Museum in jeopardy

Jenna Sprattler
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s Museum of Natural History may have to fight for its survival yet again due to university budget shortfalls for the 2009-2010 academic school year.

The 41-year-old museum, which houses exhibits ranging from the ancient cultures of Africa and the Americas to the diverse characteristics of a variety of ancient cultures, is in danger of being moved or closed down in the upcoming year.

"All programs are being evaluated in how they fit the core mission of the university," said Mark Nook, provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs. "We’re in the very early phases of how we will be evaluating our budget."

The museum has experienced the difficulty of a fluctuating budget and neglected artifacts throughout its existence.

"It suffered because it never had a real clear mission statement," said Ray Reser, interim director of the museum and director of the UW-SP archeology department. "You need a clear mission statement and focus to have a successful museum."

Reser spoke to professionals at Split Rock studios, a museum outfitter, and they estimated that moving the museum would cost $800,000. Although not opposed to the idea of moving the museum, Reser and Smith proposed the idea of representing a timeline from the Cambrian period to the present by placing stone-relief carvings along the east side of the Learning Resource Center.

They were denied due to the permanent nature of the project and the difficulty of a fluctuating budget and neglected artifacts.

Last year, Provost Nook developed a committee to make a value assessment of the museum.

"They turned in over 200 pages of recommendations, all in favor of keeping the museum and expanding its programs," Reser said.

The museum serves to educate not only UW-SP students, but the general public also. Its displays show real-life habitats from around the world, as well as the unique and diverse characteristics of a variety of ancient cultures.

Hundreds of eggs collected from various birds and containing valuable documented scientific data can be found in one area. Down the next corridor, an array of ocean mammals can be viewed.

Claire Smith, museum employee and research assistant to Reser, would like to initiate slow-food movement dinners at the museum "incorporating local foods." This would be an opportunity to bring in multiple departments she said.

The museum has granted visits to hundreds of schools around the state every year. It’s open to the public while UW-SP classes are in session and cost of entry is free.

In order to increase exposure of the museum, Reser and Smith developed a committee to make a value assessment of the museum. They were denied due to the permanent nature of the project and the difficulty of a fluctuating budget and neglected artifacts.

Clintons acknowledges significance of UW-SP students’ Thailand Project


"This is one of those things that everybody is against and hardly anybody does anything about it,” Clinton said.

As part of the Clinton Foundation, CGI-U facilitates as a networking tool for students who design special projects initiating global change. The exposure could be beneficial to finding support for the Thailand Project.

Although the main hope is to gain awareness for the project, the issue of funding the two Thai students remains.

They need about $16,000 per year for each student to receive their four-year bachelor’s degree, said Quinnell. Currently, their funds will run out by the end of this summer if they don’t raise enough money.

“There’s no state resources going...
Quinnell and Perri created a winterim study abroad program at UW-SP sending College of Fine Arts students to Thailand, to share their artistic abilities with the young people and to accommodate young girls and boys at risk of human trafficking. They will continue their fight against statelessness and child exploitation from inside their country.

"We are still not good every day as we are in an emergency," Clinton said at the CGI-U. Quinnell expressed his continued concern for the urgency of the issues at hand.

"I just want to say the rape of children is an emergency," said Quinnell.

For more information about the Thailand Project and to help Aor and Fongtip continue their education at UW-SP, visit http://www.thethailandproject.org/ or join the Facebook group UW-SP Thailand Project.

Looking further into the future is "kinda crystal ball gazing right now," Tomlinson said.

Quinnell and Perri are being encouraged to set up an independent, non-profit organization which will partner with UW-SP:

"If UW-SP wishes to serve as the mother ship [to higher education as humanitarian aid], then, we will set up an endowment at the university of over $2 million," Quinnell said.

This would allow for two students at a time to be constantly attending UW-SP far into the future.

"I don't want them [Thai students] to be seen as victims. I want them to be seen as the solution. I want people to clearly understand that there is no quick fix for the issue of child prostitution and human trafficking," Quinnell said. "Our project is a long-term process that's an investment."

After they receive their degrees and go back to Thailand, Aor wants to be a spokeswoman for Sompop’s organization and Fongtip wants to counsel victims of human trafficking. They will continue their fight against statelessness and child exploitation from inside their country.

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"The Pointer's" NEW blog
uwspthepointer.blogspot.com

Check it out!

President Bill Clinton brought students on stage from UW-SP to speak about the Thailand Project at the Clinton Global Initiative University (TGCIU).

Children from Thailand pose happily for photos taken by UW-SP students recently in the country (left). Children from Thailand practice dance while within the schools (right).
From Museum pg. 1

the uncertain future of the museum, said Nook. The museum has also lacked a proper accession, or a complete inventory, including detailed description, identification and photos of its artifacts. This is the first step in determining the museum’s educational value and its research potential, said Reser.

This process will lead to professional accreditation which is vital for any possible grant funding, active research and exchange programs among national and international institutions, said Reser. “We really do need to have this collection properly accessioned before a decision can be made for the future of the museum,” Nook said. “Without it being completed, we cannot move forward.”

Reser will submit his report of the accession by the end of May with his assessment of the educational value of the museum. The administration will be meeting with others at the end of this month to further discuss the outlook of the museum.

The museum displays many animals that students do not always get to see.

The Ultimate Service Challenge is an opportunity for individuals and student organizations alike to volunteer around the Stevens Point community. The Student Involvement and Employment Office at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point instituted the challenge this year as a way for volunteers to be recognized and rewarded for their volunteer efforts.

The challenge is ongoing and volunteers can sign up and log hours until April 1.

Individuals and student organizations can determine how many hours they want to pledge,” said Shannon Chronister, student involvement and employment coordinator. “They’re not really competing against other people. They’re basically setting a goal for themselves.”

SIEO has an online form that volunteers have to fill out in order to pledge a certain number of volunteer hours. After the volunteer activity has been completed, the hours worked are logged into the SIEO Web site. Volunteers have pledged as few as 10 and as many as 250 hours.

“The challenge is ongoing and volunteers can sign up and log hours until April 1.”

SIEO has an online form that volunteers have to fill out in order to pledge a certain number of volunteer hours. After the volunteer activity has been completed, the hours worked are logged into the SIEO Web site. Volunteers have pledged as few as 10 and as many as 250 hours.

“It’s really up to each individual how many hours they wanted to volunteer this year,” said Chronister. When the number of pledged hours have been completed, the volunteers are eligible for a prize drawing. Prizes include gift certificates, catering vouchers for a student organization and other UWSP items.

Volunteer opportunities can be found at the SIEO desk in the lower level of the Dreyfus University Center.

This year, students have served dinner at the Salvation Army and taught religious classes at their churches. Tao Kappa Epsilon worked the finish line at the Frostbite Run. The Public Relations Student Society of America worked at a Habitat for Humanity ceremony.

Other volunteer opportunities are available at the Boys and Girls Club and Destiny Point, a women’s shelter.

“Most of the service work that’s being done is through a non-profit agency in the community,” said Chronister.

“Be the Change” is an upcoming, community-wide volunteer opportunity on March 28. For more information contact SIEO at sieo@uwsp.edu.

“I’d like to see more participation,” said Chronister, “I think we could do a better job of trying to promote it to individuals. We’ve really pushed it with student organizations. I would like to show that this is for anyone and everyone, not just student organizations.”

**Brain Damage**

Check your maps; Virginia extends farther west than West Virginia.

Murder is the only crime that does not increase during the full moon. Theft, disorderly conduct, larceny, armed robbery, assault and battery and rape all statistically increase dramatically during the full moon.

President George W. Bush and Hugh Hefner are distant cousins.

Most alcoholic beverages contain all 13 minerals necessary to sustain human life.

In 1980, the city of Detroit presented Saddam Hussein with a key to the city.

The average chocolate bar has eight insect legs in it. Tasty!

There are more cows in Southern California than there are cows in India.

The ant, when drunk, will always fall to its right side.

Even a small amount of alcohol placed on a scorpion will make it go crazy and sting itself to death.
The debate over Debot dining

Katie Holden
Pointville Reporter

Rumors about Debot dining continue to raise questions about the food’s quality. Despite the cheap options, many say they wonder about nutritional value and believe they can get a better deal elsewhere.

Many University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point freshmen say they have never eaten at Debot after hearing complaints from older students and friends. The word has spread to stay away from Debot, but is the food really that bad?

Many seem to favor the lower level over the upper level in Debot. Students feel that the upper level reminds them of high school cafeteria food. For various reasons, people have a variety of excuses to opt out of eating there.

Michael Debruin, a UW-SP student, cites nutritional value for choosing to stay away from Debot. “Every time I ate at upper Debot, I felt sick and the amount of grease on everything was horrible,” Debruin said.

Then there’s the biggest problem of them all: bowel movements. A student who wishes to remain anonymous states what many probably already know.

“The food has to make you have to poop about 15 minutes after you eat it.”

Despite being tight on money, UW-SP students think that the food at times can be unpleasant, but is often delectable.

Some students who frequent Debot agree that the food at times can be unpleasant, but is often delectable. They feel that hype over the “bad” food overshadows the actual taste.

Jerry Wilson, a University Center dining employee, cites low funding as his biggest obstacle. He notes that the program gets merely $5.08 per day to feed student three meals.

Debruin notes that the variety of choices, from pizzas to the burgers in The Grill, give students plenty of options. Also, everything is baked daily.

Health wise, two soups are offered per day, along with a full service salad bar and plenty of fruit and juice options.

“Where else in the community can you get all of these options for just over five bucks per day?” Wilson asks.

Interestingly enough, UW-SP dining will stop contracting from the company. As of June 1, UW-SP dining will be run by the state. Perhaps this turnover will once again raise the debate over Debot dining.

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Still Room For You!!!!!
Employers encourage attendance at job fair

Allyson Taubenheim
THE POINTER
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A job fair allows current students or graduates to connect with employers throughout Wisconsin who are seeking graduates interested in careers, as well as continuing students interested in internships or other practical experience.

Sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Mid-State Technical College and UW-Colleges in Marshfield/Wood County and Wausau/Marathon County, the job fair offers free admission for UW-SP students or graduates as well as students from other Wisconsin colleges and universities.

"We recognize the importance of providing efficient ways to connect our students and graduates with employers," said Lorry Walters, associate director at UW-SP Career Services.

Approximately 40 employers from diverse divisions of the market, including employment services, non-profit, insurance/financial services, software/computing services, retail, manufacturing/production, transportation/logistics, sustainable agriculture, government/military, and medical research, will attend.

Some employers will return this year, such as Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Footlocker.com/Eastbay, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and Sentry Insurance. Others, such as Del Monte, Kmart, LaForce, Nekoosa Coated Products, Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative and UniFirst Corporation, are attending for the first time.

Employers that have attended the job fair in the past advise that students come professionally dressed with a proficient resume and knowledge of the companies attending.

Walters agrees, advising that this is a "professional event." She recommends dressing in business professional or business casual attire, bringing copies of resumes and materials to take notes with, and most importantly, a positive attitude.

Staff from Career Services will be on site at the fair to provide assistance to students and graduates that have questions or would like their resumes critiqued.

In addition, UW-SP Career Services staff will be in the concourse of the DUC from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. to answer questions and provide information on Thursday, Feb. 19 as well as Monday, Feb. 23.

Programs are offered by UW-SP Career Services to help with resume writing, interview preparation, job fair preparation and other topics. This is available at http://www.uwsp.edu/career (select "Career Programs Spring 2009").

For further information, contact Stephany Hartman from MSTC at 715-422-5389 or Lorry Walters from UW-SP at 715-346-3938.

The Web site for the event provides a directory of participating employers at http://mstc.edu/jobfair.hrm. Information on Thursday, Feb. 19 as well as Monday, Feb. 23.

Self-Defense is more than one swift kick

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In the 1990s, a popular phrase was to "kick 'em in the jimmy." However, it is suggested that in self-defense, this is not always the way to go when trying to save your life from being victimized.

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, Gamma Phi Delta sorority sponsored a women's self-defense class at the Allen Center. Created by the sorority to primarily be a wellness event for their organization, it was also presented as a serious means of protection for women on campus.

"With our primary focus being philanthropic events on campus and in the community, we very much felt this was a prime example of this," said Holly Solf, Gamma Phi Delta president.

Kyle Mealy, president of the Tau Kwon Do Club on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus, led the presentation. Right off, Mealy suggested that going straight for the groin, although a known method, may not be automatically effective.

The attacker can block your knee with his knee, and chances are he will end up in less pain, and chances are, more angry," said Mealy to the eager participants.

Mealy proceeded to discuss the most effective methods for avoiding attacks before they start.

When approaching a car, do it with a key in hand, ready to unlock the door, not in a purse, so it doesn’t have to be searched for. Take time to notice if there is a van parked adjacent to your automobile; be wary of it, as assailants may simply grab the victim and toss them into the van. It is also recommended to maintain a certain posture by walking tall and confident and sustaining eye contact with those on your journey.

When approaching a car, do it with a key in hand, ready to unlock the door, not in a purse, so it doesn’t have to be searched for. Take time to notice if there is a van parked adjacent to your automobile; be wary of it, as assailants may simply grab the victim and toss them into the van. It is also recommended to maintain a certain posture by walking tall and confident and sustaining eye contact with those on your journey.

“When the attacker moves, the victim should move the opposite way. If one technique does not work it can be counteracted by another one. If that does not work, try another option. Not all hold breaks work on every attacker, so it is very important for the victim to be cognizant of all the breaks available to them.

Towards the end of the session, when asked by a participant if it “is ok, to just act crazy or frantic, to take the place of action?” Mealy was in wide disagreement with that idea.

"You can scream ‘fire’ to catch others’ attention, but in order to break free, the resistance provided the attacker must be directed," said Mealy. “Anything must be done physically to get away from him.”

This is when, and only when, the widespread techniques such as sticking in the groin and kicking in the eyes should be employed.

As not all techniques for protection were covered comprehensively in this article, please note that if your organization is looking to learn more about women’s self-defense, Mealy is open to teaching further classes and giving further pointers. He can be contacted at kmeeal695@uwsp.edu.
Science & Outdoors

A group at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is committed to assisting in the goal of passing the first environmental victory of the year for the state.

The hope is to encourage legislators, through petition signatures, e-mails and postcards, to pass the Clean Lakes Bill, which prohibits the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers.

The Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group at UW-SP is finishing up their “Save our Lakes” campaign with about 90 postcards and 80 e-mails petitioning the bill, said Kevin Hite, the group’s environmental coordinator.

“It’s calling for a statewide ban on the retail sale of phosphorus containing fertilizer,” said Colleen Kiefer, WISPIRG president. “It’s not a ban on agriculture use; it’s only for non-agriculture commercial products.”

WISPIRG is trying to halt the spread of phosphorus in Wisconsin’s lakes, such as Lake Dubay in Portage Co.

Send your health & medical questions to:

kbose675@uwsp.edu

Have them answered in Health Point!

A week of wellness

The annual Week of Wellness at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point isn’t over yet. Starting Feb. 16 and ending Feb. 20, these five days, sponsored by the Allen Center are devoted to encouraging a healthy lifestyle.

During the event, staff and alumni are able to enjoy a week of free workouts, food, prizes and other services.

The Week of Wellness debuted three years ago under the supervision of Stacey Duellman, the programs and promotion coordinator at the Allen Center. Duellman promotes the week as a way to “celebrate wellness.” She defines the program as “a way for students to become familiar with how to maintain a healthy lifestyle through the programs and equipment offered at the Allen Center.”

“It’s great for people who want to get healthy, but maybe don’t know how,” said Melissa Van Weele, desk attendant at the Cardio Center.

Free admittance to the Cardio Center kicked off the week on Monday, Feb. 16, allowing any student to workout with no charge by simply showing their student ID. The offer ends on Friday.

Free fitness assessments were also available on Monday. Sponsored by the Student Health Promotion Office, these assessments were given from 7-9 p.m. in the Cardio Center. Testing blood pressure, heart rate, muscle endurance, strength, flexibility and body composition, this assessment placed students into specific categories based on performance, with tips on how to improve wellness.

The second day devoted to wellness offered a free Group Fitness Zumba class at the Cardio Center. It lasted nearly two hours, giving prizes to those who completed the class. Prizes included water bottles, slang bags and t-shirts.

Other prizes can be won through raffles available by sign-up at the Cardio Center.

Sophomore Lydia Schultz, who attended the Group Fitness class in last year’s Week of Wellness, said it was demanding, but very fulfilling.

If you still want to get involved, it’s not too late. Free chair massages are available Thursday from 5-6 p.m. in the upper Allen Center. Sign up at the Cardio Center front desk.

Paraffin hand dips, sponsored by Mind and Body Connections, are also available at the upper Allen Center from 6-15-7:15 p.m. on Thursday.

Finally, on Friday, Feb. 20, a free stress relief session will take place from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in room 004 of the lower Allen Center.

Health advocate, Lyndsey Genius, calls Wellness Week a fun and a great opportunity to promote services offered every day, that students may not know about.

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Presented by:

AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER OF STEVENS POINT
Health Point: Dry drowning

Katie Boseo
TUE. PUBLISH
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A 10-year-old boy from South Carolina was enjoying a nice day of swimming in the summer of 2006, just as many people do during the warm summer months. However, the night after he went swimming, his parents found him dead in his bed. Medical records show that the boy had suffered from pulmonary edema, but most believed it was dry drowning, a medical phenomenon few people had heard of prior to this incident.

The fear of dry drowning spread rapidly throughout the country and many people are still confused about what dry drowning actually is.

"Dry drowning occurs when a noxious or extremely cold stimulant, such as water, comes in contact with the vocal chords, causing them to automatically close," Dr. Robert Wiprud, associate professor at the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine, said in a news release. "When they close, you can’t breathe. The harder you try to breathe, the worse the situation can become because the entire airway can collapse."

When water is taken into the lungs, there is a natural mechanism for the larynx to spasm to stop more water from entering the lungs. Dry drowning can occur when a person is not in any sort of liquid. The spasm of the larynx can cause asphyxiation (choking) and pulmonary edema (respiratory failure), such as the case of the 10-year-old boy.

The statistics vary, but somewhere from 15 to 20 percent of drowning victims suffer from dry drowning. Though dry drowning is rare, there are signs to watch for.

"Look for shortness of breath, unexplained fatigue and sleepiness and mental status changes," said Dr. Wiprud.

According to WebMd.com, children and adults with underlying lung problems, such as asthma, are at a higher risk for drowning. If caught early enough, dry drowning can be treated by supplying oxygen to the lungs and restarting the breathing process.

Dr. Wiprud also warns against overreacting about dry drowning. Millions of people who go swimming every summer are completely safe and are never victims of dry drowning.

Number two in the woods

Dana Johnson
SCIENCE & OUTDOORS REPORTER

When looking to spend some time outdoors, there are a lot of questions to consider: where are the best spots, what sort of clothing to wear and what gear is going to hold up the longest? These are all very good to ponder, but if you get one wrong, you just add a little more adventure and learn for the next time. Now, it’s the things that don’t get asked that can really ruin a trip. Case in point: Ya’ll need to know how to poop in the woods.

Don’t worry, you have options!

The tree hugger and reverse: This is fairly simple. Use the tree as though it is a wall and lean your back against it to hold you as you bend your knees to 90 degrees. The reverse works just as well. Here, find a tree you can comfortably reach your arms around. Hug your new friend, and bend your knees to a comfortable angle to do the doo doo.

Don’t worry, you have options!

Frog and the crab: These are unassisted positions. For the frog, you need to be confident of your aim. This is just a plain squat. The image conjures up the bomb drill stance or lightning stance. The Crab lets you open up more. Remembrergym class when you had to cross the floor on hands and feet with your face to the ceiling and your buttocks trailing on the ground? Do that, but lift your rear a little.

The logger: This is perhaps the most comfortable position because it most closely resembles the position we are used to. It can, however, get some bark or moss on the back of your thighs. Find a downed tree, drop trou, and hang off the back side. Or, to avoid the gritty thighs, modify the crab and give yourself a little elevation with your hands.

Partner time: No logs? No trees? Don’t have good balance? This is the one for you! Find your buddy, stand face to face and hold both of their hands. You then lean back, counter force until you are positioned in a similar stance as the tree hugger. What’s the best part of this? You don’t have to wait turns! This works simultaneously for both participants!

As always, remember to avoid attracting little and big fuzzy creatures by digging a hole six inches deep to mask your smelly smells. No shovel? No problem. Turn over a rock for your potty and simply replace the cover when you are finished. No TP? No problem. Leaves, smooth sticks and small smooth stones work just as well. It’s actually much better than having to pack up your soiled papers. Just remember this rule of thumb for using leaves: reach from above, not below and look at the leaf before you go.

Experience the Unknown SEMESTER IN EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE:

KRAKOW, POLAND FALL SEMESTER 2009 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~

History is currently being made in East-Central Europe - experience it! Realize: the little known what dry drowning actually is. Life would be much easier if nature came equipped with toilets, but since you rarely find one in the woods, you will have to use some other method to relieve yourself.

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February 19, 2009 - 7
Sports

Pointer wrestlers injured, on the mend for WIAC

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point wrestlers finished their regular season on a winning note Saturday, Feb. 14, against the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Despite the discouraging 35-10 loss to number one Augsburg the night before, the Pointers handled UW-Eau Claire in a definitive 26-15 win.

"It's a pretty tough match to come off of wrestling number one Augsburg last night," coach Johnny Johnson said. "It was a tough loss to take, but I think that we wrestled pretty well today."

The team will focus on wellness in the upcoming week in order to prepare for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship tournament in Oshkosh, Wis.

"The first thing we're going to focus on is getting healthy," Johnson said. "Then we're going to focus on going out and wrestling in our style, which is aggressive."

The team will need to work themselves hard in the next week to prepare themselves both physically and mentally for the tough tournament ahead.

"The reality of our sport is that if you go to the conference tournament one hundred percent healthy, you're an anomaly because most guys are beat up," Johnson said.

Seniors Jake Wozniak (141), Chase DeCleene (165) and sophomore Ben Engelland (184) tallied the only wins against Augsburg on Friday, Feb. 20. All three added victorious matches in the 26-15 Blugold win as well.

"It is kind of a prelude to the conference tournament," Johnson said.

The unsung heroes of UW-SP sports: The pep band

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It's safe to say men's basketball and hockey games are big events in Stevens Point. Students and citizens show up to see the checking of bodies into the glass and the sinking of three point shots before the buzzer. The praises of the games' heroes are audible all around the arena after the game the arching sound of voices is second only to that of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Pep Band.

As this year's basketball and hockey seasons come to a close, so does another year of playing songs to rally the crowd for pep band members. Pep band, which is offered as a one-credit course at UW-SP, was close to becoming non-existent this year after the retirement of Paul Doebler who had directed the band for 27 years.

The pep band found its savior in UW-SP alumna Abigail Kreisa. Kreisa, who now teaches elementary music in Wisconsin Rapids, took the position and gave up some of her nights off, using her energy to keep the tradition of pep band alive.

The band has around 35 members, 15 to 20 of which can usually be found at the games. For most of the students participating in pep band is just a hobby, most of the players aren't even music majors. Unlike many of the bands in the music department, no audition is required so anyone who wants to join can join.

"The purpose of pep band is just to play music, not so much talent level, the music isn't too difficult you can catch on pretty fast," said percussionist and third year pep band member Scott Clark.

Most of the commitment involved with pep band is simply showing up the games ready to play. The band only practices three times before the first game of the season. The practices are always on Thursday and the structure is rather simple: they run through there complete list of songs.

"That's all the practicing we do. Its not that we don't care, but they're easy songs and we play them every weekend. A lot of people come back every year. Especially after your second year, you just know all the songs," said Clark.

These students offer their time and talents to make men's hockey and basketball games more enjoyable for everyone. Pep band is there for the moments when the team is down by 20 with only a minute to go and all hope is essentially lost so all the...
The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Men's hockey team notched its fifteenth win of the season Saturday night, outscoring the Blugolds of UW-Eau Claire 5-4.

UW-SP, 6-7-1 in NCHA play and 15-8-2 overall, gave Point fans a Valentine's Day gift to remember in what was a high-scoring, physical showdown.

UW-Eau Claire wasted no time getting on the board when right wing Jesse Vesel lit the lamp early in the first period, only to see UW-SP forward Luke Nesper score back-to-back goals in response.

"It was nice to score two goals, but we knew we had to keep playing hard," said Nesper. UW-SP senior Taylor Guay added another high wrist shot shortly after, but the Blugolds had other plans as Tyler Trudell found the back of the net to leave the score at 2-3 in Point's favor going into the second period.

Fans saw UW-Eau Claire take control of the game early in second period as the quick Blugold offense put away two goals in the first nine minutes from Greg Petersen and Tyler Romasco, but the lead would change hands yet again late in the second period. Sean Fish and Reed Lally both beat the Blugold goaltender to secure the lead going into the third period 5-4.

The third period remained scoreless despite close chances and a 6-on-5 Blugold power play in the final two minutes to give the Pointers the final decision in their last conference game.

"We just kept on our heels in the third period and outplayed them," said head coach Will Nichols.

With the Pointer win Saturday night, UW-SP secures the No. 5 seed in the NCHA playoffs and will travel to Cornerstone Community Ice Center in Ashwaubenon, to face last year's NCAA Division III Champion Green Knights of St. Norbert College on Friday and Saturday.

Women's hockey
The Pointers skated their final home game to a 0-0 tie against the Gustavus Adolphus women's team Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

It was the second game this season that the teams ended in a deadlocked overtime period. UW-SP took 17 shots in their sixth tie and Pointer goalie d'Andra Phillips stonewalled 24 shots for her fifth shutout in the nonconference match up.

Currently 10-3-6 overall, the Pointers travel to Adrian, Mich., where they will play a double-header on Saturday, Feb. 21 and Sunday, Feb. 22.

Men's basketball
The Pointers beat UW-La Crosse on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009, with a 78-62 victory that ushered them into their 25th Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference season title.

With an additional win in their 14-1 WIAC record, and a UW-Platteville loss against UW-Eau Claire on Wednesday night, the Pointers were placed into the top seed spot in the upcoming WIAC Championship tournament.

Senior guard Khalifa El-Amin led the charge with 17 points, while Matt Moses and Bryan Beamish both added 12-point contributions in the win.

Up next for the Pointers is the final regular season game at Bennett Court against number four-ranked UW-Platteville on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m.

Wrestling
Senior wrestler Chase DeCleene earned the WIAC Athlete of the Week award for Feb. 17, 2009.

DeCleene earned two wins during the past week to finish the regular season with a 24-10 record and a total of nine pins on the mat.
Pointers beat La Crosse, snag top WIAC spot

Rochelle Nechuta
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The Pointers women's basketball team won at least a portion of its fourth Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season title in history, their first since the 2005 season.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point cemented the title in a 63-61 victory against the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse on Wednesday night. The team will need a win next week against UW-Platteville on Saturday to pick up the top spot in the upcoming WIAC Championship tournament.

"I think everyone pulled together tonight; we played really great together at the end and came up with the win."

-Baker

next week against UW-Platteville on Saturday to pick up the top spot in the upcoming WIAC Championship tournament.

The Pointers defeated the Eagles after tying the game 25-25 at halftime and once again at 45-45 midway through the second half. Three key free throws from freshman Cassie Bandow within the last minute of play led the Pointers to the victory.

"It's a tribute to our program to win 20 games every year, year in and year out, bringing in a batch of new kids every year," UW-SP coach Shirley Egner said. "It's a tribute to our kids buying into our system."

The Pointers scored 24 points off turnovers in the win, taking advantage of the opportunities they were handed. After a disappointing loss to UW-Whitewater on Saturday, Feb. 14, the team needed to get back on track to cement the top WIAC spot, even if they end up sharing it with UW-Whitewater, who needs a win and a Pointer loss on Saturday, Feb. 21, to share the title. Senior Ashley Baker defended in the UW-La Crosse victory. Baker donned a pastel pink "It's really exciting jersey for Pink Zone night in honor of breast cancer awareness.

and it says a lot about all the hard work our team puts into women's basketball team was ranked eighth in the D3hoops.com poll despite suffering a 61-59 loss to UW-Whitewater on Saturday, Feb. 14.

The team will need a win next week against UW-Platteville on Saturday to pick up the top spot for themselves and knock UW-Whitewater into second place. They would then become top seed for the upcoming WIAC Championship tournament.

"When you can win a WIAC championship and position yourself for the number one seed and if we can take care of business on Saturday, it doesn't get any better than that," Egner said.

Baker led the team when she and earned a career-high 18 points and eight rebounds in the game. Britta Peterson added 14 points to the scoreboard and also had eight rebounds.

"I do it just to play music; I've played music all my life. To bang on the drums or play that cowbell, it's for my pleasure," said Clark.

There aren't many incentives beyond personal enjoyment, but that doesn't mean that pep band isn't a valuable part of home games. Without pep band, the events wouldn't be the same. The entrance of the hockey team onto the ice wouldn't be as exciting without the "Hey Song." The battling of teams from Minnesota wouldn't be as satisfying without the roar of the crowd during "On Wisconsin." Just a static of voices ringing throughout the arena would be left; where's the fun in that?

purple and gold hearts in the stand scan be lifted with the sound of "Zuit Suit Riot."

"It think it gets people pumped up, you know, we play upbeat exciting music that people like; its entertaining," said Clark. "I think when no one else is getting rowdy, we do; it's been the role of the pep band to get people into it."

The excitement of the crowd, one credit and the enjoyment of playing music are the few perks of being in the pep band.

This past week, the UW-SP women's basketball team was ranked eighth in the D3hoops.com poll despite suffering a 61-59 loss to UW-Whitewater on Saturday, Feb. 14.

The team will need a win next week against UW-Platteville on Saturday to pick up the top spot for themselves and knock UW-Whitewater into second place. They would then become top seed for the upcoming WIAC Championship tournament. Without pep band, the events wouldn't be the same.

"It's really exciting and it says a lot about all the hard work our team puts into the program," senior forward Ashley Baker said. "La Crosse definitely put up a fight tonight; I think everyone pulled together tonight; we played really great together at the end and came up with the win."

Baker led the team when she earned a career-high 18 points and eight rebounds in the game. Britta Peterson added 14 points to the scoreboard and also had eight rebounds.

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-Photo by Rochelle Nechuta

From Pep band pg. 8

Pep band percussionist Scott Clark is responsible for keeping the beat at a Pointer men's basketball game.
Attendees of Soul Food Dinner left singing praises

Leah Gernetzke
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Will we be serving ramen tonight? This was the rhetorical question posed by Black Student Union member Charmario McMichael at the Sixteenth annual Soul Food Dinner last Sunday, Feb. 15., in The Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center.

His counterpart in this introductory skit, BSU sergeant at arms Ebony Rhodes, was quick to retort, "I'm almost insulted you asked... BSU members slaved in the kitchen all day to make this meal."

This meal, which was indeed cooked by members of BSU, as well as former restaurant owner Bill Right, may have included macaroni and cheese, but no ramen was in sight. Other comfort-food dishes like fried chicken and catfish, collard greens, cornbread, yams, sweet potato pie, peach cobbler, jambalaya and corn also graced the plate.

"We constantly have the chance to eat Chinese food or Japanese food, but we don't really have, especially in Stevens Point, a restaurant of African American food," Martina Spears, BSU's public relations representative, said. "We put on Soul Food Dinner to have our university and people of Portage County to have the opportunity to feel what we look for in a meal and what we eat on a daily basis."

Although soul food may have been the main attraction, it wasn't all the event had to offer.

After the welcome speech by Rhodes and McMichael, BSU member Timothy Fair sang the black national anthem. The lyrics, an excerpt of which reads, "Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us/Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us/Facing the rising sun/Of a new day begun/Let us march on till victory is won," imbued a feeling of hope in the audience.

Another attendee also delivered a personal poem. The ending, which read, "And I know that when I leave it will seem as though I never here/But I know just as well/That in time/Others will find/That we were/No, I was never here though"

See Soul Food pg. 12

Cinema Appreciation Club brings diverse showing of films to campus

Nick Meyer
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The Cinema Appreciation Club, run by founder Sean Smalley and Jennie Wood, is back in full swing this semester, beginning with the films "Fanny and Alexander," directed by Swedish filmmaker Ingmar Bergman and "Tokyo Story," directed by Yasujir Ozu. Both are considered masterpieces in the eyes of many film critics.

They continued their quest to share their knowledge of film this week by screening "Bringing up Baby" on Tuesday and "Down by Law" on Wednesday. "Bringing up Baby," directed by Howard Hawks and starring Katherine Hepburn and Cary Grant, is a screwball comedy that tells the story of a scientist winding up in various quandaries involving a woman with a slightly skewed sense of reason and a leopard named Baby.

The films made for a very different, less abrasive start to the semester for the club in comparison with last semester's opening showing of "Pink Flamingos," much to the dismay of many in the audience. Directed by John Waters, this American transgressive comedy has become one of his most notorious films as a result of the shocking, taboo displays of perverse acts.

"I knew after the involvement fair I was never to shock people, but to show them great films they have no outlet to see in Stevens Point."

"I am essentially trying to provide a forum for historically important and aesthetically important films that people don't have access to normally," said Smalley. "Some of them are 70-to-80-years-old and there's no way to see them in a theatrical setting in a place like Stevens Point."

Smalley started the organization after his freshman year of college after discovering the checkout program for films at the IMC, which includes loans from other university libraries. From there on out, he was hooked and began learning all he could about film.

"I found out that you can check movies out from the library and you can also check movies out from other university libraries," Smalley said. "So when I had that open to me, I took advantage of it and I was able to get copies of a lot of historically important films and see films by all these great directors."

After immersing himself in film books, blogs and taking the communication department's art of film class, he was ready to share his love of film with the campus. He began with founding the Horror Film Society. Eventually, though, he decided to broaden the scope of movies he showed, choosing movies from all genres instead. Now, he shows two films a week on campus for mostly small crowds.

Smalley tries to choose his movies from a critically objective standpoint. He said he looks at how each film is historically important, how it is aesthetically important and how it affects the ways filmmakers thought about the medium.

"I want to try and educate people about film history. For me, I consider film an art form and with any art form or medium of expression, there..."
Play “40 Days” floated to stage this past weekend.

The cast of “40 days” performs around their central prop.

“40 Days” is the first fully-staged performance of the play written by Laura Eason. It’s the story of seven people in a small Midwestern river town, not unlike Stevens Point.

The river running alongside the town is represented by a bathtub. Though this may seem obscure at first, the performance, which included the use of traditional African drums, music and dance, is classics of each medium,” Smalley said.

Even though they’ve taken a less brash route with film screenings so far this semester and the intention is to not shock but share, Smalley says there are still a few films they will show this year that people will walk out on. His film list for this semester is already decided and, according to him, contains some intense films.

I was born / But we will always be” likewise ended on a hopeful note and conveyed a sense of unity.

After the dinner, an award ceremony recognized Right and Wrong before, during and after the meal engaged in a stunning performance. “The story was something that Jefferson entered into a thirty-eight year relationship with BSU’ s overall goal, which is to not shock but share, Smalley says. “Something like that hasn’t been successful with us so far. All he asks for from the audience is that they attend an open mind; he in turn promises to warn film-goers that alleged productiveliaison.

“I’d like to pick up after the meal. I’m an enslaved African woman, who intersects in a kind of stubborn awkwardness that is universal when seeing someone from long ago. The flood shocked Prestly’s character into opening up to Harper and realizing who he is.

Junior Elizabeth McMonagle and senior James Roland Freer played Nicole and Vincent, an older couple who, after years of marriage, still don’t fully understand each other.

A chorus of seven also moved the story along, uniquely acting as stagehands, props and extras. Members of the audience have likely met all these characters before in daily life; everyone can relate to fighting couples, young people stuck in a life they don’t fully know yet and someone coming back to their hometown to find that much has changed.

Through the traumatic experience of the flood, the young couple realizes their marriage isn’t what they thought it was and the older couple comes to find they don’t know everything they thought they did about each other.

The plot of the play revolves around the before-and-after events of the flood, but the water is just a catalyst for what is to come. The underlying theme is the good and bad that come from stress, tragedy and crises.

“The story was something that people in our part of the country can really relate to,” senior Emily Groves said.

For those interested in sharing in these films and getting on Cinema Appreciation Club’s mailing list, send an e-mail to horror@uwsp.edu.
Letters & Opinion

No clowning around: Let’s quit this Wisconsin weather

That’s it; I am joining the circus. In case you have not been to the circus, the events either take place inside (under the big top) or outside in more tropical-type temperatures. I have come to the conclusion that if I join the circus I will not have to deal with Wisconsin’s yo-yo weather.

When I woke up yesterday morning, got ready for the day and then stepped outside, I was taken back to my childhood, a time when snow was beautiful. I gazed at the frosted trees and the Wisconsin terrain all wrapped up in its white blanket.

However, as soon as I stepped down from the front step, I snapped back to reality, remembering that it is mid-February and I was about to walk nine blocks to campus. It baffles my mind that on Tuesday I was outside running on mostly clear sidewalks, but less than 24 hours later, I was trudging through a mess of snow and underlying slush. Thankfully I had my rubber boots to help me keep from having very cold and wet toes. Those of you who wear the ugly Uggs, I can only hope you also wear thick socks.

I have decided that the weather is a tease. It gives us one beautiful day, allowing pet owners to take their dogs for a stroll and young children to play in the driveway. But then, in true tease form, the very next day, the dog and child alike are stuck with droopy eyes, staring out the frost-covered glass that is their living room window.

When I look back on my childhood, as if it was a great many years ago, I remember when the weather was predictable. Instead of the yo-yo effect, we had something more like the classic toboggan ride. The weather would march up the hill slowly, Huffman and puffing as it went. Once it got to the top, though, it was all smiles. The following ride down the hill may have been short, but at least all of us watching the ride knew the outcome.

Now, you might as well toss a coin or shoot a dart to guess what the weather will be. I advise dressing in layers each day in the hopes that you may be able to shed even one article of clothing by the end of the day.

In all my life I have only quit one thing; chewing gum. And even at that, I did chew a piece after a three-year hiatus, so really, did I quit?

I feel that the times are a changing; I declare here and now that I officially am quitting Wisconsin weather. From now on, I will not even acknowledge its existence. Instead, I am going to control my sense of weather. This will take great mental willpower from me, but I am up for the challenge.

The way I see it, the (at moment) weather is so bad, I have nothing more exciting to do.

Thank you,
-Eric Roscoe

February 19, 2009
LADY V
ladyyuwsp@yahoo.com

Okay, so we all have at least one. If you are lucky, depending on how you want to look at it, you have quite a few. They are always there when you least expect it, whether you want them or not. Some people, as sick as they are, are flattered by the constant presence of these people. People that I, like many, like to call...

Creepers.

Creepers do just that. You notice your creeper more often than you would ever desire.

It (I am going to refer to creepers with this pronoun because they can be of either sex) may not even be doing it on purpose. But maybe it is.

Mild – Moderate Creeper: This is the creeper that may just spend a lot of time in the same building as you, has a similar class schedule or is very sedentary. Once you notice this creeper, you notice it all the time. But you seem to be the only one who does.

There are different ways of creeping. The accidental creeping is obviously the least you should worry about. (I am going to use a Brevhaus example here.) This is someone who just happens to frequent the Brevhaus at the same you do, every Tuesday and Thursday. You should start to worry when it orders the same thing you do because it taste-tested your last week on accident when your orders were mixed up.

Moderate Severe Creeper: This level of creeper may be one you should be a little bit more cognizant about. Make sure you point it out to your friends every time you see this creeper. Make sure they know what it looks like and how it creeps. Usually you notice someone creeping at this level when it has distinctive qualities.

Some people just give off that creepy vibe. It may be the way it walks or looms over people when it walks into a room. Some can be smaller, even with a hunchback, and have a tendency to sneak up behind you when you least expect it. It even may be the off-handed vernacular it uses all the time and then is the only one who laughs (or grunts, snorts, whatever). Creepers also talk to themselves a lot. Make sure you look for headphones before you make any judgment calls.

“This level is when the creeper orders your drink for you. It is ready for you when you get there. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Just because it can. Some may mistake this for a friendly gesture, but if it possesses any of the creeper qualities, beware!”

Severe – “I-am-so-calling-campus-security-on-your-ass” Creeper: This is when you should be afraid. It is there every time you are alone. Because It knows your friends and It, scours out when you aren’t with anybody. Until you notify authorities, make sure you have someone with you at all times. Or just think, “WWWD” (What would Steve do?). Bracelets will be available at the bookstore, Brevhaus, dining service locations and all Centerentery events very soon. (Maybe next week there will be a coupon in the paper!)

“This is the final level you should worry about as far as this scenario goes. It is when the creeper drops its Tuesday and Thursday class just so It can work at the Brevhaus and make your drink “just the way you like it.”

There is really no way to avoid creepers, especially in a town this small, where college students frequent many of the same establishments. When you begin to feel uncomfortable is when you need to do something. Call your local authorities. If they get annoyed enough Stevens Point may have to implement the very first Creeper Control Unit. Let’s start something to improve the social realm!

I would love to take your questions! Please send them to ladyuwsp@yahoo.com. I will answer them near anything!

Please note, I am not making light of stalker situations. If you ever feel threatened or in danger please notify campus Protective Services at x456 or call 911.

Check out “The Pointer” online. pointer.uwsp.edu

*Soon featuring Multimedia packages

Holy wow, friends! Do you realize what you hold in your hands? Can you feel the winds of change blowing from within these very pages? Yes, you are holding your first all-digital copy of “The Pointer”!

As many of you know, this past Tuesday, Feb. 17, was the original switch-over date for the great digital television conversion. But did you know that all mass media was expected to make the switch? And even though President Obama pushed the switch date back, we are “The Pointer” felt there was no need to put off the future. Carpe diem!

I’m sure you’ve noticed the differences between our old analog publication and the new digital version you are so tightly grasping. Our colors are brighter and more vibrant. The fonts have a crisper contrast to the paper. Even the rustling sound of the turning pages is cleaner and nearly harmonious. Breathe deep, dear readers. You hold the future in your hands.

To commemorate this momentous occasion, I’ve decided to give something back to all of you. Without your dedicated readership, this would not be the publication that it is today and I certainly would not be the man I am. It is because of you and for you that I write, and the fat paycheck I receive is just an added bonus.

However, I’ve begun to feel bad about hording all of this fat cash because I would gladly do this job for free. I don’t even really consider it a job, more like a chance to have a conversation with my best friends every week. I’ve been thinking how I can share my wealth and good fortune with all of you, which is why I am happy to announce the formation of the new international fan club, High Five Worldwide.

I have invested considerable time, effort and finances into the creation of this fabulous new organization. It is not only a way for me to connect with all of you, but for all of you to connect with one another as fans of High Five. You may not realize it, but the person sitting next to you in class or your residence hall neighbor might be a High Fiver just like you!

So how do you join this High Five Worldwide? For you on campus fans, just stop down in “The Pointer” office to pick up the membership application form. We will be asking for your ID, so don’t try any trickery! My off campus friends can shoot me an e-mail or even a Facebook message to request that a form be sent to you.

Once you’ve filled out the appropriate paperwork, then the fun really begins as you will receive the special High Five Worldwide gift package absolutely free! Inside the package, you will find an exclusive High Five Worldwide button, a signed 3x5 glossy photograph of yours truly, an attractive bumper sticker reading “I High Five, Do You?”, an instructional diagram featuring Ava demonstrating the correct way to perform the High Five secret handshake and a special secret bonus gift!

Also, to announce the organization officially and with a bit of style, we will be having a High Five Worldwide mixer next Saturday, Feb. 28. Refreshments will be provided and grooves will be spun, specifically the love jam mix created by last week’s contest winner, MC Michelle Geiger! If that mix is any indication, that girl knows how to party! I know many of you have attended the High Five mixers in the past, but we’re really going all out this time. We will have two karaoke machines and a Bop It! competition! Golly gee!

I don’t have a new contest this week because I know you will all be rushing out to join High Five Worldwide, and when that happens, everybody wins.

get caught reading

THE POINTER

Senior Chris Peterson likes keeping up with the news on campus.

Junior Chris Peterson likes keeping up with the news on campus.
The snow will start melting, and then it'll be spring.
Actually, we'll probably get more snow first. The weather was too cold for snow before, but now that it's warm again.

Joy Ratchman

AARGHI!

Dustin Hauge

NEXT TIME...
"WOUL YOU LIKE A SIDE OF SALVATION WITH YOUR SIDE OF FRIES?"

Bryan Novak

IF he doesn't win, we'll never make it to the game.

Lo Shim

PLAY WORDBLE!
It's a great way to think outside the box.

Last week's answers:
DUE
DUH
FED
HUE

Check back next week for the answers.
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