes, as a team, finished one stroke behind Whitewater for second place.

Ace-Holes fare well in Massacre
Sports

Pointer women's basketball advances to semifinals against UW-Whitewater

Rochelle Nechuta
THE POINTER
R K N E C H 1 4 2 @ U W - S P . E D U

In a game of great significance, the women's basketball team excellently moved to move on up in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference on Feb. 26 in Berg Gym.

The team fought hard and finally took the lead during an intense second half against sixth-ranked University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. The Pointers beat the Titans with a 8-62 score at the final buzzer.

"I thought our passion clearly was different," said Head Coach Shirley Egner about the difference between the first and second halves. "I just challenged them, and right now, we're in that survive and advance mode. That's it. It doesn't have to be pretty. We just have to have more points than the other team to move on and that's all."

The women will on to the next stage of the WIAC playoffs after defeating the Titans. They will travel to play against UW-Whitewater in Semifinals on Thursday, Feb. 28 in Rachel Gym.

Both teams had an ugly start in the first half at Berg Gym on Tuesday night. Neither team could spark an extremely successful offensive movement and were caught making few baskets. The Pointers totaled a low 32 percent shooting in the first 20 minutes, while UW-Oshkosh hardly beat them with only 35 percent of their shots making it to the hoop.

"We needed to get in the gaps and really work on rebounding because they were rebounding us, and it was all about effort in the second half," senior Jesirae Heuer recalled after the match-up.

That second half of the ballgame was the trick as the Pointers would jump from a tie three minutes in, to a 20-point lead that the team found in the last four minutes of the game.

"We got after the ball defensively, we forced the ball inside and took advantage," Egner remarked after the Pointer win.

Janel Van Comple led the Pointers with an inspired 16 points and was 100 percent on the line with two 3-pointers, on the court. Senior Laura Neuenfeldt also added a lot of effort in the game with three 3-pointers and a total 13 points in the game. Haley Houghton and Jessi Spoerle followed not far behind with game totals of nine for both players.

"We have a class of six seniors that are very deserving to play in the NCAA Tournament, and we need to be able to get to that conference championship game on Saturday to be able to play in that NCAA Tournament," Egner said.

Those seniors are Houghton, Neuenfeldt, Heuer, Ali Nicastro, Chelsea Kranz and Megan Pehler.

"We have to win to survive, so I guess we're going to take this game, play it at Whitewater and hopefully match their intensity," Heuer said, mirroring her coach's perspective of either survival with a win or a loss for their season's fatality. Heuer scored four free-throw points during the UW-Oshkosh game.

The Warhawks will be a competitive foe on Thursday night. They beat UW-Platteville in a 93-53 blowout and were seeded second going into the WIAC Tournament.

"It's going to be a heck of a ballgame. Neither team's going to be blown out. It's obviously a game of runs," said Egner regarding the upcoming battle with UW-Whitewater. "If we can handle their pressure, stay out of foul trouble, shoot the ball well and defend, we'll be OK."
**BASEBALL**

**SPORTS REPORTER**

**Micah Schroeder**

Coming off a third place finish in the NCAA Division III World Series last year, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point baseball team looks to continue their recent string of success in 2008. Led by a group of seniors who have compiled a record of 107-46 along with three consecutive WIAC tournament titles and two consecutive World Series appearances, the Pointers are expected to make another run at the national championship. They have already garnered national attention as indicated by their number six ranking in the D3baseball.com preseason poll.

Fifth year Head Coach Pat Bloom is also excited about the upcoming season, but understands the challenges that come along with success. "Success comes at a price," he said. "The price you pay for success is that you get everybody's best shot. We are working hard everyday to try to uphold our standards and get our 2008 team to reach our goals and be the last team to walk off the field with the trophy."

Even with the team's hard work and abundance of returning talent, the Pointers will have to fill in some holes in the lineup left by departed players.

"Losing [Adam] Evanoski and [Ryan] Byrnes in our lineup leaves a major void," Bloom said. "However, we return several seniors and others with big game experience who we feel are capable of producing us runs.

On the mound, we have a situation where we need to replace our ace and closer. Jordan had been our workhorse for the last two years and I [Matt] Mehre had been a shutdown closer," Bloom said. "Replacing them will be difficult, but we have some capable upperclassmen who should be able to step up."

Those players will need to step up quickly as the team jumps right into an unmerciful schedule. The Pointers will be playing six of their first 11 games against ranked opponents.

"We try to put together a difficult schedule every year," Bloom said. "We don't ever want to look away from a quality opponent, we look at it as an opportunity for our program to move forward developmentally and prepare ourselves for the conference and regional tournaments."

That tough schedule should turn up the players for what looks to be another challenging season in the WIAC. UW-SP, UW-Oshkosh, and UW-Whitewater are once again expected to be the top contenders for the conference title this year, although the WIAC projects to have a little more parity than in recent years.

"I think traditionally Whitewater, Oshkosh and ourselves have gotten a lot of notoriety in the preseason. You can expect to see the top three in contention again, but you can expect to be a lot less predictably this year than in years past," Bloom said.

The Pointers are doing their best to prepare for the difficult schedule, although the unforgiving Wisconsin winter has no end in sight which forces the players to practice indoors. The Pointers will see their first action on dirt since fall when they travel to Florida over spring break, only to return to the cold and unpredictable climate for conference play.

("Practicing indoors" is associated as a disadvantage, but at the Division III level it has its plusses and minuses," Bloom said. "We don't get to practice outdoors like southern schools, but because their games are so early the northern schools tend to play a little sharper baseball when the postseason rolls around."

Fortunately, the Pointers won't have to worry about the cold and snow for their opener. They will be traveling to the Metrodome in Minneapolis for a doubleheader against St. Thomas on March 3. Then they travel down to Port Charlotte, Fla. for nine games starting March 15 before starting the conference schedule against UW-La Crosse at home on March 29.

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**Pointers swing for third straight World Series**

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Rochelle Nechuta THE POINTER**

The Pointers are on a roll after an 88-65 win in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Semifinals against University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire on Feb. 27 in the Quandt Gym.

Next up for UW-Stevens Point is the WIAC Tournament Championships against UW-Whitewater on Saturday, March 1 at Kachel Gym.

The Warhawks receive home-court advantage after winning the WIAC regular season title and the first seed position. The team surpassed UW-Superior in their semifinal match-up.

"We've got ourselves in position to win a WIAC Tournament Championship and gain the automatic qualifying berth to the NCAA Tournament and that means so much to my young men," said Head Coach Bob Semerling.

Starting a steady offensive trickle, the Pointers maintained the lead from three minutes into the game until the final buzzer. The first 20 minutes ended 46-33 in UW-SP's favor, with two free throws from Khalifa El-Amin to seal the half.

Senior Steve Hicklin made huge strides for the Pointers, adding 13 points to the scoreboard in the first half and accumulating 19 total points to lead the team. He has a simple philosophy for the upcoming championship game.

"Just keep it rolling," Hicklin remarked with a stone-serious demeanor. "I don't want to play my last game, so every game we just have to win."

Victory was in the Pointers' future as they soared over the Blugolds in the game's remainder. UW-SP made 22 shots in the paint during the second half and tallied 16 points from the bench when the remaining roster hit the court in the sub-senior feature.

"It was a difficult game because they are so good on offense, that it is hard to stop them consecutively," Semerling said about UW-Eau Claire's play. "We had to out tough them and outlast them."

I felt we did that for more possessions as the game went on." Pointers.

"Now we have to cash in. We're playing a very good team on their home court."

"We're playing a very good team on their home court," he said. "They won the banner this year. They won the WIAC Championship for the regular season, and they won it for a reason."

"It's going to be a huge challenge and a very difficult task, but we're going to go down there and give it our best shot."
Wash your hands everyday, keep staph away

Jessica Spengler
The Pointer
jspe@uwp.edu

Staph can be a scary word. If you've never had it, you're not sure what to expect. If you have had it, it's not something you'd like to experience again. The good news is most staph is treatable. The bad news is that some staph is resistant to antibiotics. The good news is most staph is treatable. The bad news is that some staph is resistant to antibiotics.

According to the Center for Disease Control, approximately 25 to 30 percent of the population carries the colonized bacteria without getting an infection. Sometimes the bacteria will cause minor skin infections such as boils or pimples that can be easily treated with antibiotics. It is possible, however, for staph bacteria to cause more serious infections such as pneumonia, bloodstream infections and surgical wound infections.

Staph infections occur most frequently among people with weakened immune systems in hospitals and health care facilities, but it is becoming more common in the community setting. Unsanitary nail salons and spas have been found to be hotbeds for staph, and athletes can also pick up the bacteria in locker rooms.

"It's around. Wash your hands a lot, wash surfaces a lot," said Hettler.

Despite preventative measures, it is still possible to contract a staph infection. Most staph infections are treatable with antibiotics. Some infections, however, may have to be treated by draining the abscess or boil and may not require antibiotic therapy. Although the throat of staph infections is very real, taking preventative measures and sanitary precautions can greatly reduce your chances of contracting an infection.

Excuse 1: I always get hurt.

This usually happens when you suddenly try to enhance your workout. Gradually work up to running for two hours or focus on losing one pound a day, as opposed to going from usually lifting 50 pounds to 90. That's when you'll get hurt. And work with a spotter to make sure you're lifting properly. Also focus your attention on the difficulty and form of your workout.

Excuse 2: But my favorite show is on!

It's okay to take a night or two off to go have some fun. Everybody needs a little social time. Just be sure to eat something before you go drinking. This will not only help alcohol absorption but also keep you from snacking or eating later on in the evening.

Excuse 2: "But my favorite show is on!"

Make your workouts a commitment you can't escape from. If you work with a trainer who charges whether you show up or not, you're going to be less likely to skip your appointment for an episode of "The Colbert Report."

Excuse 3: I have a long commute and don't want to get back into my car.

Driving to your gym straight from work or class at least two days a week is really good for the rest of the week. There are even exercises you can do while watching your favorite episode of "The Office."

"It's around. Wash your hands a lot, wash surfaces a lot," said Hettler.
Ask the lawyer: tips for student lessees

Randy Pfum

Landlords have created the "October rush," during which time students feel that they have to find housing and sign leases for the next academic year. Students are made to feel that they will miss out on decent housing unless they participate in this mad dash. As a result, landlords win, and students lose, unless you are talking about high, or at least good quality housing at a reasonable rate. There are some landlords who provide exactly what students are paying for comparable housing. The fewer number of bedrooms in a unit generally results in a lower amount of rent per student, which makes sense, as tenants generally pay more for a greater level of privacy.

Third, if rental premises have more than two residents, the property, if in the city limits of Stevens Point, must be licensed by the city building inspection department. Levenson reminds students of the number of residents. Check with the building inspection department to make sure the landlord is licensed for student housing and to see if there are any outstanding code violations on the property, or a prior history of code violations. Take your landlord's name (it should be on the lease) and do a check at the courthouse of court records in that landlord's name. See if there has been prior litigation, or if other students have had to sue this particular landlord to get their security deposit back.

Fourth, take a good look at the condition of the premises. Find out if it is separate metering for utilities. Ask for the last year's record of utility charges. Heat and electric can be extremely high in a poorly insulated property. Ask the landlord when the furnace was put in (the last year's record of utility charges). Look in basements for signs of water damage, and look at ceilings for signs of water damage and look at the condition of the carpets and flooring. Bring along the first five checks to take the number when you inspect the premises. Find out if the landlord intends to make repairs before the lease begins. Get all promises to repair in writing with a date by which they are to be completed. Unfortunately, a quick visual inspection of rental premises doesn't tell too much to the uninformed eye, and many students get hoodwinked into signing expensive leases on properties which leave much to be desired in terms of their physical condition. Talk to current tenants (who are in the company of the landlord) about any problems in the condition of the premises and how the landlord has responded to maintenance requests. A landlord/tenant relationship can sour quickly, if any of the premises doesn't tell much to the uninformed eye, and many students get hoodwinked into signing expensive leases on properties which leave much to be desired in terms of their physical condition. Talk to current tenants (who are in the company of the landlord) about any problems in the condition of the premises and how the landlord has responded to maintenance requests. A landlord/tenant relationship can sour quickly, if any of the premises doesn't tell much to the uninformed eye, and many students get hoodwinked into signing expensive leases on properties which leave much to be desired in terms of their physical condition. Talk to current tenants (who are in the company of the landlord) about any problems in the condition of the premises and how the landlord has responded to maintenance requests. Any questions about a lease, can be answered by the staff attorney of the Student Legal Society. Students can also set up an appointment with the staff attorney of the Student Legal Society, who holds office hours on Tuesday evenings.

Secondly, make sure that the monthly rent expense per tenant is a reasonable amount, and similar to what other students are paying for comparable housing.

Levenson claims he heard a voice say, "If you collect us, they will pay more." Levenson walked out of the store that night with a dozen jars of mustard and started his collection. He began collecting mustard bottles, jars and memo­
ans (when you are not in the room). Levenson stood there for a moment, and then walked toward the maid's cart outside of the room. Levenson's collection, the mustard museum, was born. The Mustard Museum was born not from boredom, but from desperation.

On Oct. 27, 1986, Barry Levenson witnessed his favorite bar and restaurant, the Boston Red Sox, lose the World Series. Depressed and unable to sleep, Levenson turned to the Barron Hilton, an all-night convenience store, and the Red Sox. He was able to get the whole team on the roof of the Hyatt hotel that he knew his hobby was getting serious. Levenson worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the state of Wisconsin and was leaving the Hyatt hotel to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Levenson was a bit skeptical. "So I think I did what every good lawyer would have done, I looked to my right, saw no one was looking, and I put it in my left hand pocket," Levenson said.

Levenson argued his case in the Supreme Court with the jar of mustard in his pocket and won the case.

In 1991, Levenson left his job as the Assistant Attorney General to work on his mustard collection full time. One year later, Levenson opened the Mustard Museum to share his collection with the public.

Today, the Mustard Museum has 4,000 jars, bottles and tubes of mustard, and more than 60 countries, including hundreds of valuable memorabilia, such as mustard pots and vintage mustard advertisements.

In addition to viewing Levenson's collection, the museum also offers a viewing room that plays educational videos about mustard and has a variety of mustard to sample and buy, such as honey-dijon and chocolate and fruit mustard.

"My favorite part was tasting the different types of mustards," said senior Emily Groene. The Mustard Museum has been featured on Oprah, the Food Network, HGTV's "The Good Life" and dozens of national magazines and newspapers.

For Barry Levenson, the Mustard Museum is more than just a hobby or a job. "No matter what happens, people still have to be able to laugh," Levenson said. "Get people to have a good time, and forget the trivial worries of the day. When you come here, you get lost in your thoughts. I love what I do, and I will do it forever."
"Truth & Lies" showcases video as narrative art

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THE POINTER
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The Carlsten Gallery is currently showcasing the brain-child of co-curators Diana Black and Travis Lester: “Truth & Lies: video as new narrative.” Lester, the president of the gallery’s student advisory committee, said the show was a collaborative effort that began in the summer of 2007. “Diana and I really wanted to bring a new form of art to the area that challenged and educated its’ audience,” said Lester.

The show addresses many contemporary issues that sociologically mental.”

Katie’s Curiosities: beauty and life lessons from the open road

Katie Adams
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER


The Eagle Walk is truly the hardest thing I have ever done.

I have never learned so much about myself as I learned on this trip. One of the walkers made a fantastic point when he was asked what he thought of the walk. He said, “I was surprised to find out how much of the walk is actually mental.”

I really expected the hardest part of the walk to be the pain of blisters and sore muscles, but what was really hard was to keep your mind occupied enough to stop to make me realize. We often aren’t offered such an opportunity to evaluate ourselves, and it’s important that we take the time to do it.

This trip really opened my eyes to the world. I saw, heard and even smelled things that I would have probably continued to pass by for the rest of my life even if I was all right, and I shocked myself when I thought, “I am all right.” Deep down I knew it, but it took me a stranger who cared enough to stop and talk to me to realize. We often aren’t offered such an opportunity to evaluate ourselves, and it’s important that we take the time to do it.

As a title, “There Will Be Blood” is quite literal, and the final bloody scene left me wondering what on earth I had been watching for the past two hours. Then “Based on ‘Oil!’ by Upton Sinclair appeared in the credits, and it all made sense. In essence, the film is a psychological battle of two madmen: Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day-Lewis) and Eli Sunday (Paul Dano). On the surface, Plainview is a sweet-talking oil tycoon who shows disturbing tendencies on a frequent basis. While Plainview’s chief “antagonist” is Sunday, the cause of most of his grief is his son, H.W. Plainview suggests that he adopted the boy for business purposes, but his most violent outbursts come when someone accuses him of abandoning the boy. H.W. seems to be the only one who really knows what’s going on in the movie, as evidenced by his actions.

Sunday is less of an enigma. He’s almost a stereotype of a fundamentalist preacher. The only atypical thing about him is his youth. He originally comes into conflict with Plainview, but Plainview strategically edges him out of an oil derrick first drilling ceremony. Sunday is obviously jealous of Plainview, who will not allow him any authority.

The film’s soundtrack adds to the unease. The first scene contains no dialogue at all. When present, music hums and buzzes discordantly or crescendos effortlessly. Words spoken by faraway characters are disproportionately loud in the audience’s ears. The music occasionally drowns out important dialogue. At certain key points, the music is conspicuously absent.

Unsettling framing complements the music. Some scenes look like poorly-shot photographs. Others center on unpleasant subjects or people and draw intimately close to them. The light is bleak, dusty, dry and dead.

Paul Thomas Anderson probably had a message about modern connections between blood, religion and oil. However, “There Will Be Blood” has so many interesting obscurities that the modern sociopolitical theme is too obvious. I’m more interested in trying to understand the abrupt ending: “I’m done now.”
Well Danny, I'm glad that you wanted to help out, but I think you're confusing this column with a Strong Bad e-mail. The College Survival Guide is here to answer your pitiful, mewling cries for help, not random fan questions.

But, as it happens, I do have strange and wonderful powers. They are too many to conveniently name and explain, but one of them has seen a lot of use recently, so I thought I'd share it with you... I am good with words.

At first, this might not sound like a superpower, but you see, I'm really good with words. I've been building this skill for over 20 years now. Imagine how much of a badass I'd be if I spent three hours a day practicing kung-fu for 20 years. I'd be Shaolin-monk tough, able to jump from rooftop to rooftop, and shatter bricks with my head.

But I've spent my time maxing out a different skill tree instead. I've still got that level of bad-assedness, but it's all with my brain and my ability to manipulate people using words.

Over the years I've crafted this ability to the point where it has officially reached superpower levels. [see figure one] Generally speaking, I can get people to do anything I want using 15 words or less. Rest assured that I use this power only for good. Or when I'm bored at parties, when I use it to win bets and amuse myself.

Another aspect of my writer powers is that I have the ability to make extremely accurate judgments about a person's character based on nothing but a few seemingly insignificant details. I know I know... you're all thinking, "That's not a power, I can do that," or "Pat, that's called being judgmental, and it's not cool."

No. You see, when other people do it, it's called jumping to a conclusion, or stereotyping, or racial profiling. But I'm different. What I have is a highly developed sense of extrapolatory causality.

It's like this. When I'm writing, I need a way to portray a character very economically. I don't want to go into great detail about a person's character based on nothing but a few seemingly insignificant details. I want to drop just a few key details on you. If chosen properly, those few details drop quietly into your brain, then blossom out into a fully realized character.

Reverse engineering this process allows me to understand fundamental aspects of people's personalities using just one or two details.

Let's take, just for example, something that occurred to me a couple of days ago after the big snowstorm. While out walking, I could tell at a single glance which houses were owned by dicks.

Now, I'm not talking about giant, anthropomorphic peni. I'm talking about people who are, well, dicks. People of contemptible moral character.

Here's how it works. If, after a snowstorm, you shovel your driveway and leave the sidewalk all full of snow, you are a dick.

If you have a snowblower, and you snowblow your driveway, but you leave the sidewalk full of snow, then you are roughly twice as much of a dick, plus you're lazy.

Note: This also applies to businesses. Don't pay someone to plow your parking lot and then leave the rest of us to trudge through the snow on your sidewalk. Yes, Pizza Hut, I'm talking to you.

Now, some people will think that I'm being reactionary. That I'm just upset I had to trudge through the snow and my socks got wet. That's not it at all. I've walked through plenty of unshoveled sidewalks and didn't think anything of it. If you don't shovel anything, I give you the benefit of the doubt. I assume you're busy, or you were waiting for it to quit snowing, or maybe you were out of town.

But if you shovel off your front steps, snowblow your driveway and leave the sidewalk full of snow, then you are one of the people who deserve to be noisily culled out of the gene pool for the good of society. If you catch me in the right mood, this is a service that I will provide free of charge.

The driveway is only for you. The sidewalk is for everyone. Yes you, house on Illinois Avenue. Yes. The one on the corner. I've got my eye on you...
Resident's Evil

They've been at it for the last half hour. Can't your crowd-parting angst aura get us through?

Joy Ratchman

Unfortunately, no. This is an election year...

... so protestors generate too much angst of their own. I can't touch that.

So much for getting to class on time...

FIRE@WILL

Paul Johnson

NOW YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT THIS PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION?

Neverland

Lo Shim

NOW YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT THIS PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION?

KenAnime

Roger Vang & Joseph K. Motacek

Where I Come From

Bryan Novak

Little Cynics

Joy Ratchman

NOW PLAYING

at Rogers Cinema 6:
Feb. 29 - Mar. 6

Vantage Point
(1:15) (3:15) 5:15 7:15 9:15

Jumpers

The Spiderwick Chronicles
(1:00) (3:00) 5:00 7:00 9:00

Fool's Gold
(12:25) (2:40) 4:55 7:10 9:30

Juno
(1:00) (3:00) 5:00 7:00 9:00

Definitely, Maybe
(12:15) (2:35) 4:55 7:15 9:35

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