

Kidnappings, drugs and violence on the border Warnings arise against travel to Mexico

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The United States State Department has warned those who are Mexico-bound to be increasingly cautious by issuing a travel alert that is effective through Aug. 20, 2009.

This is due to a swell in violence, kidnappings and drug-related crimes in Mexico. A number of universities are joining in the government's warning, issuing their own.

The State Department reports that in recent years, dozens of U.S. citizens have been kidnapped in Mexico, with several cases that remain unresolved.

During some confrontations with drug cartels U.S. citizens have also been trapped and temporarily prohibited from departing the area.

Officials have fought drug-related violence in the country for years, but a recent boost in murders, kidnappings and other violent events has brought increased attention to the issue.

President Barack Obama spoke out about ways that the United States is working to curtail the problems in Mexico from spilling across the border, in a press conference Tuesday, March 24.

"We are sending millions of dollars in additional equipment to provide more effective surveillance," said Obama. "We are providing hundreds of additional personnel that can help control the border and deal with customs issues. We are coordinating very effectively with the Mexican government and President Calderon, who has taken on a(n) extraordinarily difficult task dealing with these drug cartels that have gotten completely out of hand."

Obama also spoke about how the United States needs to work to prevent the situation in Mexico from escalating further by stopping their supply of weapons and money.

"We've got to also take some steps. Even as he is doing more to deal with the drug cartels sending drugs into the United States, we need to do more to make sure that illegal guns and cash aren't flowing back to these cartels," said Obama. "That's part of what's financing their operations. That's part of what's arming them. That's what makes them so dangerous. And this is something that we take very seriously, and we're going to continue to work on diligently in the months to come."

Just this past July, according to the British Broadcasting Corporation, 443 people were killed in Mexico due to drug-related violence.

Along the border, many areas are also experiencing rapid growth in robberies, homicides, petty thefts and carjacking. Mexican authorities reported that more than 1,800 people have been killed since Jan. 2008, in Ciudad Juarez alone.

Just last week, off the border of Mexico, 11 Michigan State University students were kidnapped, tied up and robbed at gunpoint along a highway during a spring break trip in Guatemala. According to the Detroit news, the students were nearing the end of a guided tour when their bus was boarded by several armed men who took cameras, iPods, cell phones, watches and money.

The Bureau of Consular Affairs warns that it is crucial for travelers to understand the risks of travel to Mexico, how to avoid dangerous situations and who to contact in case of an emergency. Precautions such as visiting only valid business and tourist areas during daylight hours and avoiding areas where prostitution and drug dealing might occur can help guarantee a trip to Mexico that is protected and pleasant.

Each year during spring break, as many as 100,000 high school and college students travel from the United States to Mexico, according to National Travel Club statistics, causing many universities to warn students of the dangers in Mexico before their spring break.

University of Wisconsin-Madison Health Services sent an e-mail to students encouraging a safe spring break and the university police chief of Chicago State University sent an announcement to the campus community warning students to either stay away from certain areas of Mexico or at least be aware when they travel. Other warnings have been issued across the United States at countless universities.

Happy 50th anniversary, University Centers



Photo courtesy of The 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee

Susan Lebow and other University Centers staff have been handing out cake all week as part of the celebration for the University Centers' 50th anniversary. Students also have the chance to enter a raffle for door prizes.

NCAA March Madness brings UW-SP students together for many reasons

Justin Glodowski The Pointer JGLod170@uwsp.edu

While some students traveled abroad or across the United States over break, others glued themselves to their television screens in anticipation of the first two rounds of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Men's Division I basketball tournament, often known as March Madness.

This tournament is a singleelimination format tournament that is held each spring with 65 college basketball teams from across the United States.

The tournament has become a part of American culture as millions of people fill out brackets predicting the entire tournament for office pools, gambling and even just friendly competition between friends and families. University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point students are not an exception to that equation, as many students are participating in Centertainment's UW-SP bracket challenge, which is being configured on the CBS Sports Web site. Students are competing for the first place prize of an iPod Touch. Other prizes will be awarded for

those placing second through fifth as well.

"So, honestly, I joined this bracket because the first place prize was an iPod Touch," said Tracy Berg. "I know very, very little about college basketball, so I chose my teams based by their seed, and by what team name I liked better. Even though I picked teams completely randomly, I'm actually doing well."

Besides the prizes, students have many reasons why they pay such close attention to March Madness and filled out brackets for the challenge.

"I like the NCAA tournament because of all the suspense it has," said Brian Finnel. "There are upsets and several close games; it just keeps you on your toes. I follow the tournament as it is happening, best way to do it. I don't want to hear who won on SportsCenter, I prefer to watch it live."

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point did not issue a formal warning to students over the issues surrounding travel to Mexico over spring break.

"Now, we are going to continue to monitor the situation," said Obama. "And if the steps that we've taken do not get the job done, then we will do more." Some students feel the excitement despite the fact that they don't follow college basketball at all except for during March Madness.

"I may know close to nothing about college basketball, but getting

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Segregated fees projected to rise

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With the semester winding down, the budgets for next year are finally being released to the public. The proposed auxiliary operations budget, including segregated fees, parking, housing and board, was brought to the Student Government Association before spring break.

"I think it's about average," said David Davila, SGA budget director. "I think all of the numbers so far look about what is needed, with the exceptions of SGA, which hasn't been decided yet. The increases in housing and board seem to be appropriate for what they have planned in the coming years."

Housing is looking at a proposed increase of approximately \$252 or eight percent, while board is seeing an increase of \$244 or 12 percent. Some of the initial increase will be due to incidental costs from removing Hyer Hall from usage such as roommate stipends for staff. Some of the lounges and kitchens in the halls will also be remodeled.

Also affecting the increase is the rise of minimum wage, which is hitting every area of the university's budget.

Some savings will be found in the residence halls as they plan to discontinue room telephone services next year, saving \$422,000.

Also seeing a slight increase this year is Health Services, \$12 or 4.8 percent, and the University Centers, \$7.80 or 1.6 percent. The increase for Health Services is being done to build their reserves to a reasonable level. The increase for the University Centers is due to the increase in minimum wage as well as the addition of a new staff member to help with reservations.

Student input is being attributed to the cause for keeping costs down in the University Centers. Students, faculty and staff are all members of the University Centers Advisory Policy Board, which approves the University Centers budgets.

"I think there has been a lot more student input this year than previous years. The University Centers did a good job cutting out unnecessary parts of their budget," said Katie Kloth, SGA president and member of UCAPB.

The one budget that remains in limbo yet as -it awaits approval is that of SGA's, which includes the student organization annual budgets, subsidies and reserves for student requests. This budget will be coming up for approval before the SGA senate on Thursday, but estimates are already shaping around the projected increase.

"I think it will be more than 10 percent, but where above 10 percent, I don't know," said Davila.

SGA has also been working to improve student involvement and awareness of the budget process underway this year.

"Student government facilitated three open public meetings for anyone on campus to attend so they could learn about all the budgets on campus and have their input adequately given to the respective shared governance bodies," said Kloth.

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in on the tournament makes for a really exciting couple of weeks for anyone who has someone to root for," said Samantha Longshore. "Plus, it's pretty enjoyable to pretend I know what I'm talking about, because chances are, I might be right. That's how unpredictable the tournament can be."

The tournament has brought only a few upsets so far. The largest upset to many has been when thirteenseeded Cleveland State University trampled the popular fourth-seeded, Wake Forest University, in the first round. Also, twelfth-seeded UW -Madison was able to pull off a first round upset over fifth-seeded Florida State University, only to lose in the Badgers should have been in the field, but to win like that should have silenced plenty of critics," said David Polzin.

Sixth-seeded Marquette University also came up short in the second round, losing to third-seed edMissouri University.

"I really was quite disappointed that both of the Wisconsin teams didn't make it farther in the tournament," said Finnel.

Whatever the reason for watching, and even despite the loss of the two Wisconsin teams, students plan to stay tuned for the upcoming rounds of the NCAA tournament as it unfolds this weekend.

"All I have to say is I can't wait for next weekend to watch the rest of the games," said Alesha Bales. "I really hope I win the iPod because mine just broke, and of course all the bragging rights that come with."

Prof. to speak on critical thinking

Jenna Sprattler The Pointer JSPRA793@JWSP.EDU

Ever wondered how an instance of reason works? Is a certain situation, idea or concept good or bad? Can an argument proceed without proof?

Dona Warren, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point, will reveal answers to these questions and more at her lecture, "Thinking well: exploring the intersection between critical thinking and cognitive therapy."

The lecture will be an expansion from the presentation she gave last summer at the wellness conference.

"Critical thinking is a way of exercising intellectual autonomy," Warren said. Your mind is "like a virus scanner, so that you don't just take in a bunch of stuff that's going to corrupt your hard drive."

Philosophy major Ellie Jackson took Warren's critical thinking course last semester.

"Critical thinking can be used to analyze any concept in any field," Jackson said.

The vast uses of this skill make it



Dona Warren will be speaking on the topic of critical thinking as part of the L&S Lecture Series.

a helpful tool for discovering answers to any kind of puzzling situation.

"You become aware of what you're thinking; beliefs that you had and you've forgotten you had them," Warren said.

Ellen Forde, also a philosophy major, says she uses critical thinking skills on a daily basis but finds them particularly helpful in deciphering moral and ethical dilemmas.

"Critical thinking is tremendously important to our society," Forde said. "The issues our generation face are so complex that not only does one need to be well informed about an issue, but they need to be able to critically assess the validity of the information and arguments, make connections among ideas and look beyond the surface of the issue."

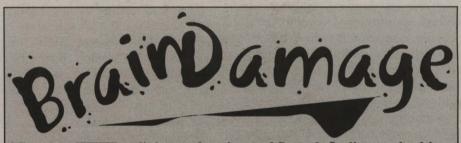
While some may feel that critical thinking has a negative connotation, it's really about thinking rationally.

"Being rational is not the same thing as being cold," Warren said. "A lot of moral evil can be traced to irrationality at some level."

The importance of thinking critically seems pertinent, but the skills required entail appropriate education in order to be of use.

"We can't expect people to just pick it up naturally. It's a very complicated skill set and it can be taught," Warren said. College is aimed at "helping people to become intellectual active consumers and producers of knowledge ... not just passive recipients of what people tell us."

The lecture will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 26 in room 321 of the Collins Classroom Center and is free and open to the public.



The post-WWII policies and actions of Joseph Stalin resulted in the death of an estimated 30 million people in the Soviet Union over an eight year period lasting until 1953.

Hybristophilia involves being sexually aroused or attracted to people who have committed an outrage or a gruesome crime, and is also known as the "Bonnie and Clyde Syndrome."

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on

second round to Xavier University. "A lot of people doubted the bragging right

Current top 10 UW-SP brackets as of the second round of the NCAA tournament

Name 1. Tom Klicka 2. Joe Lewandowski 3. Bryan Thomas 3. Danny Fochesato 3. David Polzin 3. Kayle Guillory 7. Jordan Frye 7. Ryan Santkuyl 7. Tracy Berg 10. Alesha Bales

Pick for champion North Carolina Michigan State Louisville North Carolina Louisville Louisville Louisville Louisville Villanova

Connecticut

the back of the \$5 bill.

In 1783, an Icelandic eruption put enough dust and ash in the air to temporarily block out the sun over Europe.

The microwave oven was invented by mistake when an engineer testing a magnetron noticed that the radiation from it melted the peanut chocolate bar he had in his pocket. The first food to be deliberately cooked in a microwave oven was popcorn. The second was an egg, which exploded in the face of the person performing the experiment.

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Pointlife **Students abroad can't** escape American feel

Editor's note: This story is written by a UW-SP students currently studying abroad in London.

Emily Hart POINTLIFE REPORTER

'Ello from London! Several University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students have decided to spend this semester studying and participating in internships across the pond. And let me tell you, the semester is only half over, and we've already had quite a few adventures.

As you all are aware, in January Barack Obama was inaugurated as our new president. However, you may be interested to know that the Brits are as concerned about American politics as we are! It was covered in all of their papers for several days. In fact, the BBC called the International Students House, or ISH, to see if any Americans would be interested in being interviewed at the unveiling of a wax Obama figure at the famous Madame Tussauds.

On the debut of the Obama figure, slated for January 20, 13 of us woke up bright and early to meet at Madame Tussauds at 6 a.m. (and you thought you had it tough, getting up for your 8 a.m. class!) We walked over to Madame Tussauds, which was only about a fiveminute walk. Then we were led up to the room where the filming would take place. It sure was creepy, walking through a quiet, empty building full of wax figures that look like they could move or talk at any moment. It is much different from the usual tourist experience, with the whole place lit up and full of people talking and taking photos!

It took a while for the BBC people to set everything up, so we had plenty of time to explore and admire our favorite celebrities. They then divided us into two groups: the first group got to celebrate with the wax Obama while the BBC reporter interviewed a couple of people. It looked like they were having a blast, but five minutes is sure a long time to party in front of a camera.

There was a long delay and multiple changes in plan on what to do with the second group. Eventually it was decided that only one of our students, Zack Neal, was to be interviewed. They had to do several takes, but eventually everything ran smoothly and Zack was able to portray his feelings unto the reporting agent.

"It was a very exciting experience! Not only was I able to share my excitement about the inauguration, but we were able to see the inner-workings of the BBC," said Neal.

Well, not everyone ended up on film, but we all enjoyed the experience.

"I thought it was really cool, getting to see the BBC reporters in action. It's not every day we get to witness something this momentous - international news in the making!" commented Megan Jirschele, a student from UW-Madison.

Whether it was seeing all the wax figures of celebrities for free, experiencing journalism firsthand, or being seen on film worldwide, I believe every one of us got something out of this experience.

Well, I can safely say that something like this would never have happened to me if I had chosen to remain in Stevens Point for the semester. I know we're all looking forward to more exciting adventures in the months ahead. Until then, cheers!



"Change in America" leaked over to England as UW-SP students Zach Neal and Kaitlin Younges can attest

Student indulges in Amsterdam

culture and scenery over break **Jenna Sprattler**

gorging on food and socializing with

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For many University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students, spring break is a time to relax, catch up on some reading or get ahead in a few classes. But for a small number, the time off gives them a chance to participate in global adventures.

"It's an entrancing place; it's easy to fall in love with it," Jeremiah Eichmann said of his travels.

Eichmann and two of his friends, also UW-SP students, spent the week in Amsterdam catching the sites, on the water. It's in a traditional

the local Dutch folks. Airfare came to roughly \$600 and their hostel, Meeting Point, was

"I want to get to know the country more intimately to see what makes it tick." -Eichmann

only 18 euros each night. The good exchange rates were beneficial at the time. Their transportation of choice while in the country: biking. Meeting Point was located "right

See Amsterdam pg. 4

Pointlife

Pointer Poll: If March could go out as something other than a lion or lamb, what would it be?



Adam Bohl Freshman "Golden eagle"



Joanna Keller Senior "Hippopotomas"



Iris Reyes Sophomore "Yorkie"



Jed Meinen Freshman "Badger"



Sarah Francart Freshman "Panda bear"



Megan Cahill Freshman "Blue-footed boobie"

From Amsterdam pg. 3

narrow Dutch house in the gable," Eichmann said. "I highly recommend it."

The trio ate at a traditional Dutch restaurant, Haesje Claes, and went to an Animal Collective concert at the Paradiso.

While Amsterdam has been heavily criticized for tolerating certain activities like smoking marijuana and obvious public prostitution areas like the Red Light District, it remains a unique country filled with cultural diversity.

"The reason the Dutch people legalized pot was for control of the situation and they can make the distinction between hard drugs and the color of their walls which have been stained by years of tobacco smoke.

"You get a shot of jenever (pronounced yen-ay-ver) and you chase it with a small beer," Eichmann said. "It's a very Dutch thing to do. They smile when you take it and say 'lekker,' that means 'delicious'."

This was his fourth visit to the country and by far the most structured

he said. He continues to learn the Dutch language on his own and has been studying German as his major at UW-SP.

"I was thinking, in the future, maybe being a tour guide, but I don't know," he said. "I want to get to know the country more intimately to see what makes it tick."



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study 2. D

soft drugs," Eichmann said.

The Red Light District looks to be diminishing as fewer windows are in operation, he said. "They're opening the old brothels into artist galleries, boutiques, jewelers and fashion designers."

The country is a sort of melting pot of different people starting to comform to each others tastes.

"They're all together as one homogeneous group," said Eichmann.

His favorite part of the trip was "probably hanging out in a brown café chatting it up with the Dutchies."

The cafes, some over 400 years old, are known as "brown cafes" for



Photo courtesy of Jeremiah Eichmann

International Programs Office www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad

In Amsterdam, navigating the canals provides a better means of direction than the streets that are outlayed throughout the area.

Science & Outdoors

Society of Ecological Restoration receives grant

Gregg Jennings Science & Outdoors Reporter

Last week, Paul Cigan, president of the Society of Ecological Restoration, was officially notified that the organization was awarded the C.D. Besandy Memorial Grant administered through Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. The grant will be used for a Karner blue butterfly habitat restoration project planned for the Little Plover River fishery area.

The money can only be used for ventures on state lands or a community outreach, according to Cigan. The advisor to the Society of Ecological Restoration, Dr. Michael Demchik, gave suggestions to Cigan on effective ways to write the grant. After Cigan wrote the grant, he asked Society of Ecological Restoration members for feedback.

The grant was submitted in mid-January, 2009. In early March, Professor Diane Lueck, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point lecturer and grant committee member of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, notified Cigan that the Society of Ecological Restoration would be awarded the grant. Only 11 applications of the 75 submitted were selected to receive the grant. The Society of Ecological Restoration's grant ranked number one and received \$1,000, the most of any of the organizations.

The grant will fund research at the site that will involve designing a research project, implementing it, documenting it, and monitoring continued into the future, as well as expanding habitat for Karner blue butterflies and other "prairie guild users." This will be accomplished through more plantings of wild lupine and other native forbs. The last part of the grant is to put on a community outreach program.

The outreach program will be for area residents, their children, Boy Scout groups and high school students. They will be encouraged to visit the Little Plover

River restoration site, participate in extracting lupine seed from precollected seed pods, planting lupine seeds and taking a tour of previous plantings at the site. Packets of lupine seeds will be given to participating



Photo courtesy of Gregg Jennings

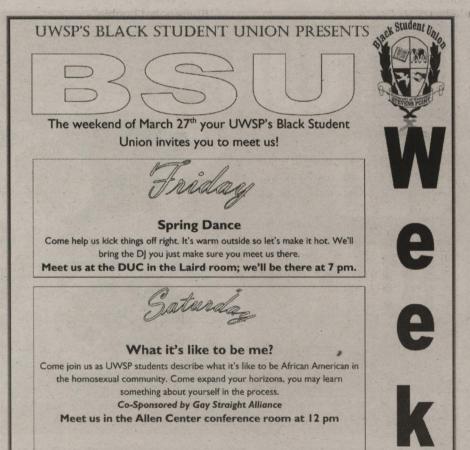
Society of Ecological Restoration officers display trays of native prairie plants that will help foster the Karner blue butterfly's habitat.

community members to take home. The hope is they will plant them on their property and allow the Society of Ecological Restoration to do followup monitoring.

Planning sessions have already

occurred and the project is anticipated to continue after 2009.

"The project is very exciting," Cigan said. "We think that this opportunity is kind of unique for the College of Natural Resources."



UW-SP receives funding for WIST

Nick Meyer The Pointer nmeye177@uwsp.edu

Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey announced on Wednesday, March 11, that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will receive more than \$1.4 million to fund the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology through President Obama's economic recovery package.

UW-SP will receive \$1,408,000 to establish the institute to help make the state a leader in the area of sustainable technology. The hope is that developments made by the institute will benefit the environment, enhance energy production and stimulate state and regional economies by providing students with state-ofthe-art education.

"If you compare this to building a house, we've dug the hole for the foundation," Provost Mark Nook said in an interview with the Stevens Point Journal. "This money is going to let us pour the footings and build the foundation." to Gerry Ring, department chair of the College of Natural Resources, who has worked on developing WIST for about two years.

The institute will also strive to develop new technologies. The WIST will continue efforts already started in the area such as cellulose biofuel research being conducted by professors Don Guay and Erik Singsaas.

"Faculty who participate with WIST may come from any discipline on campus that can provide solutions to industry and economic problems," said Ring. "It actually represents the first time that a coordinated research activity will be available at UW-SP."

Students will be employed to work on research projects on a part-time basis providing real-world experience with problems facing the state. It will also allow them to gain contacts with potential employers, according to Ring.

The institute has great potential for helping a struggling Wisconsin economy. The hope is that WIST will attract investment to the new technologies it helps develop and stimulate growth for new businesses in central Wisconsin, as well as provide technical support for an industry that no longer can afford to keep technical departments and keep those businesses in Wisconsin. "Theeconomy of central Wisconsin is suffering from having few high-tech industries when compared to Illinois and Minnesota," said Ring. "WIST will strive to develop new technologies and create new businesses in central Wisconsin."

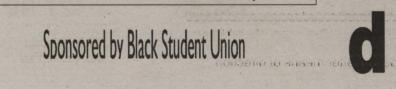
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The funding will allow the institute to hire a full-time executive director who would coordinate the operations of the institute and would eventually be able to secure more funding for the project.

The institute is intended to provide industries in Wisconsin dealing with sustainable resources, like the forestry and paper industries, with technical consulting and practical application-based research, according

Sports

Pointers thrive under new coach Tom Henke

Rochelle Nechuta The Pointer RNECH142@UWSP.EDU

After starting the season 10-4 in the Augsburg Tournament and the Rebel Games down in Kissimmee, Fla., the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point softball team is showing a lot of promise.

The Pointers were ushered into the spring season with a brand new coach after Ann Munzemaier left last spring. Under Head Coach Tom Henke's lead, the team has gone far in the early season.

Henke walked onto the scene with extensive fastpitch coaching experience after 18 years leading area youth teams. The Pointers have given him a nice start in the program so far.

"We went into the season at Augsburg and we went 2-2 and I know everybody including myself and our coaches and everybody on the team, were disappointed with that finish," Henke said. "We approached that next week with a little bit more intensity, a little bit more fire and pride."

The Pointers went 8-2 during their week in Florida and went into extra innings with nationally ninteenthranked Illinois Wesleyan. Henke said the team really came together and improved their chemistry in the trip, taking a large step toward where he



Henke

wants to go this season. "Iknew we would be in somewhat

of a transitional year here, rebuilding a little bit more experienced team," Henke said. "My expectations started out modest, but with this group and how they're maturing and coming together, my expectations are growing."

This season, there was an exciting influx of four talented freshmen including outfielder Bryanna Tremillo, pitcher/third baseman Sarah Bisbee, pitcher/outfielder Brooke Schramm and catcher/outfielder Kelly Arndt.

"The freshmen are fitting in great, I'm real happy about that," Henke said. "They will continue to contribute and they are four players that are on the team for a reason."

Ace pitcher Kayla Kastenmeier returned to the mound for the Pointers this season. During the team's Florida trip she managed a 6-2 record and an impressive 7-0 shutout against Washington Jefferson College (PA) where she only allowed a single hit.

Henke, who coached teams that competed against Kastenmeier in the past, considers her to be the team's ace. He said she is the workhorse of the staff and that she is part of an influential group of starters that lead the team.

Henke said the team's main goal this year is to reach 20 wins.

The Pointers may be halfway there already, but he is convinced once the team gets into conference play, they will have to stay tough as challenges multiply.

"We had our areas that we knew we were going to have to work at a little bit and those areas are coming along," Henke said.

The Pointers have a game on April 1 at Ripon College and at Northland College on April 3 before making their way home on April 5 in a doubleheader against Finlandia University at 12 p.m.



Photo courtesy of the Athletic Department UW-SP softball started 10-4 and heads into a week of double headers.



Sports

UW-SP women's golf finishes first at Jekyll Island Collegiate Tournament

Nick Meyer The Pointer NMEYE177@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's golf team opened the spring season with a victory this past weekend at the Jekyll Island Collegiate tournament.

The team shot a three-day score of 982 defeating some of the top-ranked teams in the nation.

"We feel great about the start with the win," said Coach Matt Interbartolo. "We compete at tournaments to win so for us this was mission accomplished."

The Pointers fought their way from behind to take the number one spot. After the first day, the team found themselves in fourth place of 22 teams, only four strokes behind third place team Allegheny College and 15 strokes behind the leader Illinois Wesleyan.

Michelle Pascavis started the weekend out strong with an opening round of 82 and Jessica Urban added an 83 as the Pointers shot their way to a team score of 343.

The Pointers came out stronger than ever on day two when they shot a team score of 316, propelling them into the number one spot. The score was the lowest one-day score for a team in the tournament and 19 strokes better than the second place finisher for the day. Nacheynah Green led the charge for the Pointers shooting the lowest score of the day with a 76 while Amanda Dlugopolski shot a 79 and Urban an 80.

On day three the Pointers sealed the win by shooting 323 to defeat second place Southwestern University by just five strokes. Interbartolo saw the team's unflinching fortitude as key to the victory.

"All three days saw 30 mph winds," said Interbartolo. "We had a rough start and found ourselves 15 back after day one, but we stayed patient and believed we could come back and we did."

Urban took the top individual spot for the tournament shooting a score of 238 to finish two strokes ahead of Emily Bachert of Centre College. Pascavis finished tied for fourth with a 244.

The team returned to the green after a stellar fall season in which they took home top honors in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for the second year in row. The conference championship win gave them an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Championship tournament, which will be held at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fla., May 13-16, 2009. The team is looking ahead but not too far.

"We are only looking forward, we have our eye on the big prize," said



Photo courtesy of Matt Interbartolo

The golf team early this year with the WIAC Championship plaque.

Athletic Shorts

Interbartolo. "But we need to worry about our practice and the preceding tournaments first."

The team has had a winning tradition as of late but before the 2007 conference title, the team had not received the top honor since 1997. Interbartolo hopes to keep the winning tradition going through tough obstacles.

"Conferences and championships are going to get tougher; our conference

is pretty tough," said Interbartolo. "We are just trying to put a few more pieces of the big puzzle together via recruiting."

The team will hit the fairway again April 10 and 11 at the Carlton Spring Invite in Northfield, Minn. The contest will not be an easy victory for the Pointers.

"Carleton presents challenges via the weather not always [being] cooperative," said Interbartolo.

Baseball starts strong in Florida

Jacob Mathias The Pointer JMATH438@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point's baseball team is off to a great start with an 8-2 overall record.

The Pointer's season opener was played against St. Olaf College at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minn. The Pointer's went 1-1 against St. Olaf.

"I felt that we performed below our expectations up in the Metrodome, despite the fact that we got one win," said Head Coach Pat Bloom. "I felt that offensively we didn't execute our game plan which was to put pressure on the defense, put the ball into play."

A solid pitching performance by the Pointers' Garrett Nix and Jeff Zlelke and numerous errors by St. Olaf's defense brought the Pointers to a 4-3 victory in the first game of the double-header. "I felt first and foremost we got good starting pitching and even better performances from our guys out of the bullpen," said Bloom. "Our bullpen E[arned]R[un]A[verage] at the end of the Florida trip was phenomenal."

Diverse offensive playing was a big part of the success of these games, said Bloom.

"The final game in Florida was not characteristic of the way we played up to that point," said Bloom. "We played poorly defensively, we didn't get great pitching and we completely shut down offensively."

Fatigue from two extra-inning games earlier that day may have been part of the loss but the opponent was in the same position so it shouldn't have reflected so significantly, according to Bloom.

The Pointers head to a double-

"I felt that offensively we

Women's basketball

The women's basketball team finished their highly successful 26-4 season in a 77-64 loss against Illinois Wesleyan in the sectional match-up on March 13.

The team grabbed seventh on D3hoops.com in the final poll of the season after travelling to the NCAA Division III Sweet Sixteen.

Numerous players won accolades post-season, including the All-Region award from D3Hoops. com, which sophomore Britta Peterson added to her growing collection. Peterson was also named to the All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference First Team with senior teammates Katie Webber and Janell Van Gomple. Pitcher- Jeff Zielke Position player- Jeremy Richter Softball: Pitcher- Kayla Kastenmeier Position player- Lauren Watkins

Swimming

UWSE

The women's and men's swimming and diving teams competed in the NCAA Division Diving Swimming and III Championships this past week. The men's team finished eighth place, its seventh consecutive year within the top 20 rankings. Senior Chase Gross earned an eighth-place finish with his 44.66 finish in the 100-yard freestyle. The 400-vard freestyle relay team including Gross, Sam Davy, Rob Donish and Steve Lynam also earned eighth. Swimmer Ian Girdley took seventh in the 200-yard backstroke. The women went on to take 27th in the NCAA tournament and had their 400-yard freestyle relay finish 16th in the fourth day of competition.

The Pointers fell to a 6-2 loss in the second game.

The Pointers traveled to Winter Haven, Fla. for three double-headers against Fontbonne University, Greenville College and Washington and Jefferson College. The team also played single games against Ripon College and Rhodes College.

The team went 7-1 while in Florida, losing their final game 2-8 in a double-header against Washington and Jefferson College. didn't execute our game plan which was to put pressure on the defense, put the ball into play."

-Bloom

header at St. Norbert's College in De Pere, Wis., on Mar. 28.

"They perennially have been a tough match-up for us," said Bloom. "It's always tough to win over in De Pere. We expect to see their two best pitchers and for those two games to be hard-fought battles." Webber was also named to the All-Defensive Team and senior Jessi Sporle was named to the All-WIAC Honorable Mention and All-Sportsmanship teams.

Coach Shirley Egner was named the WIAC Coach of the Year for the third time.

Athletes of the Week Baseball:

10.00

Arts & Culture Jump Rhythm Jazz Project founder Billy Siegenfeld and company members leap to stage

Leah Gernetzke THE POINTER LGERN177@UWSP.EDU

Following a two-week residency in February, professional dancer Billy Siegenfeld returns to present Jump Rhythm Jazz Project this Saturday, March 28 at the Sentry Theater. Three other company members will also join him.

Siegenfeld founded this Emmy-

winning company in New York in New York. She later took a jazz-tap 1990, in partnership with current University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point dance instructor, Jeannie Hill.

The company now consists of an ensemble of eight members based in Chicago. The group also tours schools and universities to educate students through choreographic residencies on unique Jump Rhythm Jazz techniques.

Hill, who was instrumental in bringing Siegenfeld to UW-SP, said she first met him at a dance class in



Photo courtesy of William Fredencing

Jump Rhythm Jazz Project company members give an exhuberant performance

Black Student Union Weekend celebrates African American culture

Jacob Mathias THE POINTER JMATH438@UWSP.EDU

This weekend, students and faculty are invited to step outside the boundaries of routine and attend a variety of music, dancing and culture events that celebrate African American culture in Stevens Point.

The Black Student Union will host the weekend's events, which kick off with a dance at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 27.

"Stevens Point From My Perspective," also in the Allen Center, is another discussion in which members of the Black Student Union will describe their experiences being African American at UW-SP.

The whole weekend will culminate with the annual Gospel Fest at 7 p.m. in Michelson Hall of the Noel Fine Arts Center.

There will be four gospel groups, all with their own signature styles at this year's Gospel Fest.

"It gives different types of gospel music," said Martina Spears, BSU public relations representative and gospel fest coordinator. "It's not just that one church type of music."

dance class he instructed.

"I loved the way he danced," said Hill. "His class was a derivative of Fred Astaire's rhythm."

Hill, who continues to be involved in the project as an associate artistic director, guest artist and choreographer, said this project is important to her on a variety of levels.

"Through this, I'm able to integrate my professional life with my academic life," she said. "It's a culminating moment for me to be able to bring the company here I'm especially grateful to Sentry for helping bring them here."

The project is particularly beneficial to UW-SP dance students, who will gain first-hand experience working with different jazz techniques on a professional level.

"They'll get to see teaching put into performance," Hill said. "They, more than anyone, will appreciate the complexity of the rhythms and gain a deeper understanding for this type of dance."

Former UW-SP dance student Kristina Kasper said Jump Rhythm Jazz Project's residency at UW-SP in 2001, when she was a freshman, has

profoundly shaped her career.

"When I first saw the company perform, I knew I wanted to do what they were doing," she said. "I thought to myself, 'I have never seen a company do this ... ' You really feel alive as an audience member."

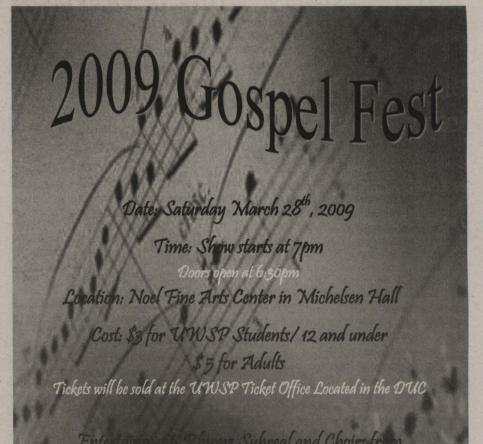
Kasper worked with the company as a scholarship student in 2005, moving her way up to an apprenticeship. She now is a full member of the company and will be performing this Saturday.

"I'm so excited to come back to UW-SP to perform," she said. "I'm proud of my school and I'm proud of my company, so for the two to come together is really important to me."

But the students aren't the only ones who will appreciate this Saturday's show. Hill emphasized the importance of seeing the event in person.

"Dance is nice on video, but you don't get the energy," she said. "There is a palpable exchange between the audience and performers."

To experience this exchange, you can purchase Jump Rhythm Jazz Project tickets at the University Information and Tickets center in the Dreyfus University Center on campus.



Black Student Union members said the weekend is a way to create a greater degree of unity in the community.

"We just get everybody together," said BSU member Katrina Lockett. "A lot of community members love it because it's something different than what they're used to seeing."

Other events include "What It's Like To Be Me" at 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 28 in the Allen Center, which is co-sponsored by the UW-SP Gay-Straight Alliance. In the forum, UW-SP students will be sharing their experiences and discussing what it's like to be homosexual in the African American community.

Rhymz Suhreal, a Stevens Pointbased hip-hop group that puts a new spin on gospel music, will also be performing.

United in Worship, a Milwaukeebased group, will perform, as will the Lane-Tech High School Choir and a professional gospel group from Chicago under the direction of Mark Wright.

Tickets to Gospel Fest are available at the University Information and Tickets Center and are \$3 for UW-SP students and \$5 for adults.

Come and join the UWSP Black Student Union as we

listen and enjoy the different songs of gospel

t Union

Co Sponsored by Student Government Association

Arts & Culture

New rock exhibit gives new meaning to "getting stoned" Rock art currently on display at the Learning Resource Center

Ben Haight The Pointer BHAIG870@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Natural History Museum and Learning Resource Center are currently presenting a new exhibit featuring the work of artist Geri Schrab. The exhibit, titled "Rock Art: A Foundation for Healing," is a collection of varied perspectives of Great Lakes images.

The exhibit is a collection of paintings by Geri Schrab, inspired by Wisconsin and Upper Great Lakes



Photo courtesy of www.artglyphs.com Artist Geri Schrab shares her passion for watercolor painting.

rock art. Schrab, a previous full-time court reporter in the Wisconsin State Court System, completed her first petroglyph painting in December of 1994. In January of 2003, Schrab gave up court reporting to pursue her painting full time, more exhibits and possibly a book.

Schrab's focus, as stated in her artist's statement, is "The study of petroglyphs and pictographs, images pecked, carved and painted on rock surfaces by the indigenous people of what we now know as North America."

Most of Schrab's work comes from Wisconsin and Minnesota, but she has also traveled to Australia.

"I love visiting all areas of rock art. I just love being in the natural world," said Schrab, who feels most at home in the northwoods boundary waters and Quetico area. When Schrab traveled to Australia, she was really struck by the age of Australian rock art. One of the petroglyph sites that she visited was 30,000 years old.

Although Schrab sticks to rock art and painting, she has been opening up her field of vision to include the landscape upon

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Photo courtesy of www.artglyphs.com Schrab's original watercolor from the Nevada Series.

which the rock art is found. As one goes through the exhibit, one will notice dates on the titles, which refers to when Schrab completed each individual piece. As one looks at the more recent paintings, one will notice that they were painted within the landscape, unlike her earlier paintings, which focused on just the glyph. The work in progress in the museum, across from the buffalo head, is a good example of that.

Schrab is very honored to have the opportunity to show her body of work in the Natural History Museum setting.

"To have the paintings juxtaposed

with the museum exhibits of flora and fauna of the natural world is incredibly effective," she said.

Students will have a chance to view the ongoing exhibit through Friday, with a number of paintings in the LRC Cafe.

"Geri paints a very vivid and moving picture with her watercolors; she's very focused on her work," said UW-SP art major Justine Hess.

There will also be a rock art panel discussion on April 10, in room 107 of the LRC, and a discussion on women, creativity and rock art on Tuesday, May 5, from 6:30-9 in room 107 of the LRC.



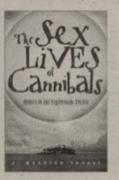
Photo courtesy of www.artglyphs.com Another original watercolor from the Arizona Series.

Getting Stoned With

Savages (2006)

Books Pointers Recommend

The Sex Lives of Cannibals (2004)

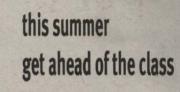




J. Maarten Troost

OK, I know what you're thinking: Can these books possibly be as interesting as their titles? The answer is, I'm happy to share, an absolute yes!

In 1996, J. Maarten Troost, a 26-year-old with a useless graduate degree in international relations, decided he would be happier moving to the farthest reaches of the world than staying in Washington, D.C., to pursue a 21stcentury American career. Thus begins his adventurous life in the South Pacific islands of Kiribati, Fiji and Vanuatu, which, to say the least, are not the island paradises you conjure up for spring break or a honeymoon. Always funny and perceptive, Troost tells about everyday life in the equatorial Pacific and the distinctive people and culture there with masterfully comic language. You will wish for more of his dry wit and sly accounts when you come to the final pages of the books. A delightful read for any time and any mood.





You can find these two books on the third floor of the Learning Resource Center with call numbers GN671.K57 T76 2004 and DU600.T75 2006.

To view video book recommendations by faculty and students, go to BookPointers, located at the bottom of the LRC homepage: http://library. uwsp.edu/.

> Yan Liao Librarian/Associate Professor Learning Resource Center University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Letters & Opinion Letters to the Editor

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

The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circu-

Dear Editor:

After reading the March 12 publication of The Pointer, I have lost appreciation for this school. Maybe not the school, but the people themselves. The comic by Joy Ratchman entitled "Rabble Rousers" was very upsetting. I am an out-of-state student from Iowa and having to read about people making fun of Iowa is almost worse than being made fun of to my face. I get judged because I say "Wisconsin" differently, call it "pop" and not "soda," and say "water fountain"

I apologize for my error in judgment last week in my comic "Rabble Rousers." It was meant to show the bitterness one feels when one of the best graduate programs in the country rejects you. I in no way meant to offend Iowans or imply that their state is in any way inferior to Wisconsin. The University of Iowa is known for its writing program, which is the oldest and most prestigious in the country. This was my character's first choice for graduate school, and the rejection hurt.

For the intent of the comic, I could have put any other school in any other

instead of "bubbler." Chances are people do not know anything about Iowa and they only judge us based on the fact that our main production is corn. This is extremely biased, and to make fun of the 2008 flood situation is not funny; many people lost their homes in this tragedy. Also, all of the major schools in Iowa, such as Iowa State University, University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa are all in cities much larger than Stevens Point. If people educated themselves, they would see that Iowa has so much to offer, and I will be glad to be

place in the country, Harvard, the Twin Cities, UC Davis, etc., into the "Do you really want to live..." section of the comic. I chose Iowa because their graduate writing program really is known as the best in the country, and my character wants to be a poetry professor. It made sense. The school's graduate program is also really hard to get into, so acceptance is quite an achievement in the literary community. As anyone who has been rejected by their first-choice school, no matter where it is, knows, a rejection letter makes one feel bitter and "not good enough."

returning there next year to continue my education where I am welcomed by the student body.

I am shocked of the intolerance to outsiders at this school. I am also surprised that "The Pointer" published this comic that was not funny by any means.

-Bailey Paulsen

When we're upset by such a big disappointment, our friends often say ineffective "sour grapes"-type things to try to make us feel better. In trying to capture what friends say, I said some offensive things by downplaying some of the serious consequences of flooding last year. For this, I offer a sincere apology. Please forgive my error in judgment.

> Sincerely, Joy Ratchman

To the students of UW-SP:

I am writing this letter to the editor to inform UW-SP students who may not know about the involvement of the SGA vice presidential candidate Kelly Krumsee with the Pointers for Life Cemetery of Innocents cross demonstration last spring. On May 1, 2008, Krumsee was involved in the vandalism of this memorial while serving as a representative of the students at UW-SP (vice president of the Residence Hall Association). The vandalism witnessed and videotaped consisted of pulling the crosses out of the ground and tossing them aside (this can be witnessed in the first 30 seconds of the video http://www.youtube. com/watch?v=t5NeLyMZUYM). This letter is not intended to bring up any debate over the abortion issue or the other parties involved in the vandalism. This letter is about the claims of a vice presidential candidate to be supportive of student organizations and her opposite record with the Pointers for Life. It is tremendously important for the elected student leaders to be able to express viewpoint neutrality and respect for all points of view regardless

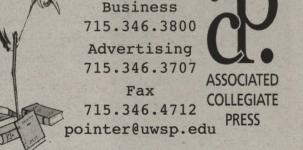
of their own. This is clearly not the history that Kelly Krumsee has had with this UW-SP student organization. No apology was ever received from Kelly Krumsee to the Pointers for Life. I urge you, as a student, to elect student representatives that can tolerate conflicting ideas and accept diversity on this campus.

-Matt Peeters

get caught reading The Pointer THE POINTER Newsroom GOTCHA. 715.346.2249



Junior Curtis Weisse likes to stay informed about what happens on campus.



pointer.uwsp.edu University of Wisconsin Stevens Point 104 CAC Stevens Point, WI 54481

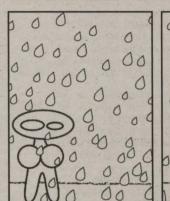
lation of 2,500 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students.

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

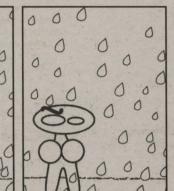
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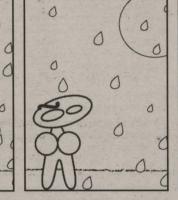
Comics

I'M



Rabble Rousers





Joy Ratchman

Dustin Hauge

THE BEST YOU COULD DO?

High **Five: For** chivalry

Steve Apfel COLUMNIST

Greetings fair maidens and merry men! I trust you all had a most enjoyable spring break and have returned to campus refreshed and excited about the final weeks of the semester.

My stint in the rehabilitation clinic was a complete success and my yearnings for e-commerce are now under control. I was quite pleased to see the collection of well wishings in the forms of cards and plants that had accumulated while I was away. My dear friend Nick Meyer made sure that each and every plant stayed healthy and alive in my absence. He is a true friend.

While sorting through the large stack of mail that Nick also brought in for me, I found quite the interesting letter among the bills and High Five fan mail. The letter was from a King Roland of the Kingdom of Elkston. Apparently the online presence of High Five has become so popular as to reach the screen of royal Elkston, and the king was most impressed with my fine moral character. It is because of my honorable nature that he was seeking my help.

It seems the king's daughter, the fair Princess Breann, was kidnapped by a most unsavory ogre. He has sent many brave men to rescue her from the mountain lair of the ogre, but they all proved to be of inferior valor and failed. He has exhausted the supply of morally upstanding young men in his kingdom, which is why he has sought the help of me.

Well, I could not let the honor of this young maiden be sullied any further. I immediately wrote back to King Roland saying I would gladly go on this quest. I figure my many visits to various Renaissance festivals over the years more than qualifies me to fight an ogre! For further research I have also turned to the world of cinema to gain tutelage from the likes of Robin Hood and Wesley of "The Princess Bride." I shall not rest until the fair Princess Breann is returned.

The king has arranged for my travel by providing a noble steed in royal private jet form. I certainly would have embarked on such a quest for free but I have been offered the hand of the princess. Sounds like a pretty sweet deal, right? Wrong! Arranged marriage is an antiquated practice that does not fly with this young hero. I have asked that the princess be set free from such old-world ways. However, I have seen pictures of Princess Breann and she's awfully cute. Maybe I'll get lucky and she'll choose me anyway! That would be the best! Keep your fingers crossed, and perhaps after graduation I'll be on the road to royalty!

Let us not belittle the peril of this quest though. How will I succeed where so many have failed? Why, with the help of my sidekick of course! I believe that all of these would-be heroes lacked the essential sidekick who balances cuteness with comic relief. It is essential for the quest! Not one of these failed questers has employed the services of Nathan the Pirate. Not only will his cutting sarcasm and snappy philosophies surely weaken the defenses of a lessthan-intelligent ogre, his girlish giggle will keep me amused on the long journey. And he's a pirate! Who doesn't love pirates? I just hope he hasn't raised his questing rates. I'm not sure I can afford more than middle-shelf vodka and hugs. So, friends, if you notice me bulking up over the next few weeks, do not be alarmed. It's all part of Avra's training program. She's seen "Masters of the Universe" eighteen times, clearly making her an expert. So long for now my friends!

Roach

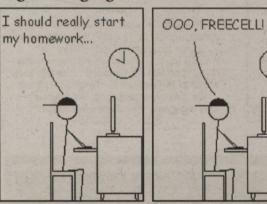


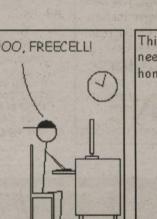


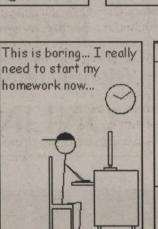
Where I Come From



Vaguer Language







ELF

ELL

FER

FLU

FUR

LEU

Wordle

Create as many words as you can out of these 6 letters. Spaces are provided below.

RTPMPO



John Kawa

5 Minutes Later

000, FREECELL!

This also applies to

spider solitaire and

hearts... every night.

FURL

LURE

RULE

FULLER

Check back next week for the answers.

FREE! FREE! FREE! Milwaukee Bucks vs. **Memphis Grizzlies** Sat., Apr. 4, 2009 7:30 p.m. Two tickets each to the first four people to correctly answer this week's Wordle.

Last week's answers:

REF

RUE

FELL

FLUE

FUEL

FULL

E-mail answers to Katie at pointer@uwsp.edu.

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Classifieds

Housing

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