OUTDOORS
Page 6

DUC budget oversight in question

Rick LaRoche
THE POINTER
RLAR083@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point passed new regulations on Thursday, Feb. 28, allocating the Student Government Association Finance Committee more control over the Dreyfus University Center’s budget starting next year.

Each year University Centers Director Laura Ketcham-Ciftci brings the operating budget for the DUC, Allen Center and DeBot before the University Centers Advisory Policy Board for review.

This year’s budget saw an increase of almost $0.5 million. “In the past, the UCAPB only had a limited amount of time to look over the budget and basically passed it on to the chancellor with a rubber stamp,” said SGA Senator Kyle Borkenhagen. “Now we will get to look the budget over and have input on cuts to items we don’t deem important.”

The annual budget for the center is between $10 million and $11 million dollars and sees most of that money collected through student-segregated fees. Segregated fees are what students are charged on top of tuition, room and board in order to attend UW-SP. This semester students paid $501 in segregated fees.

See Budget on pg. 2

ARTS
Page 9

SCIENCE
Page 7

SGA President and Vice President candidates


"Reaching Out & Representing. Making Change for UW-SP."

Jenn Boyd
Vice President

Matt Guidry
President

Erika P. Wardle
Vice President

Katie M. Kloth
President

Year in school: Junior
Major(s)/Minor(s): Political science, minor in religious studies and women’s studies

Why are you running for this position: “Student government needs a vice president who will be able to handle anything thrown at her. I am passionate about student government and believe that I can make a difference in this position, and that I am the best person for the job."

Year in school: Senior
Major(s)/Minor(s): Political science, minor in environmental law

Why are you running for this position: "We want to make SGA about the students again. Through our experience and vision, we will change student government to reflect the priorities of the students by creating a senate that foster diversity and a more accurate representation to the student body as a whole. We will give representation to the residential halls, to the non-traditional students, to the voices of student organizations to bring forth a greater diversity of ideas and to create a better campus and community for all." 

Year in school: Sophomore
Major(s)/Minor(s): Forestry, with an ecosystem restoration emphasis

Why are you running for this position: "To make sure SGA is being as visible and accessible to all students as possible! I care about all students being represented accurately, and also getting students active in their university and community through grassroots organizing, and being a voice for them that will fight for what students want, and also build an active working relationship with the administration! I want to work to make sure finance committee is more accessible to all students, and that their paperwork pertaining to student organizations/budgets is easy to understand and student friendly!"

Year in school: Junior
Major(s)/Minor(s): Biology with an emphasis in botany

Why are you running for this position: "I want to involve as many people as I can on this campus in SGA, activism, as well as local, state, national and international events/issues! I want to make sure students are being accurately represented and all of their voices heard; my vast involvement and experience will do so, in conjunction with my constant recruitment for new SGA senators. I‘m not afraid to stand up for what students want, or for what is right, and I never lose sight of the fact that SGA is here to benefit students, and not to be obsessed with the ‘system,’ and the ‘due-process’ of things over student needs. Ultimately, I‘m doing this for the students because I care about them, their futures and the future of this university."

Elections are being held from March 7 to 13. Watch for the ballot in your e-mail!
From Budget on pg. 1

From Code on pg. 1

THE POINTER

Newsonroom 715.346.2249
Business 715.346.3800
Advertising 715.346.3707
Fax 715.346.4712
pointer@uwsp.edu

www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/pointer

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
104 CAC Stevens Point, WI 54481

The United Council of UW Students has taken a firm stance against any changes to Chapter 17 that would affect student rights or that would install "double punishment" for any violations. According to their Web site, the changes are a result of ongoing issues on the UW-Milwaukee campus.

Lehmann argues that students need to be held accountable in the appropriate arena. "While I do think that students should act responsibly and respectfully, they also need to be held accountable [when they don't act in those ways]. At the same time, isn't that what we have law enforcement for? So that the university isn't responsible for regulating those behaviors," said Lehmann.

According to Lehmann most incidents in Stevens Point come from property damage to homes around campus, noise complaints and incidents involving alcohol.

Stevens Point has already instituted a community outreach program to help enhance the quality of life in the neighborhoods surrounding the campus. The Old Main Neighborhood Association is focused on improving communication with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, community building, promoting green space and maintaining a neighborhood environment. Anyone living on or within the boundaries of Division Street, Clark Street, Michigan Avenue and Maria Drive are eligible for membership in the program.

The state statute can be searched and is available in the appropriate length or content.

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 of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

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

News • UWSP • The Pointer

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 intended for students at UWSP and is solely the responsibility of students. 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 newspaper 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 of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

The Pointer is intended for students at UWSP and is solely the responsibility of students. 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 newspaper 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 of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

The Pointer is intended for students at UWSP and is solely the responsibility of students. 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 newspaper 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 of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for appropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

The Pointer is intended for students at UWSP and is solely the responsibility of students. No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.
**Public relations students prepare for “the real world”**

Sara Burke

Pointlife Reporter

“I’ve graduated college; now what?” This is a question that many students ask themselves after they receive their diplomas. Students are taught that preparation is key, but they don’t always know what they are preparing for in “the real world.”

On Friday, Feb. 29, members of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America and other university students from across Wisconsin and Illinois met together at the Public Relations Pro Day 2008. The event was hosted by Public Relations Society of America Young Professionals at the Italian Conference Center in Milwaukee.

The conference started out with a panel consisting of junior-level PR professionals Erika Duwel from Avicom Marketing Communications, Dan Cary from Lamm Sports Management and Kristin Gritt from Horizon Fitness. They discussed what their companies are looking for in candidates, what their days are like, and what to expect post-graduation.

“I think the most valuable piece of advice I got from this panel was the importance of professional persistence. We should make sure to keep in contact with whoever is in charge of hiring maybe once a week, so as not to be annoying, until we hear a definite yes or no decision,” said one visiting student.

After the panel answered questions, students went on previously selected site visits. Sites included The American Heart/Stroke Association, Zeppos and Associates, Johnson and Controls and many more. The sites were different from each other in that some were non-profit organizations, some were corporate offices and some were local agencies. At each site, students learned about the company and what types of projects it worked on, what the company expected from employees and also about the potential for internships.

“I was glad I got to hear people in the profession that I want to go into tell us what exactly they are looking for,” said Rod King, a UW-SP communications major.

Students also had the opportunity to participate in the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter PRSA monthly luncheon. Panelists included an owner of an executive search firm and search consultant, a corporate recruiter and an assistant account executive.

To round off the conference, students were able to partake in a mock interview and résumé review. “It was nice to have someone who actually makes hiring decisions everyday look at our own résumés and give us pointers,” said King.

**Military science students recognized during spring military ball**

Press Release

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Department of Military Science at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will recognize six students at their annual ball this Saturday, March 8, beginning with a social hour at 8:00 p.m., at the Stevens Point Country Club. All six cadets will be commissioned officers right after May commencement.

UW-SP Provost Mark Nook will make remarks at 8:00 p.m.

Cadet Curtis Zivicki is a senior majoring in American studies with a minor in military science. He plans on graduating in May 2008 and once commissioned in May, will join the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps. He is a 2004 graduate of Waunauk Newman High School.

Cadet James Grunewald, is a senior majoring in biology with a minor in military science. He plans on graduating this May and upon receiving his commission, joins the U.S. Army’s medical specialist corps and attends basic training at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

Cadet Scott Schreiber is a senior majoring in biology with a minor in military science. He plans on graduating this May and upon receiving his commission, joins the U.S. Army’s Corps of Engineers. He is a 2004 graduate of Weyauwega-Fremont High School.

Cadet Abbey Paton is a senior majoring in biology (emphasis pre-dentistry), with a minor in medical science and chemistry. She plans on graduating this May and then receives her commission. She is a 2004 graduate of Hamilton High School.
CRC promotes religious tolerance

Ashley Schlosser
THE POINTER ASCH2356@UWSP.EDU

Providing programs and experiences to give students knowledge, understanding, and awareness of different cultures and religions is what the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Comparative Religion Club has been doing since 2003.

Understanding others’ faiths is an important key to religious tolerance and harmony. CRC discusses “the importance of understanding religion within a cultural context as well as the role that religion plays in politics and government,” said Amy Ort, president of CRC. As a club, the CRC picks certain religions to discuss based on students’ interests. Islam and Buddhism have been the hot topics discussed lately at the meetings.

Students with any sort of religious beliefs, or even just interested in religions are welcome to attend meetings. "CRC has really helped me to understand the different religions of the world. It is one thing to hear about them in a classroom, but you get a completely different perspective when you actively discuss religion with individuals of different beliefs," said Ort.

Students not only get real believers’ perspectives, but they also take field trips and plan events here on campus.

"Especially influential are the field trips we have taken because the best understanding of any religion comes from direct experience and participation in the religious rituals. It is this experiential and interactive feature of the club that makes it meaningful and important," said Ort.

An interactive activity going on currently through the CRC is a Buddhist meditation group that meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in room 128 in the CPS. The meditation will take place after a discussion of the practice of Buddhism.

"Buddhism transcends a personal god [and] avoids dogmas and theology; it covers both the natural and spiritual, and it is based on a religious sense aspiring from the experience of all things, as a meaningful unity," according to the discussion points of the activity.

CRC is also planning on bringing a Christian Scientist speaker onto campus sometime this semester.

Keep an eye on the Student Message of the Day e-mails for special events. If interested in learning about various religions, come to the CRC events for an interactive and fun time.

Library expands technology resources for students

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER SSUCHA98@UWSP.EDU

While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point library isn’t always the building that UW-SP students may name as their favorite place on campus, it is certainly taking strides towards becoming one of the most functional buildings and certainly one with many a hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered by the unsuspecting young scholar.

Aaron Nichols, a new service librarian, is working to “bump up” the library’s student’s technological resources. The newest addition to these resources is the student presentation room.

“Like classes are requiring students to do lots of class presentations, so we have gotten a lot of requests for a space to practice those presentations,” said Nichols.

The brand new student presentation room is located on the fourth floor of the library where the student group study rooms are. Nichols and Andy Pech, circulation librarian, took one of the group study rooms and added a projection screen which is linked to a computer and a conference room type table.

“Right now the computers are loaded with the basic Microsoft Office suite, but we can load whatever the students might need for their presentations, all they need to do is ask,” said Pech.

To rent out this room, you need to take your student ID to the main circulation desk on the first floor of the library. Students can reserve the room to ensure time in the new presentation room. It’s best to reserve it in advance.

This is one of many new additions to the services the library. Recently the College of Fine Arts and Communication purchased several digital video cameras that students can use for class projects or personal use. These video cameras are available for any UW-SP student to check out in the Media Lab on the third floor of the library. Again, all that is needed is an active student ID.

Students do need to purchase the video cassettes for recording. The Media Lab sells the necessary tapes for $2.75 each, plus tax.

Typically students check the cameras out for a few days or over the weekend, but check out times are negotiable. If no one is using them, they can extend their time,” said Jim Maas, the director of the Media Lab.

The library also continues to loan out laptops to any UW-SP student for a period of 72 hours.

Nichols explained that money is usually pretty tight for the library, but the more students request added technology, the easier the money can be found.

“Student demand is really what drives the funding,” said Nichols.

Nichols is looking to expand the current student presentation room and possibly add class projects or personal use. For student demand. He encourages students to tell the library what kind of resources they want to see available.

“We’re really trying to focus on the students needs. We just want to see the technology used productively,” said Pech.

Library expands technology resources for students

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER SSUCHA98@UWSP.EDU

While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point library isn’t always the building that UW-SP students may name as their favorite place on campus, it is certainly taking strides towards becoming one of the most functional buildings and certainly one with many a hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered by the unsuspecting young scholar.

Aaron Nichols, a new service librarian, is working to “bump up” the library’s student’s technological resources. The newest addition to these resources is the student presentation room.

“Like classes are requiring students to do lots of class presentations, so we have gotten a lot of requests for a space to practice those presentations,” said Nichols.

The brand new student presentation room is located on the fourth floor of the library where the student group study rooms are. Nichols and Andy Pech, circulation librarian, took one of the group study rooms and added a projection screen which is linked to a computer and a conference room type table.

“Right now the computers are loaded with the basic Microsoft Office suite, but we can load whatever the students might need for their presentations, all they need to do is ask,” said Pech.

To rent out this room, you need to take your student ID to the main circulation desk on the first floor of the library. Students can reserve the room to ensure time in the new presentation room. It’s best to reserve it in advance.

This is one of many new additions to the services the library. Recently the College of Fine Arts and Communication purchased several digital video cameras that students can use for class projects or personal use. These video cameras are available for any UW-SP student to check out in the Media Lab on the third floor of the library. Again, all that is needed is an active student ID.

Students do need to purchase the video cassettes for recording. The Media Lab sells the necessary tapes for $2.75 each, plus tax.

Typically students check the cameras out for a few days or over the weekend, but check out times are negotiable. If no one is using them, they can extend their time,” said Jim Maas, the director of the Media Lab.

The library also continues to loan out laptops to any UW-SP student for a period of 72 hours.

Nichols explained that money is usually pretty tight for the library, but the more students request added technology, the easier the money can be found.

“Student demand is really what drives the funding,” said Nichols.

Nichols is looking to expand the current student presentation room and possibly add class projects or personal use. For student demand. He encourages students to tell the library what kind of resources they want to see available.

“We’re really trying to focus on the students needs. We just want to see the technology used productively,” said Pech.

Library expands technology resources for students

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER SSUCHA98@UWSP.EDU

While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point library isn’t always the building that UW-SP students may name as their favorite place on campus, it is certainly taking strides towards becoming one of the most functional buildings and certainly one with many a hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered by the unsuspecting young scholar.

Aaron Nichols, a new service librarian, is working to "bump up" the library’s student’s technological resources. The newest addition to these resources is the student presentation room.

"A lot of classes are requiring students to do lots of class presentations, so we have gotten a lot of requests for a space to practice those presentations," said Nichols.

The brand new student presentation room is located on the fourth floor of the library where the student group study rooms are. Nichols and Andy Pech, circulation librarian, took one of the group study room and added a projection screen which is linked to a computer and a conference room type table.

"Right now the computers are loaded with the basic Microsoft Office suite, but we can load whatever the students might need for their presentations, all they need to do is ask," said Pech.

To rent out this room, you need to take your student ID to the main circulation desk on the first floor of the library. Students can reserve the room to ensure time in the new presentation room. It’s best to reserve it in advance.

This is one of many new additions to the services the library. Recently the College of Fine Arts and Communication purchased several digital video cameras that students can use for class projects or personal use. These video cameras are available for any UW-SP student to check out in the Media Lab on the third floor of the library. Again, all that is needed is an active student ID.

Students do need to purchase the video cassettes for recording. The Media Lab sells the necessary tapes for $2.75 each, plus tax.

Typically students check the cameras out for a few days or over the weekend, but check out times are negotiable. If no one is using them, they can extend their time," said Jim Maas, the director of the Media Lab.

The library also continues to loan out laptops to any UW-SP student for a period of 72 hours.

Nichols explained that money is usually pretty tight for the library, but the more students request added technology, the easier the money can be found.

"Student demand is really what drives the funding," said Nichols.

Nichols is looking to expand the current student presentation room and possibly add class projects or personal use. For student demand. He encourages students to tell the library what kind of resources they want to see available.

"We’re really trying to focus on the students needs. We just want to see the technology used productively," said Pech.
Wisconsin wildlife adapted to surviving cold, snowy winters

By Jeff Pritzl

WISCONSIN DNR PRESS RELEASE

Despite record breaking snowfalls in southern Wisconsin and cold temperatures statewide, hunters and non-hunters alike do not have to be alarmed about this winter’s impacts on wildlife, according to DNR wildlife officials.

Department of Natural Resources offices have been receiving many inquiries about how deer, wild turkey and other species are surviving the winter. This winter has actually been closer to normal for Wisconsin, they note, compared to the exceptionally mild winters in recent years, and deer and turkey populations have evolved to withstand these varying conditions.

"Winter mortality is a natural process and can be important in keeping wildlife populations in balance with their habitat," said Jeff Pritzl, wildlife supervisor for the DNR Northeast Region at Green Bay.

Each winter, the DNR monitors the Winter Severity Index (WSI) in northern Wisconsin. The WSI was developed in the early 1970s to provide an index of winter impacts to deer populations. It is calculated by adding the number of days with 18 inches or more of snow on the ground to the number of days when minimum temperatures were zero degrees Fahrenheit or below between Dec. 1 and April 30.

"If you think of it as adding up points, a day when both conditions occurred would get two points," Pritzl said.

At the end of April, all the points are added up, resulting in the WSI number for the whole winter. A winter with an index of less than 50 is considered mild, 50 to 80 is moderate, over 80 is severe, and over 100 is very severe.

Very severe winters in northern Wisconsin can result in up to a 30 percent direct loss in the deer population.

Wildlife biologists say it is still too early to make any conclusions about this year’s winter. Many sites in northern Wisconsin are currently in the moderate category for severity. The last time we saw winters like these were in 1995-1996 and 1996-1997.

DNR wildlife staff use the WSI to develop antlerless quotas for the upcoming deer hunting season. The DNR’s deer population model is built to assume a winter of moderate severity. When WSI values indicate a severe winter, the number of available antlerless permits in regular units for the upcoming deer season may be reduced.

Pritzl says the effects of winter stress are first apparent when a lower than average number of fawns survive.

"In any winter, regardless of its severity, the first animals to die are usually the sick, injured, old or young that were born late the previous year. This is a natural process and is beneficial to a population in the long-term, resulting in stronger and healthier individuals within the population," he says.

"Some people think we’re having a hard winter in northern Wisconsin, but our perceptions are colored by the fact that the Northern Forest region has experienced 15 mild winters during the most recent 20 years," said Keith McCaffrey, retired DNR deer biologist.

"Occasionally, wildfowl biologist Wayne Hall reported snow depth and temperature values in central Wisconsin that reached a moderate WSI through the end of February. And wildlife biologist Michele Windsor in the Black River Range noted significant snow depths this winter - greater than 18 inches. Windsor noted that forested areas were seeing higher snow concentrations this winter in cut-over areas that were adjacent to thick stands of pine. The WSI is seldom applied to the farmland regions of the state. In these areas, biologists say, winter impacts on deer and turkey survival are generally minimal.

"The availability of high energy food is usually much greater as a result, fewer animals will be food stressed," Pritzl says.

In most winters, WSI values would normally be much less throughout the farmland region compared to the northern forests. For instance, Jake Fries, DNR wildlife biologist for Dane County, reported that WSI values were high in the Madison area and were in the mild category through the end of February.

In southeast Wisconsin, some deer have been reported feeding deer in the winter, which is unusual for that part of the state.

"This has been especially notable in the Kettle Moraine State Forest and the Sheboygan Marsh," said Tami Ryan, DNR Southeast Region wildlife supervisor.

Relatively mild conditions in recent years, in addition to favorable habitat and agricultural practices, have also had a positive impact on the wild turkey population.

"Successive mild winters are certainly a contributing factor to the northward expansion of Wisconsin’s wild turkey population," said Scott Hull, DNR upland game specialist.

"Depending on the severity of the winter, the turkey population may be greatly reduced," said Hull.

"Some people think we’re having a hard winter in northern Wisconsin, but our perceptions are colored by the fact that the Northern Forest region has experienced 15 mild winters during the most recent 20 years," said Keith McCaffrey, retired DNR deer biologist.

"Occasionally, wildfowl biologist Wayne Hall reported snow depth and temperature values in central Wisconsin that reached a moderate WSI through the end of February. And wildlife biologist Michele Windsor in the Black River Range noted significant snow depths this winter - greater than 18 inches. Windsor noted that forested areas were seeing higher snow concentrations this winter in cut-over areas that were adjacent to thick stands of pine. The WSI is seldom applied to the farmland regions of the state. In these areas, biologists say, winter impacts on deer and turkey survival are generally minimal.

"The availability of high energy food is usually much greater as a result, fewer animals will be food stressed," Pritzl says.

In most winters, WSI values would normally be much less throughout the farmland region compared to the northern forests. For instance, Jake Fries, DNR wildlife biologist for Dane County, reported that WSI values were high in the Madison area and were in the mild category through the end of February.

In southeast Wisconsin, some deer have been reported feeding on ornamental trees and shrubs in residential areas.

"Biologically, artificial feeding is not the best approach to helping any wild animal during severe winters," Pritzl says. "Maintaining populations that can be supported by natural habitat is the best course of action."
**Alternate energy, woody biomass at the Annual Forest Banquet**

Greggory Jennings

The Pointer

The Annual Forest Banquet opened with a social at 6:00 p.m. at the Drefus University Center on Feb. 24 in the Alumni Room. Professionals from Wisconsin and surrounding states as far as International Falls, Minn., mingled with the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students. Faculty members, representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and UW-SP administrators also were in attendance. Master of Ceremonies Ken Price, president of the Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, introduced dignitaries attending the evening gala, including Paul Cigan, president of the Society of Ecological Restoration, Brian Packett, Crew Leader of the UW-SP Fire Crew, Joanna Birtka, treasurers of the Park and Recreation organization, and Keith O'Herrin of the Society of Arboriculture. Price also introduced Provost Mark Nokko and his wife, College of Natural Resources Associate Dean Dr. John Houghton, Forestry Coordinator Dr. Jan Harms, and last but not least, the night's speaker, Mark Knaebe, U.S. Forest Service.

After introductions, the banquet goers were invited to indulge in a banquet including, baked chicken or beef tips and gravy and mushroom gravy and mush. The standard market for consumers to use. These are gasification units that fire at the correct intensity and heat up to 2,000 gallons of water before the fire burns out. Knaabe said ethanol is not a good option because of the cost of transporting it and because it is in a form that cannot be piped to locations.

Knaabe showed in his PowerPoint how several biomass plants in Minnesota and a couple of schools in Montana were using biomass for fuel. A school in Darby, Mont. saved over $90,000 in fuel cost in one year, of which, included supplementing with a very small amount of fuel oil. The initial costs of buying and installing a boiler, the retrofitting of buildings, new construction, and fuel savings.

After the speaker, the band Mudshark played for the Forest Banquet guests. They are a rock-n-roll band that plays other venues as well. In honor of those present, the band members, mostly CNR students themselves, wore flannel shirts, heavy leather boots, blue jeans, and red hardhats, the typical uniform of a Forester.

Mark Knaebe can be contacted for more information at the Forest Products Lab in Madison, by phone at (608) 231-9422, or by e-mail at mknaebe@fs.fed.us.

**Affordable Wisconsin spring break alternatives**

Ashley Schlosser

The Pointer

Are you stuck in Wisconsin this spring break and looking for something not completely worthless to do? Check out some of these ideas!

**Downhill Sking, Snowmobiling and Tubing**

If you’re looking to enjoy the snow, head up to Rib Mountain’s Granite Peak for some downhill skiing and snowboarding. Open to 4:00 p.m. (all day), tickets are $38 per adult when ordered online, or $34 at the window. Visit Granite Peak’s website to purchase tickets, for rentals, or browse at www.skigranitepeak.com. Other locations include Christie Mountain (Bruce), Trollhaugen (Dresser), Badlands Sno-Park (Hudson), Sunburst Ski Area (Kerrigan), Cascade Mountain (Portage), Justus Trail Resort (Sparta), Mont du Lac Snowsports (Superior), and Nine Mile Mountain Village (Wisconsin Dells). Visit winterdirectory.com/Snow-Sport-Locations/Snow for more information.

**Cross Country Skiing**

Cross country skiing is a great time to be one with nature. Nine Mile, located in Central Wisconsin, just minutes from Wausau. The trail system is double tracked with 18.3 miles that generally are one-way. A daily pass is $8 per adult, or $5 if using snowshoes. If renting, ski equipment is $15 per adult and snowshoes are $8 per person. For chalet hours and more Nine Mile information, visit www.co.marathon.wi.us. Other great trails include John Muir Orange Trail (La Grange), Lapham Peak Meadow Trail (Delafeld), Loggers Loop (Amherst), and the ice age trails of Rib Lake and Baraboo. For more trails, visit www.trails.com/stateactivity.

**Indoor Waterparks**

Indoor water parks are an option for wet fun. Open parks in Wisconsin Dells include Alakai Resort, Atlantis Waterpark Hotel, Bay of Dreams at Treasure Island, Camelot Hotel & Suites, Carousel Inn, Copa Cabana Resort, Chula Vista Resort, Grand Marquis Resort, Great Wolf Lodge, Howard Johnson Hotel, Antiqua Bay Waterpark, Kalahari Resort, Meadowbrook Resort and New Concord Inn. Various indoor waterparks include Blue Harbor Resort (Sheboygan), Cranberry Country Lodge (Tahoma), Holiday Inn Crawdaddy Cove Waterpark (Madison) and The Lodge at Cedar Creek (Rothschild). For easy access to any of these waterparks’ Web sites, visit themeparks.about.com/cs/waterparks/a/wiindoorwater.htm.

**Zoos**

Get wild and see animals other than deer in Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Zoo is open 365 days a year from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is $9.75 per adult. You also must pay for parking, which is $10 per passenger car. A special Events of Fun Seal/Sea Lion Show is $2. Other zoos around Wisconsin include Animal Adventures Petting Zoo (Delevan), The Family Farm (Grafton), Helen Villas Zoo (Madison), Irvine Park (Chippewa Falls), Jim Peck’s Wildpark (Minoqua), Jo-Don Farms (Franksville), Lincoln Park Zoo (Manitowoc), MacKenzie Environmental Education Center (Poynette), Myrick Park Zoo (La Crosse), Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo (Green Bay), Ochsen Park Zoo (Baraboo), Oshkosh Menominee Park Zoo (Oshkosh), Picker Farm Park, Inc. (Picket) and R Farm (La Farge). For more information on any of these zoos, visit www.wistrail.com/zoos.htm.
Beer that's good for the environment and the taste buds

Sara Jensen
THE POINTER
sjens236@uwsp.edu

As people become more educated about the environment and the world in general, they want to find ways to become better world citizens. Whether that be through living a "greener" lifestyle or choosing foods whose sales are good not only for the consumer but also the producer. It seems like just about every type of food producer is getting in on the organic market, from fruits and vegetables to coffee and tea. Even alcohol is pushing towards being more organic. That's right, you read it correctly; alcohol is going organic.

Over the past couple of years, beer producers such as Miller and Anheuser-Busch have introduced organic products into their repertoire.

Organic products are labeled so because the farming systems which produce the ingredients use little to no pesticides or man-made fertilizers. This is beneficial to the environment in many ways. By reducing or eliminating the use of pesticides, soil fertility increases, as does the diversity of the various species that live in or around the farmland. Organic farming also helps cut down on water use as well as the production of greenhouse gases. Bees which have been Department of Agriculture. These standards even include the chemicals used to clean breweries.

One problem brought up with organic beers is the use of their hops. Hops are what give beer their aroma and bitterness, an important ingredient in the beer making process. The "organicness" of a beer labeled as organic comes into question with the hops: are they organic or nonorganic? Some argue that unless the hops are organic as well, the beer doesn't truly qualify as being organic. However, the USDA's rules on organic foods allows organic beers to have nonorganic hops in them if the producer is unable to get enough organic hops for their batch of beer.

There are some breweries out there though, mostly smaller regional ones, that do produce 100 percent organic beer. If you're lucky enough to live close to one, you'll be helping save the environment even more. By purchasing from a local brewe, greenhouse gases will be cut down because the beer will not have to travel across the country to your refrigerator. Then there are larger companies who use organic hops for some of their varieties and nonorganic for others. Wolaver's is one such company, and the first to widely distribute organic beer in the United States.

Another bonus to buying locally brewed beverages, besides the smaller carbon footprint, is the support of local businesses. For those living on the West Coast or in the Midwest, there is better access to local, organic beers. National brands are also jumping on board everyday. So next time you're at GUInt's, check to see if they have any of the new, environmentally friendly organic beers.

Cheap eats for breakfast or fun

Jessica Spengler
THE POINTER
jspen826@uwsp.edu

Looking for new, cheap and easy recipes? Try this!

Hash Browns

1 large potato — $0.40
1-2 tbsp butter (from $1.00 4 oz stick) — $0.13
(salt, pepper — negligible)

Total: $0.53

Russets (potatoes) are probably easiest to work with and most people have 'em around. You don't need to pre-cook the potatoes for hash browns because they're thin enough to fry. Though for thicker home fries you might want to try precooking.

Use either butter, oil or cooking spray, to prevent sticking and help browning. Using a cast iron flat grill can help you get away with using very little oil or cooking spray. If you're using a pan, try using a non-stick surface one first — it will allow you to use less oil. Butter really makes the potatoes brown nicely, however. So you might want to experiment.

Peel and wash the potato(s). Heat up the pan/griddle and oil/butter it. Meanwhile, grate the potato finely. You can try putting the grated potato in a paper towel or cheesecloth and squeeze the heck out of it. A considerable amount of water will drain out. Scatter the potatoes on the grill and cook until brown on one side. Try to always keep the potatoes spread thinly instead of clumped up together. Flip it with a spatula and cook until desired doneness is achieved. Salt and pepper to taste.
Planetarium holds Laser Light Show

Jessica Spengler
THE POINTER
jasp0826@uwsp.edu

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Allen F. Blocher Planetarium is hosting laser light shows set to rock music Wednesday, March 5 through Saturday, March 8, 2008.

The show will feature lasers dancing to individual songs as an alternative and classic rock. Music featured on these nights will include songs by Smashing Pumpkins, Alice in Chains, White Zombie, Van Halen, Aerosmith, Boston and Journey.

The laser shows are projected using SkyLase, a full-dome solid-state laser projection system, by Audio Visual Imagineering, Inc., an internationally recognized leader in laser engineering and custom laser show production. The company has been designing and manufacturing laser production systems since 1978.

Shows will be held each night at 8:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for students and $3 for students with a UW-SP ID. Tickets are available at the door beginning at 7:30 p.m. and are only valid that day. Proceeds from the show will go to operating the planetarium.

The planetarium is located on the second floor of the UW-SP Science Building and features educational programs every Sunday and Monday for students and the public. Currently spectators can learn about the past, present and future of Mars on Sunday and gaze at the winter sky on Monday. Educational programs are free to the public.

Thursday, March 6: Laser X - The Alternative Experience (Smashing Pumpkins, Foo Fighters, Alice in Chains, White Zombie and more)

Friday, March 7: Laser Viny - Classic Rock (AC/DC, Queen, ELP, Kiss, Aerosmith, Van Halen, Boston, Journey and more)

Saturday March 8: Pink Floyd - Dark Side of the Moon

Free Hours at the Cardio Center

Thursdays: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Any UW-SP student, staff, faculty or alumni can use the Cardio Center during these free hours. Just bring a campus ID to the Cardio Center front desk.

For more information on any events at the Cardio Center, such as the free fitness classes, check out http://www.go2allen.com.

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

Are you looking for something to do this semester? Come check out the day and weekend trips that Outdoor EdVentures has to offer. This semester Outdoor EdVentures will be offering several day trips including a trip to the REI gym, snowshoeing, spelunking and whitewater rafting. If you'd like to leave for an entire weekend, check out the weekend trips and go rock climbing and on a river getaway trip.

If you'd rather do something on your own, come down to Outdoor EdVentures in the lower level of the Allen Center and check out the wide selection of rental equipment they have. With your student ID, you also get a discount!

To see additional information about Outdoor EdVentures or other events happening at the Allen Center check out go2allen.com

Maud Island frogs, no bigger than a fingernail, were recently discovered breeding on the backs of full-grown males at a wildlife sanctuary in Wellington, New Zealand. The Maud Island frog is just one of the four surviving native frog species in New Zealand. All of them, including this tiny frog, are rare and threatened species. Now that researchers have actually seen some of them breeding, there is hope for sustainable numbers. And because the frogs were seen breeding in a sanctuary, researchers believe this means these frogs will be able to breed in other areas besides their native habitats. Maud Island frogs are unlike other, “typical” frogs—they don’t croak, live in water or have webbed feet. They also skip the tadpole phase, emerging from eggs as fully formed frogs.
The 38th annual International Dinner will take place Saturday, March 8, in the Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center. This year’s theme, “Rainbow of Cultures,” is set to showcase the diversity of the student body to reflect the International Club’s motto, “One World for Peace.”

The International Club is one of the largest and most active student organizations on campus, and its membership consists of both international and American students. The group promotes and encourages cultural exchange while offering opportunities for friendship, understanding and social interests.

Prakash Rai, the president of the International Club, said, “[The dinner] brings together international students to showcase their cultures through food, dance, music and fashion for the faculty and other students and the Stevens Point community.”

The dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. with a social hour that features hors d’oeuvres, a sale of cultural artifacts and a silent auction. The dinner itself will feature entries from all over the world. Students and special guests will provide entertainment by showcasing dancing, singing, music, fashion and talent from a variety of cultures represented on campus.

“All proceeds from the event support the Foreign Student Program,” Rai said.

To prepare for the event, 13 co-chair committees focus on different aspects of the evening over the course of a three-month period. Rai said that these committees coordinate food, wait-staff, hospitality and more than 100 volunteers.

Other than the dinner, the club organizes a fall picnic, International Olympics, Speakers Bureau, recreational and educational trips and the upcoming Fang’s Cup athletic competition.

All seats for the event are reserved for $15 per person and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Guests who would like to sit together must place their orders at the same time. Tickets can be purchased at the University Information and Ticket desk, by calling (800) 838-3378 or by ordering online at www.uwsp.edu/centers/uit/ordering.asp. Visa, MasterCard or Discover are accepted.

Volunteer opportunities still exist for those who wish to attend or help out with the dinner. Servers, wait-staff, chefs and setup personnel are still needed. Anyone interested is urged to e-mail iclub@uwsp.edu. Volunteers are exempt from having to buy tickets.

For more information about the International Club, stop by room 062 in the DUC or write iclub@uwsp.edu.
Katie Adams
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

With the hectic life I lead, even the fun things I do are stressful. On Friday, for instance, I completed my teaching practicum, hopped in the car and headed to Menomonie to pick up my little sister from Stout, promptly pointed the car southeast to Madison, arrived mere seconds before my class began and, when it was over, drove back up to Stevens Point to be home before my Saturday plans began. The mere fact that my day was one giant run-on sentence proves just how stressful it was.

If you can pick through all of that, you will realize that I drove for eight hours—one the drive to day—to rock out with no more than 968 other people... They Might Be Giants fans.

I realize this is a long way to go to lead into a band that hit the peak of its popularity in the late 80s and early 90s. Heck, I had not even hit the double digits when the Johns (in the case of They Might Be Giants, the two Johns) began writing hundreds of songs that could very easily be used for teaching—kid-friendly things are my weakness. With songs like "The Sun is a Mass of Incandescent Gas," "James K. Polk," "Don’t Cross the Street In the Middle of the Block" and "Mammal," I could spend hours imagining how I would incorporate TMBG into lessons for my future classroom.

I’m not the only one who has dreamed of incorporating They Might Be Giants into my work—the two Johns have performed music for many major television shows and movies. The theme from "Malcolm in the Middle," "Boss of Me," is by They Might Be Giants, as is "Dr. Evil" from "Austin Powers." Their most recent album, "Shout Out to the States," has been subtitled for American audiences. An English-dubbed version exists, but Sundance Cinemas. Their popcorn doesn’t taste the same and other traditional cartoon conventions are left out. For those who have read "Persepolis," you can see them come to life. For those who have not, both film and novels insist of humping and dumping, as well as the tension of the two Johns (Nixon), a corporate lawyer and Charlotte York (Kristin Davis) in the first season, and Carrie first meets Mr. Big (Chris Noth), her on-again off-again love interest, during Season two. Entertainment Weekly rates them a 3 out of 5... I wonder what the ratings will be for this year’s season.

I’m not the only one who has dreamed of incorporating They Might Be Giants into my work—the two Johns have performed music for many major television shows and movies. The theme from "Malcolm in the Middle," "Boss of Me," is by They Might Be Giants, as is "Dr. Evil" from "Austin Powers." Their most recent album, "Shout Out to the States," has been subtitled for American audiences. An English-dubbed version exists, but Sundance Cinemas. Their popcorn doesn’t taste the same and other traditional cartoon conventions are left out. For those who have read "Persepolis," you can see them come to life. For those who have not, both film and novels insist of humping and dumping, as well as the tension of the two Johns (Nixon), a corporate lawyer and Charlotte York (Kristin Davis) in the first season, and Carrie first meets Mr. Big (Chris Noth), her on-again off-again love interest, during Season two. Entertainment Weekly rates them a 3 out of 5... I wonder what the ratings will be for this year’s season.

I’m not the only one who has dreamed of incorporating They Might Be Giants into my work—the two Johns have performed music for many major television shows and movies. The theme from "Malcolm in the Middle," "Boss of Me," is by They Might Be Giants, as is "Dr. Evil" from "Austin Powers." Their most recent album, "Shout Out to the States," has been subtitled for American audiences. An English-dubbed version exists, but Sundance Cinemas. Their popcorn doesn’t taste the same and other traditional cartoon conventions are left out. For those who have read "Persepolis," you can see them come to life. For those who have not, both film and novels insist of humping and dumping, as well as the tension of the two Johns (Nixon), a corporate lawyer and Charlotte York (Kristin Davis) in the first season, and Carrie first meets Mr. Big (Chris Noth), her on-again off-again love interest, during Season two. Entertainment Weekly rates them a 3 out of 5... I wonder what the ratings will be for this year’s season.

I’m not the only one who has dreamed of incorporating They Might Be Giants into my work—the two Johns have performed music for many major television shows and movies. The theme from "Malcolm in the Middle," "Boss of Me," is by They Might Be Giants, as is "Dr. Evil" from "Austin Powers." Their most recent album, "Shout Out to the States," has been subtitled for American audiences. An English-dubbed version exists, but Sundance Cinemas. Their popcorn doesn’t taste the same and other traditional cartoon conventions are left out. For those who have read "Persepolis," you can see them come to life. For those who have not, both film and novels insist of humping and dumping, as well as the tension of the two Johns (Nixon), a corporate lawyer and Charlotte York (Kristin Davis) in the first season, and Carrie first meets Mr. Big (Chris Noth), her on-again off-again love interest, during Season two. Entertainment Weekly rates them a 3 out of 5... I wonder what the ratings will be for this year’s season.
Women's basketball brings WIAC title and NCAA tournament to town

Rochelle Nechuta
THE POINTER
RNECHUTA@UWSP.EDU

The women's basketball team put an emphasis on surviving the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament last week. They talked about getting through the tournament game by game in search of the title and now that they have, it is time to move on to the NCAA tournament in search of national recognition.

After an extensive battle against the Blugolds in Eau Claire on March 1, the Pointers used their 62-50 win to propel themselves to their second conference title in team history and their first WIAC title since 2004. As a result, the team will enjoy home court advantage in the first round of the NCAA Division 3 Tournament on Friday, March 7.

The second round of the tournament will also take place in Berg Gym on the University of Wisconsin-Steves Point campus on Saturday, March 8.

Pointers coach Shirley Egner is excited to have the team play here on campus, but was mindful that a homecourt advantage does not guarantee victory.

Egner said, “Obviously our kids get to sleep in their own beds, stay in their own daily routines, and we get to play in front of our crowd... It’s a lot easier to take the walk from our locker room up the stairs and down the hall like we’ve done 15 other times this year.”

Victory against the Blugolds completed the three-game tournament for the Pointers, who also beat UW-Oshkosh 84-62 in quarterfinals and UW-Eau Claire in a 79-71 semifinal win earlier in the week. “Throughout the WIAC tournament, our team really came together to play what we call ‘Pointer Basketball,’” said senior Haley Houghton. “After a win in Berg Gym we had two tough road games; one in Whitewater and one in Eau Claire. Both teams were ranked ahead of us, [but] we played solid defense in both games, hit key free-throws and had good execution on offense.”

Game control teetered between the teams in the first half, but UW-SP jostled ahead by two before the intermission. In the second half, the teams fought hard for the title but with eight minutes left to play the Pointers turned on the heat. They went 10-for-12 on the free throw line and ended the game with a 12-1 run.

The Pointers were led by senior Chelsea Kranz who had 15 total points and scored 13 of those in the second half alone.

Other seniors also stepped up their game for the championship. Houghton earned a career-high 15 points during the game and grabbed seven rebounds, while Laura Neuenfeldt led the Pointers with a total of eight rebounds. Jessi Sporle added 10 points and seven rebounds.

“To win the conference tournament was amazing. At the beginning of the year as a team, we made it one of our goals,” Houghton remarked. “For everyone on the team, freshmen to seniors, it is the first WIAC title we all have experienced. Cutting down the net at the culmination of the game was a great experience as well. The net now hangs in our locker room as motivation we see every day.”

University of Chicago will play the first game on Friday, March 7, against St. Thomas in Berg Gym at 6:00 p.m. The Pointers will take on St. Norbert College afterwards at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets are on sale for the first round games at the UW-SP Ticket and Information Office. Prices are $6 for adults, $4 for youth under 12 years old. $3 for students with an ID.

“It’s a big deal; our kids have worked hard to earn this homecourt hosting opportunity by going on the road and beating Whitewater and Eau Claire,” Egner said about the NCAA tournament. “It paid off for them and now we’ve just got to use it to our advantage.”

Favre and away: four more years!

Steve Apfel
SPORTS REPORTER

The football world was understandably shocked this week when the NFL’s greatest beacon of goodness and shining white light announced his retirement. Yes, Brett Favre will no longer be playing professional football.

Since the announcement was made Tuesday morning, the media has been flooded with pictures and video footage of his number four, throwing touchdowns, making speeches and smiling. To conserve time, perhaps all these montages should be kept on hand for another four decades just in case Favre dies.

Rather than rehash his fantastic career, I’ve been wondering what Favre will be up to now without football. There has been speculation that he could follow the lead of Terry Bradshaw, Dan Marino and Troy Aikman into the world of broadcasting. This seems unlikely. The man himself claims he’ll be spending more time with his family and relaxing. I don’t find this answer to be satisfactory either. That’s why there’s only one viable solution: Brett Favre will run for president.

It makes perfect sense. He’s past the requisite age of 35. He surely has enough money and willing backers. He already has a wife with a cause (Deanna, and breast cancer). He wore the number four and a presidential term is four years. Coincidence? I think not! Perhaps, he’s been secretly planning this for years.

Another obstacle that nay-sayers might be throwing up is that it’s a little late to begin a campaign, but really Favre’s campaign began last September when he brought a young, inexperienced Packer team to the brink of a Super Bowl. He’s a natural leader! He could form the first Green and Gold Party, run as an independent and clean up the election in November! I’m a hardcore Obama supporter, but I just might be willing to switch my allegiances. It’s not like this nation has never had a good ole’ boy southern president (see Carter, Jimmy). He clearly has the support of the South, and even more certainly, the North (except maybe Detroit, Chicago and Minn).

We may all be saddened that the Brett Favre era has ended in Green Bay, but we can take heart in knowing that the Brett Favre era in America is just beginning. Four more years!

Also, just a thought, but wouldn’t John Elway make a fantastic running mate? Just consider it.
The Pointers squeaked in a second place finish in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference indoor championship game against University of Wisconsin-Whitewater on March 1 at Rachel Gym in the Athletics Center. Though the match-up would be tight throughout regulation time, the Pointers would go on to etch their names on the 2008 WIAC title in their 74-71 victory over UW-Stevens Point.

Starting the tournament with a 74-66 overtime win against UW-La Crosse may have been too close for comfort, but the Pointers took advantage of the victory and moved on to the Belles, who failed to rally in the 88-65 semifinal game. The triumph ushered the team into Warhawk territory where they would trail and fall by an unbreakable four points in the WIAC Championship game.

Khalifa El-Amin started the night for the Pointers when he sank a 3-point shot in the first two minutes of the game. Scoring teterred back and forth between the teams until a basket from UW-SP senior Steve Hicklin tied the game at 34-34. A 3-pointer from Warhawk Myles McKay would break the even ground when he sank the shot with the last second of the first half.

UW-Whitewater used a 12-point run to pull away from the Pointers early in the second half, until UW-SP rallied with five 3-pointers to bring themselves within a basket of the Warhawks in the last minute of regulation. A trio of UW-Whitewater free-throws was the final nail in the championship, and the Pointers claimed the title with the 75-71 outcome.

UW-Whitewater automatically qualified for the NCAA Division III Tournament when they won the WIAC title, and the decision was announced on www.ncaasports.com, Monday, March 3, that UW-SP would also be included in the contest.

The Pointers enter the NCAA III playoffs on Friday, March 7, against the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Maroons. The team travels to University of St. Thomas (Minn.) for the first round of the tournament, with a start time set for 6:00 p.m. The Maroons are 18-7 overall and will be traveling to the tournament after an automatic bid as champions of the University Athletic Association regular season. They are coached by Mike McGrath in their second NCAA tourney in a row.
Your College Survival Guide:  
Or: How I learned to stop worrying and love.com

By Pat "Strangelove" Rothfuss

With help from the Afterdark Coffee House.

Patrick,

My friends are all on Facebook, and after a long campaign, they've finally managed to get me hooked. Sorry, I meant to say, "addicted." I really think I might have a problem. I've been spending, like, two hours a day on there. What do you think about this whole social networking thing? I could use some college students with Facebook addictions.

I had only one friend. Only three people had even looked at my profile. Suddenly it's like I was back in 6th grade. Why aren't I as popular as Josh? Was there something wrong with me?

So I find some new pictures, bulk up my profile, and go searching for people I know, so I can add them as friends. I track down an old buddy from Washington State, and a UW-SP friend who lives in St. Louis now.

All of this takes about 10 hours over a couple days. But at the end of that I've got a respectable profile and a handful of friends. A few people have posted testimonials about me, telling the world how cool I am. I start to relax, content in the knowledge that I'm not a total loser.

I've met my soul mate! I've got 15 friends now, and I've got a respectable page on InDesign.

But then I call the owner of the Mission Coffee House to see what bands are playing, and he tells me all the info is on the Mission's MySpace page.

So I put together a profile on Myspace so I can find out what bands are playing at the Mission. I don't even look at any pages other than the Mission's because I don't want to get sucked in. I have better things to do with my time.

But the next time I see Jordan, he says, "I added you as a friend because your profile looked so sad and lonely."

Suddenly I'm nervous again. Does my profile really look pitiful? When I get home I take a more serious look around MySpace. That's when I learn that MySpace is like Friendster Squared. Friendster is like a cocktail party, MySpace is like a high school popularity contest. At a circus. On two tiers of acid.

On Myspace you can customize your page. You can have music, videos, cartoons, flash animation. The trendy thing is to have ALL of these, all playing at the same time, as soon as anyone loads your page.

Sweet Jesus, if I ever teach a class on shifty webpage design, I'll use Myspace as the textbook. Orange text on a green background? How about 16 point red stout text with translucent windows? It's like someone took a million chimps, gave each one a lobotomy, a spoonful of sweet, sweet, methadone and let them run amok on InDesign.

But that's just the tip of the garish, attention-whoring, style-seizure that is Myspace.

I look at Jordan's page, and he has TWO HUNDRED friends.

I have two friends. I suck. I try to improve my profile, but now I get all self conscious about my choices. Does this picture make me look fat? Will people think I'm sissy if I list Sarah McLachlan in my favorite music? What kind page background defines me, as a person?

In Friendster, you need to know a person to invite them as a friend.

Not so on Myspace. Two days after I'm on Myspace I start getting invites from random strangers, asking to be my friend. I'd look at their page and think, "Yeah, I'm a writer from Wisconsin who likes Buffy the Vampire Slayer. You're a professional dominatrix from Scranton who's into monster trucks and Tuvian throat singing. Finally, I've met my soul mate!"

Other differences? Well, on Myspace there's a lot more young girls with their boobs out, and a lot of guys waxing rhapsodic over said bosoms, crafting lyric posts such as: "YOUR SO SEXY!!" and "this picture is off the hizzie gurl, HELLA."

And while Friendster is a little stuffy and formal for my taste, Myspace frequently reeks of desperation. It's a popularity contest with the added heightenedness that someone's actually keeping score. So there are a half-million little Potemkin profiles out there, most of them trying just a little too hard to prove they are beautiful, unique flowers.

But it's not all bad. A lot of cool bands have Myspace pages. BNL is there, and the Decemberists. Feingold has a page too. It's an odd mix of professional seriousness and apeshit amateurism.

For all its flaws, I like Myspace more. I've got 15 friends now, and I've gone from being insecure to downright snobby. Hell, just yesterday I refused to add a guy to my friends list because he had "Spawn" as one of his favorite movies. Which, you have to admit, is a pretty good reason.

E-mail pat for advice at proft@uwinsu.xm.edu. Do it. Do it now.

For enduring my unspeakable emotional abuse, Dave gets a gift certificate to the survival Guide's sponsor: the newly opened Afterdark Coffee House, built on the bones of the old Mission. I strongly suggest he go there and engage in some real social networking. By which I mean hanging out with real people, playing games, and drinking coffee.

The Afterdark is open from three in the afternoon to three at night. Yes. Point finale has a place for us nocturnes to hang out. And don't worry Dave, if you start to get the shakes, they have V1F.
A Woman’s Intuition: Doing what you love

I think it was Mark Twain who said, "Never let your schooling get in the way of your education." Probably Mark Twain, perhaps Ben Franklin; one of those prolific dead white guys who could sum up an entire human condition in a few words. What I wouldn’t give to take a stroll through their brains.

So, Mr. Twain warns us that our schooling can get in the way of our education. I think I’m starting to understand his point.

We are encouraged by our professors, parents and mentors to be involved in extra-curricular activities, to enhance our market-ability, to make us more well rounded individuals, to be better citizens of the world, to do right by great-grandma Hazel. But at what point do we need to stop rounding ourselves out and start digging deep?

This is just me, but at the moment I feel very stretched. Stretched between several outlets. The ironic thing is, I distinctly remember being a senior in high school four years ago and vowing to myself that I would never allow myself to get involved in as many things as I was at that point in my life. Now I know that I didn’t even begin to comprehend what busy really is.

Once we reach a certain point in our development as a professional in whatever field we’ll be entering, I think it’s important to start specializing and start prioritizing our extra-curricular activities to include mainly activities that will enhance our skills as professionals in our fields.

Another famous person whose name escapes me at the moment said, “Everything we do is done with an eye toward something else.” It’s scary to think that way. That everything we do is leading toward something else, that eventually all that we have done will culminate into the achievement of [insert life goal].

We should be selfish with our time and energy. As Dwayne, in “Little Miss Sunshine,” said, “You do what you love and f*** the rest,” because that is what is going to make you truly happy and fulfilled.

And on a completely unrelated note: I’m convinced that the only reason Brett Favre retired was so he can focus his energies on his 2008 presidential bid.

With Your Navigator from U.S. Cellular® you get a voice-guided GPS system with a local search function built right into your phone. So you’ll always have clarity and direction.

U.S. Cellular is wireless where you matter most.

[Advertisement]

Write The Pointer.
pointer@uwsp.edu
Resident’s Evil

Stupid Protestors!
I’m going to be late for class AGAIN!

Gotta catch the train. Thanks.
No problem.

Neverland

Can we go for drinks?
Can we go for drinks?
Can we go for drinks?

Where I Come From

Well, I hope you learned something.
The girls basketball team are great at counter-attacks.

How bout water - baloons and water don’t mix.

Little Cynics

(smug)

Comments on Comics?
e-mail Joy Ratchman at jratc567@uwsp.edu.

Now Playing at Rogers Campus Cinema
March 7 - 13

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

Semi-Pro
(1:10) (3:10) 5:10 7:10 9:10

Charlie Bartlett
(1:20) (3:20) 5:20 7:20 9:20

No Country For Old Men
(1:15) (3:40) 6:50 9:15

(Saturday and Sunday Only)

OPENING FRIDAY, MARCH 7th AT 11:00 AM
FREE T-SHIRTS
Kes to the first 30 customers
AND a FREE Belts’ Glass to the first 120 customers!
HAIR EXTENSIONS NATURAL COLOR
Closed May 28-June 6

AMERICA'S #1
HAIR EXTENSION
Franchise

50.00
.
OFF

WITH
PURCHASE
OF
ANY
LARGE
PIZZA
AT
REGULAR
PRICE

OPEN LATER THAN LATE
715-342-4242
249 DIVISION ST. - STEVENS POINT
OPEN 1AM - SAME EVERY DAY
A 10% order gets the goods delivered.
DELIVERY FASTER THAN FAST

OFFER EXPIRES 3/20/08.

Call Tyler 920-268-8313
SMSR LEASES
3 bedroom duplex, 1608 College.
Apt available for June and July.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/08. No coupon necessary. Just ask.

1 Bedroom apt. Rental: $450 / month

1 bedroom apt. Rental: $500 / month

1 bedroom apt. Rental: $550 / month

2 bedroom apt. Rental: $600 / month

3 bedroom apt. Rental: $700 / month

4 bedroom apt. Rental: $800 / month

5 bedroom apt. Rental: $900 / month

6 bedroom apt. Rental: $1,000 / month

2 bedroom apt. $485 / month

3 bedroom apt. $518 / month

4 bedroom apt. $548 / month

5 bedroom apt. $578 / month

6 bedroom apt. $600 / month

Any number of toppings on any size pizza, $1.99 each

Any 2 medium pizzas, $10.99

Any 1 large pizza, $13.99

Any 1 triple topping pizza, $18.99

Any 2 large pizzas, $24.99

The Couponist
313 Main St.
Stevens Point

Call 715-340-1799

www.mrmproperties.com

Offer expires 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

1 bedroom apt. $400 / month

2 bedroom apt. $485 / month

3 bedroom apt. $578 / month

4 bedroom apt. $675 / month

5 bedroom apt. $775 / month

6 bedroom apt. $875 / month

Any 2 medium pizzas, $9.99 each

Any 1 large pizza, $13.99

Any 1 triple topping pizza, $18.99

Any 2 large pizzas, $24.99

FREE PIZZA WITH 2008-2009 RENTAL

If you rent a 2 bedroom or larger apartment with 2008-2009 rental, you get a FREE PIZZA on your 2nd visit!

Offer expires 3/21/08. No coupon necessary. Just ask.

One discount per order.

Toppes.com

OPEN LATER THAN LATE
715-342-4242
249 DIVISION ST. - STEVENS POINT
OPEN 1AM - SAME EVERY DAY
A 10% order gets the goods delivered.
DELIVERY FASTER THAN FAST

OFFER EXPIRES 3/20/08.

Call Tyler 920-268-8313

SUMMER SUBLEASER
3 bedroom duplex, 1608 College.
Available June 1st - August 31st.

3 bedroom duplex, 1608 College.
Available June 1st - August 31st.

ANY TOPPERSTIX™ AT REGULAR MENU PRICE

One discount per order. Additional offers at toppes.com.

BUFFALO WINGS AND TOPPERSTIX™

WASHINGTON WINGS AND TOPPERSTIX™

NO DEALERSHIP FEES
NO (*(1/2)) APPLES OR RASPBERRIES
NO DEALER COSTS
NO DEALER OVERHEAD

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.

OFFER EXPIRES 3/21/08.

No coupon necessary. Just ask.