General education proposal draft released

The General Degree Requirements at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are currently under review by the General Education Policy Review Committee so they may be improved upon to benefit the students.

"The General Education Program provides the framework of a liberal education, equipping students with the knowledge and skills to facilitate intellectual and personal growth, pursue their advanced studies and improve the world in which they live," says the faculty senate approved mission statement for the new general education program.

In November 2006, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities found a number of problems with the current GEP at UW-SP. The committee was founded with direction from Provost Mark Nook to design a new GEP replacing or improving upon the current GEP (known as GDRs) to solve many of these problems.

Feedback was also provided from the campus community throughout the spring and is still being sought actively. Problems within the current general education system include a confusing design, a heavy course load and a lack of courses that teach needed skills.

The committee predicts that the earliest the GEP will take effect is fall of 2010 and will only be in place for new freshmen. In this fashion, current students will not be affected.

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Student Television prepares to switch channels

Student Television has been an organization at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for many years, airing students work, student shows, special events, sports, NASA and Democracy Now on channel 10. Now, Charter Communications, the Stevens Point area cable provider, has decided to move Student Television from their consistent channel 10 to channel 98 or channel 983.

The new general education system will require students to take between 41 and 44 credits of general education courses which is a reduction of around 20 credits from the current GEP.

These include eight credits of core requirements, 21 credits of human culture and global society, nine credits of natural science and environmental responsibility and three credits in personal and social responsibility.

Along with the credit changes and reductions, the current writing emphasis requirements are going to be completely removed from the GEP. The current purpose of the writing emphasis is to develop the student's ability to communicate effectively, think critically, exercise problem solving skills and work collaboratively in diverse teams.

STV will be on channel 98 for the basic expanded cable package and channel 983 for digital cable subscribers. C-Span will be taking over the channel 10 spot. This change will occur on Sep. 30, 2008, but the change will be located separate from the normal channels received on basic cable.

"I feel that moving STV to channel 98 will decrease the number of students who come across the channel while flipping through them," said Matt Guidry, senior at UW-SP. "I guess we will just see how things turn out in the end."

We will find out as soon as STV makes this transition if the viewership will be affected.
Museum in danger

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Tucked away in a corner of the Learning Resource Center, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point actually has a museum.

The Museum of Natural History exhibits ecosystems, native cultures, wildlife, rock and mineral assortment, along with an extensive array of research collections for academic use. The museum also contains one of the largest herbariums in the state that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources frequently uses to identify various plants.

Ray Reser, the acting curator of the Museum of Natural History, claims that the Museum has been a great academic tool for UW-SP and the many schools that give field trips through the exhibits.

"Usually between 200-250 schools visit the Museum of Natural History every year," Reser said.

According to Reser, the museum collection started in the mid 1960s, but was officially opened in 1968, though it has been rarely advertised due to budget issues. Once funding and budget issues. Once

Last year, the museum underwent a series of reviews by a committee designated by the Provost. After six months of meetings and other review sessions, a report of about 200 pages of recommendation for expansion of the museum resulted. Reser has made every effort since he began to make the museum as accessible as possible for grants and accreditation and to really expand its academic opportunities. In addition to this recommendation, the Student Government Association passed a resolution to save the museum.

Closing the museum brings up one more specific conflict, namely that Native American artifacts held by the museum may be subject to repatriation due to specific national and state laws. Regardless of these concerns, Reser has plans for the museum, including a possible specialization in upper Great Lakes artifacts.

"As it stands, the museum is an incredible diamond in the rough due to the depth and breadth of its collections, given that, it would really benefit from a focus on the upper Great Lakes region," Reser said.

SIEO talks hazing

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This week, the Student Involvement and Employment Office took steps to provide students, faculty and administration with knowledge and awareness about campus hazing. Hazing, a serious issue, affects all members involved and can range from harmless pranks to more serious, dangerous acts. The National Study of Student Hazing released a report recently with initial findings showing that "more than half of college students involved in clubs, teams, and organizations experience hazing."

According to an in-depth survey of students, faculty, administrators, and community members done over the summer at UW-SP, most people are not aware of the issues with hazing or the wide extent of activities that can follow under this lengthy definition. To push for more awareness and knowledge, a committee formed over the summer to organize the first annual Hazing Prevention Week. All throughout this week, there have been a wide publicity surrounding the topic of hazing. Buttons, flyers, posters and more have been spread throughout the campus. Cookies have been handed out as an example of how hazing can be as simple as making someone make a batch of cookies.

"Students and faculty have really responded well to this week," said Becca Franzen, Leadership Coordinator for the SIEO. "We've had students sharing stories, faculty and staff telling us how appreciative of

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Have a heart? Prove it! Give up some of your blood.

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When I was a young pharmacy technician in the military, a pharmacist told me a story I'll never forget. When he was a pharmacist in training, he was given the job of injecting medications into hospital intravenous bags. One day, his instructor took him to the premature baby ward and showed him where the IV bag that he had filled earlier on a day had been placed. The bag was attached by a small syringe to the tiny arm of an infant, giving it life. At that moment, my friend realized that the long hours were worth it.

Most students here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point wouldn’t necessarily get a chance to make a direct contribution to a tender infant, but by attending the blood drive at the Dreyfus University Center, you can still make a difference in another’s life. This Monday, Sept. 29 and Tuesday, Sept. 30, the BloodCenter of Wisconsin will be holding camp in The Laird Room in the DUC on campus. Stopping in for merely 15 minutes between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on those two days can help save another’s life.

"The need for blood never stops; patients need blood 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year." - Wellhouse

"Throughout the blood drive on Sept. 29 and 30, we are looking for whole blood donors as well as platele­ton donors. Platelets help patients with clotting disorders, cancer, anemia, trauma victims - just to name a few," said Rath Wellhouse, UW-SP's point of contact for the BloodCenter of Wisconsin. This giving organization would like to have at least 100 people each day walk through the doors of The Laird Room and present themselves to donate. In the past, the BloodCenter has acknowledged that UW-SP students are of the very giving sort and wants to challenge them to meet or exceed this mark.

If you are feeling itchy to donate again after those two dates, donors are asked to wait eight weeks to ensure safety for the donor and the blood recipient. Platelet donors will only have to wait five to seven days. Note that after donation bodily fluid volumes will be replenished within roughly 24 hours as long as fluids are consumed, like water and juice, but it will take a little longer for the red blood cells to replenish completely.

Wellhouse also said, "The need for blood never stops; patients need blood 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. There are no exceptions. Diseases, cancers, trauma and accidents never take a break. We ask that if you are able to, please donate. Someone out there needs help and they need you!"

For more information on the blood drive, e-mail Wellhouse at rwelh719@uws.p. edu or call the BloodCenter toll-free at 1-888-310-7555.

In a college career, no one can deny there is always ample time to write a paper, take a test, or pull an all-nighter, but there is a limited time to change a person’s life forever.

**Non-traditional students make presence felt on campus**

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Not everyone knows what it takes to be a non-traditional student.

When traditional student Eric Neumeier was asked who he considered to be a non-traditional student, he said, "someone that takes two or three years off between high school and college ... someone that’s already life-experienced." Many students in the residence halls don’t wish to get in trouble for drinking return home for the weekend?" Underage drinking situations.

UW-Whitewater won the "2007 Suitcase College of the Year Award," which might not be the most prestigious, but there’s one thing to consider: do incoming freshmen really want to go to a school that becomes a ghost town on the weekend with nothing to do? I think not.

In the non-trad office in the Dreyfus University Center, they describe themselves as relaxed, aged, life-experienced conversationalists. For them, this office is like a safe haven - the non-trad hang out, as someone has described it. They go there to talk and help each other.

"When you can’t talk to 18-year-olds ... because they only have three things on their minds." Andrew, a non-traditional student said.

Robert is another non-traditional student, who spent 26 years in the U.S. Navy.

He returned to school to "get the piece of paper and try to make a difference.

Beth, a non-traditional junior, found camaraderie with others in the non-trad office. Coming back to school was Beth’s way out of the Navy and her way to spend more time with her family, but she was intimidated by the "young people.

She said, "I expected the young people to be a lot smarter than me, with new high school curriculums and AP classes.

Branda, another non-trad, agreed with Beth. She also went on to state that as a non-traditional student, she’s just like the traditional ones in the sense of being crunched for time when it comes to homework or stressed out over finals.

Neumeier’s opinion of non-traditional students was one of admiration. He said, "They [non-traditional students] are some of the coolest people you will meet because they have life experience beyond what I do as a traditional student."
Science & Outdoors

Wildlife society assists Department of Natural Resources

This past summer, The Wildlife Society at UW-SP headed The Deer Project. While many UW-SP students were taking time off from anything related to what they study in classes, about twenty students surrounded themselves in a real world experience of their field.

"[It's] a good way for hunters to be responsible and active in it without the hunting aspect."

-Murkowski

Headed by Adam Murkowski, a senior in Wildlife Management, these twenty students, most from TWS, counted the doe to fawn ratios at four Deer Management Unit sites.

These four sites were originally ten, but due to funding TWS was only able to do four. Most of the funding was outside grants and the general project budget. This went toward reimbursing the students that drove to the DMU sites to count the doe to fawn ratio and toward fueling the Civil Air Patrol. The Civil Air Patrol pilots donated their time to do this.

"[The Civil Air Patrol's] cooperation was the only thing that made this project feasible," Murkowski said.

TWS's goal with this deer project was to find out the fawn to doe ratios on an annual basis to measure reproductive success. They also attempted to get civilians involved in the counting process. Only 6 percent of hunters know and understand where the deer population estimates come from. Getting them involved would give them a better understanding.

"[It's] a good way for hunters to be responsible and active in it without the hunting aspect," Murkowski said.

Being involved in a project like this is something Murkowski said he was "passionate about." It also allows the other students involved a hands-on opportunity in the wildlife field.

Along with heading the deer project, Murkowski is also the vice-president of TWS. The TWS chapter of UW-SP has just won, for the fifth time, the award for best in the nation.

"We won it so much, no one else had a chance," Murkowski said.

In large cities like New York or Chicago, congestion on roads can be a major problem. Even in "smaller" cities like Milwaukee or Madison, rush hour traffic can cause major headaches and stress to commuters, but thanks to scientists in California, the solution to traffic congestion may lie in magnets.

Researchers at the University of California-Berkeley created a guidance system installed in buses that allowed them to run on their own, with only minimum aid from a driver. The researchers inserted tiny magnets, most of which were no bigger or stronger than refrigerator magnets, along a mile of road in San Leandro, California. Sensors on the bottom of the bus detect the magnetic field waves and a computer installed in the bus give the bus driving directions.

But the bus isn’t entirely on its own. A driver stays in the bus, controlling the speed, but not the direction of the motor coach. On Friday, Sept. 5, the bus took its maiden journey down a bus-only lane in San Leandro. The 60-foot bus cruised in a straight line until it pulled over to a bus stop with stunning accuracy. The width between the bus and the curb was merely a half-inch.

"It’s this precision that can make public transit more efficient and reliable," Han-Shue Tan, a UC-Berkeley engineer told Mercury News. "You can get the precision of a rail system with the flexibility of a bus. It’s like making buses into light rail."

The California Department of Transportation provided $320,000 to fund the Automated Bus Guidance System demonstration project, which was conducted by the California Partners for Advanced Transit and Highways program based at UC-Berkeley.

An important aspect of this system involves the use of the Bus Rapid Transit, which like a train, uses buses along a designated lane, making stops at every station and picking up passengers. An alternative to light rail train lines, which are often controversial, a Bus Rapid Transit line is relatively inexpensive to build and operate, while also offering the advantages of a rail car with the flexibility of a bus.

"We have seen increasing interest among transit agencies in this technology because of its potential to bring the efficiency of public bus service to a level approaching that of light rail systems, but at a much lower overall cost," says Wei-Bin Zhang, PATH transit research program leader at UC-Berkeley.
The Pointer women’s tennis team is on a roll. The team is on a three-game winning streak and are 5-1 overall this season. “So far so good—we’ve been doing very well,” Coach Karlyn Jakusz said.

Successful single players Rachel Benn and Kaitlyn King return this season. Benn plays doubles with Chelsea Albaugh and had a 13-5 overall. No. 1 single record last year. King earned a 9-6 overall record last year and returns to play both singles and doubles for the team.

“We only lost two players and picked up a pretty good freshman this year and the players that returned all practiced a ton over the offseason and during the summer,” said Jakusz.

“I thought they would be a top 10 team last year. King Tennis stomps Concordia in third straight win http://pointer.uwsp.edu

THE POINTER

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Benn and Kaitlyn King return this earned a 9-6 overall record last year and returns to play both singles and doubles.

“This could be our year,” said Jakusz.

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The Pointer football team is heading into this week with a full head of steam after a dominating victory over Iowa Wesleyan. The Pointers shook out the bugs of week one to come back in week two and put up 45 points on Iowa Wesleyan. They allowed only seven points, shutting out the Tigers for the first three quarters. Now at 2-0 heading into their final non-conference game against the Azusa Pacific Cougars (1-3), the players are trying to carry the momentum of last week’s win into this week’s game.

“It’s always nice to get a win like we did and carry it into the next game,” said junior defensive back Bryan Blum.

Azusa Pacific is coming off a big win of its own against Pointer conference rival UW-La Crosse (0-3). It was Azusa’s first win against a University of Wisconsin school in four tries, and the team’s first win of the season. After crushing losses against Carroll, San Diego and West Texas A&M, the Azusa Pacific Cougars squeaked by La Crosse with a 13-10 victory. The Cougars have been off to a rough start but the Pointers are doing their best not to underestimate their upcoming opponent.

“They have played really good teams and our coaches made it a point to let us know that,” said Blum.

Besides playing tough teams the Cougars have fallen victim to some injuries at key positions. John VanDen Raadt, a true freshman, is now leading the Cougar offense at quarterback. After starter Aaron Strazichic was injured in the season opener and back up Rodney Trimm went down in week three. The inexperience of VanDen Raadt should work to the Pointers’ advantage.

“We’ll just try to be aggressive and get him to make mistakes,” said Blum.

In order to apply the pressure to VanDen Raadt, the Pointers will have to shut down Cougar running back Chris Brown who rushed for 144 yards on 32 carries against La Crosse. The Pointers have not allowed their opponents 100 yards rushing yet this season. If they can shut down the running game and force VanDen Raadt to throw the ball there is a good chance the Pointers will be able to create turnovers. VanDen Raadt has thrown four interceptions in just two games. If the Pointers can stop Brown, look for some big defensive plays. “We have to tackle well and avoid missing tackles,” Blum said.

The offense of the Cougars is hurting, but their real weak spot has been their defense. The Cougar defense has allowed 1,720 total yards of offense by their opponents this season. They have allowed their opponents an average of 49 points per game, including 75 points to West Texas A&M in week three. Look for Jared Beckwith, who went 18-24 for 184 yards with one interception and two touchdowns last week, to capitalize through the air against a weak Azusa secondary.

“The Pointers are off to a good start and will try to keep it going against an Azusa team that is just starting to come together and play well. The game starts at 1 p.m. at the new Goerke Field this Saturday. After this, the Pointers head into seven straight conference games, the first of which is on the road against UW-River Falls.

UW-SP vs. Iowa Wesleyan

Scoring: UW- 0 0 0 0-7
UW-SP-14 213 7- 45

Passing yards: 118 205
- Mike Krueger ran a 46-yard interception return for the fifth team touchdown.
- Kicker Ryan Grabinski kicked six extra points and a 41-yard field goal.

NFL news and notes: week 3

Steve Apfel
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Are you a Detroit Lions fan? Come on now, be honest. It’s not like you’re rooting for the worst team of the best decade. Oh wait. Yes, you are. You may continue hanging your head in shame because the firing of team president and general manager Matt Millen won’t save you.

Yes, I’ve seen you with your “Fire Millen” signs at Ford Field, and I watched you participate in the fan walkout in protest of his decisions. It’s been a long, lonely tenure under a man who was supposed to turn around a franchise in a definite downswing.

That’s just the thing, Lions fan. The Lions weren’t any good before Millen. In fact, I can’t remember a time in my life when the Lions didn’t have a firm grasp on the bottom of the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division. Sure, they used to fight for their spots in the division.

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IF YOU
don't RECOGNIZE
THE NUMBER,
ANSWER WITH
AN ACCENT.

With Free Incoming Calls, you never pay for the calls you get, no matter who they’re from.

getusc.com
Lady golfers start strong

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Coming off an outstanding 2007 season in which they placed 12th in the NCAA Division III tournament, the women's golf team looks stronger than ever after its first three tournaments.

Last season, the No. 4 ranked Pointers picked up their first WIAC championship in the program's eight-year history and went on to visit the Centennial Oaks Golf Club in Waverly, Iowa for their first NCAA Women's Golf Championships.

"I think we could have done better than 12th place, but we had some nerves going into the tournament," said Head Coach Matt Interbartolo.

This year, the Pointers are on their way to participation in the National Championship again with two tournament wins and a fourth place finish.

Their first time out at the UW-Eau Claire Fall Invite, the Pointers finished fourth out of 26 teams, beating conference rival UW-Eau Claire by 10 strokes and losing to St. Thomas, Minn. by 5 strokes.

At the Plateau Invite, Michelle Pascavis shot an 84 on the second day of competition and that performance led the women's golf team to a dominant first place finish. The Pointers shot 681 combined points and ended the day 21 strokes ahead of second place.

The Pointers' most recent tournament turned out to be the most impressive ever for the ladies. The team fired 308 in an opening round at the Illinois Wesleyan Fall Golf Classic for a new school record. They shot a second round of 300 to capture their second straight first place finish. The two-day total of 608 also sets a school record.

Michelle Pascavis shot an opening round two over par 74 to pace the Pointers. On day two, Pascavis and teammate Jessica Urban both shot an even par 72, a new school record for a single-day individual score, finishing in first and second respectively in the field of 120 golfers. Pascavis' two-day total of 146 also set a school record.

"We have a young team that I expected to be strong, but I just wasn't sure how strong," said Interbartolo.

"Michelle Pascavis and Jessica Urban are extremely tough, and they both want to be the best." The Pointers will host their home tournament at the Stevens Point Country Club this weekend, hoping to ward off St. Thomas, UW-Eau Claire, and Carleton College to win their third straight tournament championship.

Though they lost a trio of games to the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, the Pointer volleyball team showed a spark of promise on Wednesday night in the Derg Gym.

The team fell behind after they kept a close rein on the Eagles in the first game, but UW-La Crosse gained steam to finish in victory.

"It's just one of those things that we've talked to the girls about, how we just have to get mentally ready to come out to play hard and shake off mistakes," said Coach Stacey White after the Pointers' slow start.

The Pointers have nine freshmen on their roster and have three or four of those first-year players on the court at a time.

"We have strong leadership. We have a senior and two juniors so we are able to utilize those players to be kind of our base and everyone else is building on top of that," said White.

She admits it is a young team but knows the players have a large amount of talent to work with.

While mentioned senior Amanda Mix, who plays libero for UW-SP She is the only senior on the team and leads with 221 digs.

"She definitely leads the way. She's an emotional leader. She's solid in the back row and she's the one who has really helped the younger players," White said. She said senior Pamela Nora is also a guiding Pointer force on the court.

"She's a junior and she's been a starter for the last three years," White said. "She's been able to lead by example.

UW-SP is 6-9 overall and 0-2 in conference. They have a trio of conference games coming up in the beginning of October and travel to a tournament in Wesson, Ill. this upcoming weekend.

"I would just call it another year where we have new players and we're continuing to build toward playoffs," said White.

Senior on the Spot

Beaumont Luce - Football

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Major: Health Promotion/Wellness
Hometown: Barnwell, Wisconsin
Do you have any nicknames? The Matador, The Yak, Reggie, The Italian Sausage.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory?
I saw that there's a new live mascot dog named McKenzie, but I haven't seen her yet. That moment will probably be most prominent.

What is your most embarrassing sports moment? Anytime they let me on the field there's great potential to renew my most embarrassing moment.

Have any game-day rituals or superstitions? The night before the game I usually sleep with my game socks on my arms and for breakfast I eat a bowl of dry cereal then slurp a bowl full of milk.

Who is your sports hero? Anyone who does that thing where they strap themselves to the wing of a plane and soar around the sky.

What is your sport philosophy? If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

Pointer volleyball loses 3-0 to La Crosse Eagles

THE POINTER

September 25, 2008

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men on their roster and have three or four of those first-year players on the court at a time.

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Imagine a play with only one actor but multiple characters. No, it’s neither schizophrenic nor psych­
delic. It’s “Jonna’s Body, please hold,” a one-woman show about battling cancer that left audiences spellbound this Saturday, Sept. 20 in the Noel Fine Arts Center’s Jenkins Theatre.

But Jonna Tamases doesn’t just perform the show, she IS the show. A three-time cancer survivor, she channeled the anger from her experiences into a performance the LA Times calls, “Witty... delightful... unabash­edly theatrical,” and the Daily Times deems “Cheverly scripted, beautifully executed.”

“We’re all in this to­gether really. We all experience the same kind of things, different details.”

-Jonna Tamases

The performance centers on an energetic receptionist who takes calls from grumpy tenants like Baby Toe, who suffocates inside high heels, and Upper Back, who threatens to go on strike if the bad posture continues. Meanwhile, the boss is absent­mind­ed and rarely checks in until the evil guests, Cancer, show up uninvited.

While the personification of body parts is comical, the underlying theme is poignant, reflecting on serious top­ics like mortality. The juxtaposition of emotions painfully reflects those of a cancer patient.

Tamases is quoted on her Web site, www.jonnasbody.com, as saying, “I wanted to make a show that expresses the fullness of life: the laughter, joy, silliness and power as well as the struggle.”

She’s in a personal interview that during her bouts with cancer she experienced “a range of emotions.”

In between and after her bouts of cancer, she also had a range of experi­ences, including attending Stanford University, working for sketch com­panies in San Francisco and touring the U.S. as a Ringling Bros. Circus clown.

Now, Tamases performs for the general public and for cancer patients in her hometown of LA. She also travels around the country with her husband and manager, Anthony Yeo.

To help patients cope with their disease, she has a question and answer session after each show, as well as a cancer discussion kit on her DVD of the show.

Poster for “Jonna’s Body, please hold.”

“I like to support people by tell­ing them, ‘Give yourself the space to be angry,’” she said. “Sometimes patients can find it very oppressive to think ‘I should have a positive outlook, I should channel my anger.’ That’s like an extra layer of burden on top of just trying to survive the treat­ment. There has to be an authenticity of emotion.”

Tamases said what she enjoys most about performing is that, “the normal walls that separate us from strangers, those tend to come down when I perform, and I can be with the audience in a very real way, in a very communal way where we can under­stand that we’re all in this together really. We all experience the same kind of things, different details. But we all experience sadness and terror and joy and pride and all, every­thing.”

“I want people to come away from “Jonna’s Body, please hold” full of hearty love and the dizzy delight of being alive,” she said.

“The Office” is back ...

Thursday is the new Friday

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For those of us who have watched “The Office” faithfully the last three seasons now (I know there are four but the first season was only six epi­sodes so I’ll leave it out of the tally), you’re coming to expect a cliffhanger­

ending.

Since Pam and Jim kissed in the office at casino night we’ve all been coming back for more. Now with the fifth season set to kick off this week, things are looking to get more awkward than ever. So what can you expect from this season of “The Office”?

“Look forward to some new that-s-what-she-said jokes, love con­nection and tension and actually looking forward to Thursdays.”

Well, here’s a quick rundown of where we left off with our favorite paper company and where things might be going. Anyone who hasn’t finished watching season four may want to stop reading now and go pick it up on DVD.

Last season’s finale left many things up in the air. Jim didn’t get the opportunity to take advantage of the perfect moment and snatch up Pam’s little hand in marriage, thanks...
From the land of the Conchords comes ISV

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If you're looking for a break from mowing lawns and waitressing this summer, consider International Student Volunteers summer volunteer opportunities.

ISV is a non-profit organization from New Zealand whose mission, according to their press release, is "to create an environment conducive to combining education, conservation and recreation into the most incredible experience of a lifetime, while giving back to the local communities in the countries in which we are traveling."

"It's great for the resume, but it's more than that... it's life changing. It opens your eyes to what's out there."

Anyone over 18 is eligible to apply. Selected participants go to destinations like Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Thailand, Eastern Europe and South Africa.

The standard program lasts for one month. Participants typically spend two weeks volunteering in social community development or conservation and two weeks on an adventure tour. But the duration of the trip varies.

ISV participant feeds elephant.

The cost of the standard program is approximately $3,000. Because ISV is non-profit, scholarships are not available, but sponsorships from community members can offset the trip's cost.

Watkins will be holding informational meetings on Thursday, Sept. 25 every hour from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in room 374 of the Dreyfus University Center for students interested in the program. More information on the program can also be found at www.isvonline.org.

Honesty exemplify what the two are about in real life.

Green and Hood say that in order to connect with the audience, "Our friendship has to happen."

"If you're real, it brings people together," said Hood. "If you're fake, it brings people apart."

Green and Hood say they truly believe in the content of their lyrics. Songs of hope, friendship, love and social community development may work in impoverished villages, build houses for refugees or teach English to children. Those volunteering in conservation restoration may work with endangered animals, ecosystem rehabilitation and environmental education.

During the second part of the trip, participants experience activities like whitewater rafting, glacier climbing, waterfalls rappelling, scuba diving and jungle kayaking.

"It's great for the resume, but it's more than that... it's life changing. It opens your eyes to what's out there," said Watkins.

She said the program is a way to see the world and contribute to impoverished communities or degraded ecosystems at the same time.

"If we can go and help them, it's a step," she said. "It may only be a small step, but it's still a step."

"If you're real, it brings people together," said Hood. "If you're fake, it brings people apart."

Green and Hood say that in order to connect with the audience, "Our friendship has to happen."

"If you're real, it brings people together," said Hood. "If you're fake, it brings people apart."

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Web sites to write down from this week's Arts and Culture Section:

www.Jonas-Body.com
www.myspace.com/ryanhood
Katie Leb  
KLEB524@uwsp.edu  

What's the point?: The facts of life

Life can change in the blink of an eye. I have had a few months to blink now, but it has not been long enough. I have had to come to terms that for not much longer I will be able to see my grandfather. This past weekend I received a call I knew would be coming. After ninety well-lived years, my grandfather is getting very tired. And he has every right to be.

My grandfather is a man who has been through more lifetime experiences than I ever hope to have. He was a child of the Great Depression, graduated high school at sixteen, lost two wives, one to colon cancer and the other to Huntington's disease; had his own battle with cancer and fought in World War II. He raised six children and seven stepchildren, and has eight grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren he would do anything for. In fact, he was always the first fan at all sporting events we grandchildren participated in, whether football, basketball, track, baseball or softball. Sometimes he even beat the team to the location of the game; he was not just our grandpa, he was the team's grandpa.

My other grandparents were gone before I even met them, or passed when I was very young. My grandpa really has been the man who I have looked up to all my life. In junior high I had to write about the person I admire most and I wrote about him. I found the story in my closet on Monday and saw that I wrote "Anytime I need him, he is always there for me. I will always love my grandpa, no matter what." It is still true.

This week's point: Before it is too late, I ask you take the time to find out about life by those people who have lived it the longest. Find out about what is different, what is the same and what makes life worth living. Some of the most valuable information is in the minds of those people and soon it will be gone.

My grandpa has taught me a great deal of things, but the best advice he has given me is this: "You have to have a laugh everyday. Otherwise it is just not fun.

We have had many good laughs over the years, but they will end. I have accepted this as a fact of life.

High Five

We're going to party like it's...right now!

I'd like to start off this week by simply stating how awesome you all are as my new best friends! It has been quite a week for outpouring of friendly sentiments, and I have a few "thank yous" I'd like to toss out, but let's not mention names. You know who you are.

In response to the invite I received to play "World of Warcraft" on Thursday nights, I regretfully must decline both because I have to work on Thursdays and also because I've already completed the WOW rehab program. I've been clean for six months and I've made a commitment to my sponsor, Gretchen. We're a team in our struggle, but we are a winning team!

In response to the two of you that rickrolled me this week, I have only one thing to say to you. You are hilaroius! I really can't get enough of that quirky video. It's just so crazy that a guy who looks like that has a voice like that! Color me jealous.

In all seriousness, those of you who were concerned that I was being mean to sweet Avra last week, don't worry. She has such a wonderful sense of humor that she found last week's playful ribbing to be absolutely hilarious. In actuality, we're best friends. We might even go to Rio together!

And to everyone who has contacted me in the past weeks, thank you all. I think the University of Wisconsin is a great place!

Politics out in the open

Personally, I want to hear what Barack Obama is going to do to help students like me without health care or whether John McCain is going to send my sister, a Captain in the U.S. Army, back to Iraq. Not whether Barack Obama is a Muslim. M i c h a e l 0 b a m a is proud to be an American or if Sarah Palin's favorite game is "tiskitop through the bear traps."

So if you are as frustrated as I am,
Rabble Rousers (Formerly "Resident's Evil")

From High Five pg. 10

Wisconsin-Stevens Point can officially be declared the friendliest campus in the UW system, if not the country! In fact, I was telling my girlfriend about how lovely all of you have been and she just wants to meet all of these wonderful smiling faces I keep raving about. Which is why we’re thinking of having a friendly mixer soon, and you are all invited!

I can hear what you’re saying, “Steve, how could you ever expect to introduce yourself and your beautiful lady friend to so many people?” All I can say is, don’t worry, my friends. I’ve got it under control. I’m an expert party planner. Ask anybody who attended my birthday bash last year. Talk about a wild time!

The first important part of planning a successful party actually comes from the world of real estate: location, location, location. Now as much as I would love to have all of you come into my home and see how I live, it’s just not feasible. My parents would probably object to me having so many people over at once no matter how lovely they are. Besides, they like to go to bed around 10 p.m., and we’ll be getting wild and crazy until at least 12 a.m.

It is also popular among some students to have gatherings at bars and taverns, but that would count all of my pre-21 pals. Never fear, though! There are many happening places to have a hopping party around the area. No place rocks quite as hard as the Marshfield Knights of Columbus hall! Plus, if we all pitch in and do a swell job on the cleanup, we’ll get our security deposit back.

How will I feed the masses? I think I’ll need more than two loaves of bread and three fish, but boy, did Jesus know how to cater or what? I think he missed his true calling there. I can certainly whip up a whole lot of my famous Chex mix, and my darling makes one heck of a tasty cake. I’ll also break the bank and swing for some raw veggies and maybe some dill dip. But if I’m stretching the budget that far, I think this might have to be a BYOS party. You don’t mind bringing your own soda do you? Oh, you’re so understanding! This kind of teamwork is going to make a party that is 100 percent of the hook!

Next, there’s the issue of entertaining such a crowd. My usual go-to party games might not work out so well. I think we might have too many people to have effective teams for Scattegories or Pictionary. I think there’s only one clear direction to go: karaoke. Who doesn’t love singing with their friends? It’s one of my favorite activities for sure! I should warn you though, I can get pretty crazy after a few cream sodas. You might even be treated to my brilliant rendition of “Black Betty” or get me to sing the other half of your duet on “Promiscuous” by Nelly Furtado and my man Timbaland. I mean, I’m no Marky Mark but I’ve been known to kick it pretty funky fresh when I rock the mic. I really couldn’t be more excited for our little get together, friends. I think I speak for everyone when I say that it could possibly be the greatest party of all time!

From Politics pg. 10

here is what you need to do:
First, educate yourself on the issues that matter most to you. Second, contact the local political office of your choice and ask them the tough questions. Third, GET OUT and VOTE.

Contact your party’s office:
The local democratic office can be reached at: 715-544-4432.
The local republican office can be reached at: 715-544-4472.
And for those 13 percent of you voting for Ralph Nader contact: 202-471-5833.

If you’re a student and not registered to vote, contact the Student Government Association Legislative Issues Director: 715-346-4592 or at www.studentvote.org.
Housing

For Rent
7 Bedroom House
3 blocks from Downtown and campus
Easy walk to campus
Contact Bernie
(715) 341-0580

University Lake Apartments
2009/2010 school year
3 Bedroom Apartments
For groups of 3-5
1-bath, appliances, A/C,
Extra Storage, On-site Laundry,
On-site maintenance,
Responsive managers,
Starting at $250/month/person
Or at mcintyre@firstweb.com

Sandhill Apartments
2009/2010 school year,
Very spacious 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath apartments with private washer/dryer (not coin-op). Proxied for phone, cable TV and internet. Located next to a 24-hour grocery store/gas station. Try out kitchen with its modern appliances, then enjoy a book on your private balcony. This is as good as it gets! So get your group together and set an appointment today while unit selection is still good. Call for an appointment today! (715)343-8926 or (715)340-5770.

Housing Available
2009-2010
Close to Campus.
Some with garages,
@ Andra Properties
Contact Pat Arnold
(715)341-0289

Employment

Grand Daddy's Gentlemen's Club is now hiring female entertainers. If you're looking to make extra money this is the place to be. No experience necessary we will do all the training. Make up to $1500-$2000 a week. You must be at least 18 years of age. Come check us out and do an amateur night and receive $25. Contact: Dewey at 715-897-7123 or Jerry at 715-897-7124. Grand Daddy's wants to welcome you to the 'GRANDER SIDE OF LIFE'

Supportive Home Care Worker
Supportive Home Care Worker wanted to provide care for person with a disability in the Stevens Point area. Shifts and hours are varied. Assists with daily living (bathing, dressing, transfers, lifting, etc.). Supportive Home Care experience required. Minimum travel required. Pay $9-$9.75 per hour. MILC is an EEOC employer. Persons with disabilities encouraged to apply. Submit application by mail to Kim Fania, Midstate Independent Living Consultants, 3262 Church St., Suite 1, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Applications may be obtained by phone at 715-344-4210, ext. 27 or at www.milinc.net

See news happening?
Let us know. (715)346-2249