UWSP strives for more diverse culture

"It starts to refine a philosophy on campus, create a philosophy where people feel safe, people feel included, people are basically allowed to thrive."

-Morin

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is in the planning phase of the University of Wisconsin System implemented Inclusive Excellence. Inclusive Excellence is defined as the integration of diversity efforts into the core aspects of all UW institutions. This includes priority improvement initiatives, decision-making, day-to-day operations and organizational cultures.

All of these must be insured to maximize success of Inclusive Excellence at all universities.

The Board of Regents Inclusive Excellence leadership team joined campus on Tuesday, Oct. 13, for the Inclusive Excellence kick-off. It was a day filled with brainstorming, discussions and beginnings of actualizations among faculty, staff, students, administrators and community members.

"This is a very good time for us to be going through this," said Jeff Morin, the interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "Inclusive excellence includes more than tracking what we have traditionally defined as diversity students. It includes orientation. It includes gender. It asks us to take a look at maybe gender by program," said Morin.

A common theme of the day was the fact that diversity is not a problem to be solved. Diversity is a culture to be created.

In order to create this culture, UW system has asked each university to develop a plan that is most applicable to their climate and that would be most successful.

"It starts to refine a philosophy on campus, create a philosophy where people feel safe, people feel included, people are basically allowed to thrive," said Morin.

"We want to recruit and retain diverse faculty and staff. On this campus we have a lot of problems recruiting and retaining, in particular, diverse faculty just because its the middle of the state, there is not a lot around. Hopefully this finally gets to the core of that," said Greg Hartmann, the multicultural issues director for Student Government Association.

Hartmann said UWSP does a great job at recruiting and retaining diversity in the student body but it can always be better.

A lot of focus was on the community this university is in. If a student has a negative experience off-campus that is likely to alter that student's experience at UWSP as a whole.

Morin said if someone goes downtown and has a negative experience, that will ruin their time at UWSP and it wouldn't be something the university did.

An example that was brought up multiple times was the African American student that has to go to Milwaukee to get his or her hair done to his or her liking because there is no establishment that is accommodating in this city.

The campus and community connection also has a reverse factor: those coming from the community to campus.

One community member compared this to the university having a glass wall around it.

"The community clearly values the university, the diversity it brings, the programming it brings. What it doesn't have is the feeling that the campus is open to the community and is welcome. I think we try but it's a pretty closed operation," said Marge Coker-Nelson, a member of the Stevens Point community. "You can look in and see all these things happening."

She said things like athletic events and theater performances are more open, but then she expressed parking concerns and the need for better signs to guide visitors.

As professors start to think about their teaching styles and curriculum there is some concern about whether they are qualified enough to sustain these principles in their classroom.

"This isn't something they teach you in graduate school specifically," said Samantha Kaplan, a UWSP geography and geology professor. "Now, perhaps you are in a discipline that deals with issues of ethnic diversity or some sort of cultural diversity. But I am a physical scientist and it's not something we talk about in grad school."

Kaplan said she is going to look at how she teaches her class, her roster and see where she can incorporate the principles of inclusive excellence.

"It will be an interesting journey. It will be an interesting project to figure out how to incorporate these concepts because clearly it needs to be addressed."
$7.7 million for the 2011-2012 school year and $8.6 million for the 2012-2013 school year. In 2006, community members passed a similar three year funding referendum that will expire in June 2010.

Regardless of whether the referendum passes or not, the school district will make budget cuts. According to Superintendent Steven Johnson, several million dollars will be saved over the next few years by adjusting staff development efforts (specifically travel) and reducing overtime, maintenance and purchasing.

If the verdict on November 3 is negative, the school district will be forced to reduce its operating budget by approximately 10 percent and trim programs and services offered to students.

Voice their opinion on this matter in UWSP's enrollment in the long term. Passage or failure of the referendum also has the potential to affect UWSP students' education directly. According to Yarie, the quality of the public education program may affect the decisions of people and businesses (including UWSP professors and staff) interested in relocating to the Stevens Point area.

The quality of education that the younger generation receives has the potential to affect the future of everyone in the Stevens Point community, regardless of age. According to SGA President Scott Asbach, we have a responsibility to look out for the next generation of students.

To remain a leader in a highly competitive and increasingly globalized marketplace, said Johnson, we need to have a highly educated population. "It is my personal belief," said Johnson, "that it is in our best interest as a community, as a state and as a nation to invest in the future."
Raking leaves can really make a difference
Kim Shankland
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On Oct. 24, people from all over the world will be altering their schedules in order to make a difference in someone's life. Men and women will untie their ties, put their briefcases down and grab a rake in order to give hope and kindness to people in need. Make A Difference Day, a national day of doing good, is a chance to volunteer your time and effort and make a difference in someone's life — whether it be raking leaves, helping out in a shelter, or sponsoring a food drive, a little thing goes a long way.

At the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, the Student Involvement & Employment Office and the United Way of Portage County are teaming up in order to make this year's Make A Difference Day a success. On Saturday, Oct. 24, students and other volunteers will make teams to help rake leaves for people who are elderly, disabled, or otherwise can't get the job done. This seemed to be a perfect fit for a day of volunteering according to Scott Winn, said Shannon Williams, SIEO coordinator.

Though the event is turning out successfully so far, there is always room for improvement. The Volunteer Center Director of the United Way of Portage County has rules and regulations to follow in order to have this event run smoothly.

"Some highlights I am looking to speak to the community about are pre-registration for teams, more yards [to rake]- specifically for elderly and those with disabilities who struggle with this task," said Scott Winn, Volunteer Center director. "We have remained flat with the amount of yards we have raked but doubled our volunteer numbers, often times that day we have people wanting more yards but simply given that we have have 70 plus teams, 660 plus volunteers and 120 plus yards, the job is done quick. We have room for growth.

WINN is looking to everyone volunteer some time to make a difference in the world. He is targeting groups of people in the community no matter what their mission to get involved.

"We want more volunteer teams - all shapes and sizes - youth groups, sports teams, poker buddies, the book club, workplace teams, church groups, etc. We are also serving a pancake breakfast. This is the first time we have ever done this," said Winn.

So why would you give up your Saturday morning for this? Williams states the advantages of helping out with this great cause to the community.

"This reality is a selfless act. It is purely an outreach of goodwill, a gift of time and good karma. To see the grateful looks on the homeowners' faces is amazing. You wouldn't think that raking a lawn would make such an impact but to the people who can't rake the lawn themselves, it is a huge gift," said Williams.

How can you get involved? Go to www.volunteersrock.org to sign up your team for this Rake-A-Thon Event for Make A Difference day, or contact SIEO about joining their free agent team.

"That's what she said" of the week:
"I feel like I'm going to get it in the back of the head," said Samantha Longshore.
Students studying abroad in Limerick, Ireland enjoy the spaces between the academic building for studying and socializing. This is the main academic area on their campus and contains a bronze statue known as "the iron man."

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Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009

Disability Awareness Program: Coping with Brain Injury in a Family Matter will take place in the Dreyfus University Center room 374 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tournees French Film Festival continues with "Il Y A Longtemps Que je T'Aime" in the Noel Fine Arts Center, room 221, from 7 - 9 p.m.

"Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen" Centertainment Movie will play in the Dreyfus University Center Theater at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Root beer pong tournament is taking place in the DUC Encore starting at 8 p.m. The grand prize is $200.

Friday, Oct. 16, 2009

Mark Harrod will pay at Eny J's at 7 p.m.

Irene Keenan will play at Rudy's Redeye Grill at 7 p.m.

"The Inspector General," presented by the UWSP Department of Theatre and Dance will be in the UWSP studio Theatre in the Noel Fine Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. UWSP students may buy tickets in advance for $4.50 with ID or be admitted free if seats remain.

Volleyball: UWSP vs. UW-Superior in the Berg gym at 7 p.m.

"My Left Foot," The Story of Christy Brown, will play in the DUC Theater starting at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009

Tai Chi Chuan Practice in the Allen Center, Studio B starting at 8 a.m.

Volleyball: UWSP vs. UW-Eau Claire in the Berg gym at 1 p.m.

"A Page of History: Schmeeckle Reserve" Guided Walk in Schmeeckle Reserve from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Meet at the Schmeeckle Visitor Center and come dressed for the weather.

Irene's Garden will play at Eny J's at 7 p.m.

"Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen" Centertainment Movie is playing in the DUC Theater starting at 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Bruce McDonald, hypnotist, will perform in the DUC Laird Room at 7 p.m.

Central Wisconsin Network Singles Dance will take place at the Stevens Point Elks Lodge from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Mark Harrod will play at Rudy's Redeye Grill at 8:30 p.m.

Random rants with Andy: Freedom of speech

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I feel that we are beginning to have a serious problem in this country.

More and more often, every time a public figure says something that offends a group, that group makes an attempt to pull them off the air by attacking the advertisers on their show. This is the most ridiculous thing in the world, right up there with the platypus and the liger. Every time one of these groups goes after an Imus, Glenn Beck or Opie and Anthony they are slowly chipping away at our rights to speak our minds. The fact of the matter is, since these groups have shown that these tactics work, everybody who feels offended will begin to use them.

(This next part is written to the people who have used these techniques)

Listen up dumbasses, eventually someone you agree with will offend someone and be pulled off the air because someone else used the tactics that you are using right now. The better choice is to just not watch or listen to the people who offend you. It's not that hard; there's a power button. Just push it already. The truth is people enjoy watching or listening to these personalities; please let them have that and they’ll let you have the personalities you enjoy.

(O, back to everyone else)

As a society we have to realize that what these people are saying are just words and as long as they are not inciting violent acts against other members of our society they should have the right to say them. For example Ernie Anastos of Fox 5 in New York said on air, "Keep %@$ing that chicken." Did these words hurt anybody? No. Did it encourage anybody to hurt anybody else. They didn't. It didn't.

I guess the moral of the story is, if someone on air says something you don't like, don't go after their advertisers, just turn them off. Keep %@$ing that chicken.
Education used to combat invasive species

Kim Beckman
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The Wisconsin Council on Forestry released a set of voluntary guidelines for preventing the spread of invasive species last week. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Web site called the guidelines "comprehensive, common-sense suggestions for everyone who works in, works with and/or enjoys urban and community forests to protect them from the threat posed by invasives."

The 100-page document has a fittingly long name: "Wisconsin's Urban Forestry Best Management Practices for Preventing the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species." Although the guidelines contain a wealth of important and applicable information for laymen and foresters alike, the sheer size of the document may be enough to scare away the average Joe.

Facing our fears now, however, may be just what the doctor ordered. According to Professor Paul Doruska, the natural scenery of Central Wisconsin could look completely different in a few decades if invasives are allowed to continue spreading. Troy Schreiner, Head Pruning Coordinator of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Student Society of Arboriculture, outlined five easy steps that even John Doe non-forester can do to keep invasives out of our backyard:

1. Know what species affect your area. In Central Wisconsin, this means buckthorn and gypsy moths, among others, and to a lesser extent, garlic mustard. Emerald ash borers are another insect to keep your eyes peeled for.
2. Be able to identify these species. Finding a photo of the little pests will only take a few clicks of your mouse. Know how to effectively treat (i.e. remove) the problem. Again, education is key.
3. Watch what you are transporting. This means sterilizing your equipment and clothing. Brush off your boots, wash down your trailer and don't transport firewood.
5. Take current cause for the introduction and movement of invasives is international trade. According to Professor Michael Demchik, in the past, and sometimes in the present, pallets were made with low-quality, untreated wood. Without a chemical or heat treatment, these wooden pallets had the potential to carry organisms thousands of miles from their source.

In other cases, non-native species were introduced purposefully to assist in agriculture, to beautify urban areas. Sometimes these species got out of control because the introducers were unable to foresee or did not consider their potential effect, said Danae Fritz, vice president of the Society of American Foresters Student Chapter.

Non-native species become problematic in the blink of an eye if they have no natural enemies or out-compete the species around them. Invasives can quickly spread to other areas and upset the natural balance of the ecosystem. Demchik reminds us, however, that a species' "invasion" is just its natural function and sometimes the reason the organism was chosen to be introduced in the first place. It seems unfair then, that "we get mad at the plant because it does what we want it to," said Demchik.

While some invasive species are simply a nuisance, others have the potential to be more dangerous. "When you look at the ones that have the potential for an enormous, broad scale impact, it's insects and diseases," said Demchik.

Just like many other problems facing our community, our nation and our planet, stopping the spread of invasive species cannot be accomplished by a few individuals or natural resource professionals alone. The general population must take steps to become educated and proactive.

"If you like what you live and you like what it looks like now, unless everyone gets involved we run the risk of not having what we have right now," said Doruska.

In other words, we need to spread the word faster than invasives do.

Immediate action necessary to save our Great Lakes

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For years, the Great Lakes water has been taken for granted, but with new issues surfacing, the lakes are finally getting the attention they deserved all along.

"Coming up to a beach we visited for years, my family noticed that where we used to lie on the beach, it was now covered with algae. I didn’t want my family swimming in the contaminated water," said Jeff Alexander, author of "Pandora’s Locks: The Opening of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway" and media consultant for the National Wildlife Federation.

Around Alexander's beloved Great Lakes where there used to be clean water and native species, there is now sewage and invasions of quagga mussels. This is why the funding is finally being provided for the restoration of the Great Lakes, he said.

The funding plan focuses on concerns such as toxic substances, invasive species and water pollution. The money is now available, but involvement is needed to make something happen. Pollution comes from all angles, so we need to stop it from all angles, said Cameron Davis, senior advisor to the administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "It is not just a federal job to restore and protect the Great Lakes," Davis said.

Outside sources such as ballast water from ships is an issue with businesses. We all need to collaborate to find a better way. Ballast water is responsible for most of the invasive species coming into the Great Lakes. We need to be educated about this and

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See Lakes pg. 6
Science & Outdoors

Climbing to new heights with the help of SSA

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On Saturday Oct. 10, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point chapter of the Student Society of Arboriculture invited children in the community to experience firsthand, the reason why many students choose to pursue a degree in urban forestry. This past weekend marked the second annual Kids’ Climb hosted by SSA, a specialized program for future urban foresters and those passionate about trees.

SSA has already made improvements regarding the way the event operates in its second year. “Through practice we’re able to get kids up in the tree safely and quickly, and back down again,” said SSA president John Wayne Farber. Perhaps an emphasis should be placed on the descent as everyone knows, while it may be easy to go up, it’s a different story when it comes time to go down. That’s exactly where SSA comes in.

Farber, the newly elected president, has been involved with SSA for three years and has held the positions of secretary and head pruning coordinator within the organization. With a double major in urban forestry and forestry management and a soil science minor, Farber views SSA as a hands-on experience. He has participated in the Kids’ Climb event both years and even had a hand in its creation.

Despite the weather, we had a decent turnout,” said Farber. About a dozen kids gathered on the front lawn of the Old Main building to learn from the experienced on campus. During the hour and a half long event, a line formed, indicating the eagerness of children in the Stevens Point community to learn from the best and those most willing to teach them.

Two stations consisting of a beginner and an intermediate tree were set up on campus. Before climbing, parents were required to give their consent by signing a safety waiver. With safety glasses secure, helmets fastened and harnesses tightened, the kids were ready to begin their crash course in tree climbing 101.

Open to the community, the event welcomed back alumni, who came with children in tow.

One child who attended Kids’ Climb last year had been talking about it for weeks according to his parents. “He was the best little tree climber there,” said Farber who recalled that the beginner tree had been too easy for him.

“Kids’ Climb gives kids a feel for arboriculture and urban forestry,” said Farber. “They get a bird’s eye view of what we see every day.”

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“Kids’ Climb gives kids a feel for arboriculture and urban forestry,” said Farber. “They get a bird’s eye view of what we see every day.”
The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team fought against icy winds and a strong defense for a 7-6 homecoming victory over the University of Wisconsin-Stout last Saturday at Goerke Field. Putting last week’s 48-33 shootout against UW-Eau Claire behind them, the Pointers’ offense struggled to execute all game on Saturday with missed opportunities and turnovers. Stout’s defensive control coupled with 15 mph winds kept the score in the single digits.

UWSP’s offensive coordinator Keith Turner said that last week’s highlights were out of the way and the players were ready for a demanding game against Stout.

"After we’ve had a victory and the kids have had a lot of success, they don’t think too much about that," Turner said. "They’re always looking for more success, preparing for the next team."

The low-scoring game centered on both defenses playing well, with UWSP tallying seven sacks against Stout quarterback Ross Carey and Stout sacking UWSP quarterback Jared Beckwith four times. Beckwith had his work cut out for him after last week’s totals of 447 yards and five touchdowns. He met a tough Stout secondary, completing 13 of 22 passes with two interceptions for a total of 111 yards. A messy first half found both teams scrambling to put points on the board. Turnovers plagued the Pointers with two lost fumbles and an interception, keeping the Pointers scoreless. Beckwith had back-to-back fumbles after Stout defensive end Marcus Ball sacked him twice in a row during UWSP’s last drive of the second quarter. While the Pointers were able to recover the first, the second went to Stout, giving them a chance to score before halftime.

The on-and-off efforts of Stout kicker Kyle Martin provided the only points from either team as he went two for four in field goal attempts, including a 44-yard kick to put them in the lead 6-0 at halftime.

With 9:24 left in the third quarter, Beckwith connected with receiver Jared Jenkins for a 24-yard touchdown pass, scoring the only points in the second half for either team.

The following two drives left the Pointers scratching their heads as receiver Anthony Aker almost caught what would have been a second touchdown. The ball bounced out of Aker’s hands as he landed on the ground, sending it in the air for Stout defensive back Kendall Wade to intercept in the end zone.

Akers came up short again on the next drive when he caught a 63-yard pass on the Stout five-yard line, only to have it taken back because of an ineligible man downfield. Stout’s missed 48-yard field goal attempt gave UWSP possession with five minutes left in regulation time. A long, controlling drive took the Pointers all the way to the Stout 39-yard line. Facing fourth and two, punter Jared Jenkins threw a 12-yard fake punt pass to Brandon Bruger, allowing them to run down the remaining time and narrowly defeat Stout, 7-6.

Jenkins said that he thought the offense did well, despite the mistakes that cost them points.

"We just thought we could move the ball on them," Jenkins said. "Even though we struggled today, I think there were some drives where we were really in control." He blamed the low score on missed opportunities and penalties.

Beckwith emphasized the threat that can be posed by any team, no matter how good the game before may have been.

"Every week in the WIAC is tough. In this conference, you’re playing in a dogfight every time," he said.

Beckwith made it clear that homecoming meant nothing more than any other game.

"A lot of people get hyped up about homecoming, but I think that if you get into that, you’re not going to be prepared to play as good of a game as you’d like to," he said.

The Pointers travel to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh for their first conference road game next week.
Five players who won't take this replacement ref thing well

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Since September 1, the referees of the National Basketball Association have been without a contract. It seems that the climate of the negotiations got, to say the least, a little catty because NBA commissioner David Stern is not willing to return to the negotiation table at this point. So, with the beginning of the NBA's preseason, replacement referees have been brought in from lower-level basketball leagues everywhere, and they will probably not be used when the regular season begins later this month.

This means that the possibility for games to be declared a no contest or to be greatly increased. That and free throw attempts. Great. Maybe they should just adopt the 'offense calls their own fouls' rule and see how long it takes until half the league is on the disabled list.

The main question mark in this experiment also doubles as one of the best parts about the NBA: the wide range of personalities you can find throughout the league. That is to say, there are some pretty strange guys who are really good at basketball in this world. And now, they will be thrown into possibly emotional situations with replacement referees who I'm guessing may not receive the same level of respect as the NBA's referees, which wasn't very high in the first place. As Dr. Alan Grant said in Jurassic Park, "How can we possibly have the slightest idea of what to expect?"

So, here are a few players that may have the toughest time adjusting to the replacement referees this season.

Kobe Bryant - Kobe does not seem to enjoy being bothered by what he probably considers inferior beings, like Smush Parker or Raja Bell, for example. I'm guessing back-up referees will make that list as well.

Ron Artest - Speaking of people who have annoyed Kobe Bryant in the past, how about his newest Lakers teammate? This one is based on Artest's reputation as a raving loon in general - he has not taken this replacement ref thing well. So, here are a few players that may have the toughest time adjusting to the replacement referees this season.

Kenyon Martin - Martin was quoted recently on the new referees, and he had this to say: "I'm going to have 15 technicals in the first month just for the simple fact that [replacement refs] don't know how I run my mouth," Martin told The Washington Post. "The game is going to be terrible with those replacements."

The game is going to be terrible with those replacements.

-Kenyon Martin

from "Women's CC" pg. 7

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Sports fans, when times get tough, have a little faith

Let me put this out there so that we may all take a breath and get over it: I am a Chicago Bears fan. Before immediately turning the page, allow me to mention that this article does not illustrate how my team is better than your team. I am not that foolish.

Having heard, "I can find a new copy editor" and "I can make you a packer fan friends, I hardly wish to receive threats from acquaintances or heaven forbid, absolute strangers.

Occasionally sacrifices must be made to support the common good. Monday, Oct. 5, was one such instance. For that night, I became a Packer supporter.

Given the Bears victory on Sunday, a Packer win over the Vikings would create a three-way tie for the division from which everyone could then handle their own business and fight for number one. Feeling my Forte jersey would be a bit too feisty, I arrived for the second half of the game wearing a touch of green.

With the Packers behind by a touchdown, my friends were not entirely chippy. As Brett Favre took his time in the pocket, sipping tea and deciding who to pass to downfield, my sarcasm flourished. This criticism was not of the Vikings, but mainly of the Packers.

I began lecturing on the importance of verbally supporting your team, but this was unannounced as a "If we get down by two touchdowns, I'm turning this off" came from the lips of the silly boy to my left. I stared at him in disbelief. Was he kidding? You never turn off the game. You watch until the end no matter how brutal the scene you are witnessing. I continued to rag these two young men on the importance of positive thinking until the fourth quarter. Then came the Vikings safety and seventh or eighth sack of Aaron Rodgers.

When seven minutes left in the game, "Real Chance of Love 2" was on the TV screen. I am a big fan, particularly of Real with his amazingly shiny hair, but the game was on. Curiosity got the best of the boys and they returned to find the Packers knocking on the door for a touchdown. Regret poured from me. He shot at me, "If there is one minute left and the Bears are down by 14 points do you keep watching?" Yes! You always watch and you talk nicely to your team: I am frequently laughed at for whispering "you can do it buddy" under my breath.

The laughing stops if the unthinkable happens, especially if it leads to victory, be it an interception by a linebacker, a great onside kick or a blocked field goal attempt that no one saw coming. Even me.

The point is, sometimes your team wins and sometimes they lose. Losing is never fun, but it's part of the experience. The Packers may not have won, but nine unanswered points in the fourth quarter isn't bad either. So cheer heartily for your team this weekend, whoever that may be. Feel free to cup your hands over your mouth and speak encouragements to the players. A little faith can go a long way.
Performing Arts series promises variety

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The annual Performing Arts Series features a variety of internationally acclaimed and emerging performing artists who come to the Stevens Point area showcasing their talents. This year's series will feature everything from the poetry of Yevgeny Yevtushenko to the Harlem Gospel Choir.

The Performing Arts Series has been running for 30 years. The main purpose is to give students and the community an opportunity to experience a selection of accomplished artists. This year's series focuses on specific genres of art and goes in-depth to what these art forms are all about. Students interested in the arts and arts management get to take part in this series by providing Public Relations and backstage help.

Many performing arts series historically were selected from classical music and theatre, but in recent years, the series has been expanded to include jazz, folk, gospel and popular dance and theatre artists, said College of Fine Arts and Communication Public Relations Intern Molly VanHoorn.

"Student input in this program includes student interns from arts management and musicology courses who write the series and technical support from students working in the Centers who help stage the productions."

This year the Performing Arts Series offers a wide variety of performers. Starting off the series on Monday, Oct. 19, is NPR humorist and author, David Sedaris. Sedaris is known for writing about his teenage years experimenting with drugs and battling Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. His award-winning works include "Barrel Fever," "Naked," "Holidays on Ice," and "Me Talk Pretty One Day." With his love of "s-less" words, due to his lisp, Sedaris tries to show that being normal is overrated when there are so many other things to be. Sedaris' performance is already sold out.

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko will perform his poetry relating to his stance on bureaucracy and Stalinism in the late 1950s and 60s. Yevtushenko is known as the best Russian poet of the post-Stalin generation but he is also a novelist, essayist, dramatist, screenwriter, actor, editor and a director of several films. The Prairie Song Project, made up of former University of Iowa students, mezzo-soprano vocalist Katherine Goedner, flutist Amy Morris and pianist Michael Heaston, will be performing on Tuesday, Nov. 17. Their project celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

"I love the diversity that the performing arts series offers."

-VanHoorn

Festival of India sheds light on impoverished

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Stevens Point residents got a taste of India over the weekend at the Festival of India. This year's Festival of India was not just an opportunity to eat traditional Indian food, watch dancers and shop for scarves and jewelry. The event, held at Stevens Point Area Senior High on Saturday, Oct. 10, was sponsored by the Stevens Point-based nonprofit SHAMAC, Inc. and was the 22nd year of the festival.

The first festival in 1988 was sponsored by Women in Higher Education of the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and the SHAMA, Inc.'s Web site. 2000, Shama, Inc. has developed several programs to aid the women of India.

"I am really looking forward to this performance. It's cool to see and hear some people that love music and have a similar background as myself when it comes to the arts. All the performances of the Performing Arts Series are free to the public," said music major Alex de Grassi, considered the world's best finger-style steel-string guitarist. His performance on Wednesday, April 14, will be a creative piece with orchestrated sound, which he integrates with melody, bass, harmony, and rhythm. He was the first artist-in-residence at the nation's first finger-style guitar degree program at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

"I love the diversity that the Performing Arts Series offers. Students are being given what may be a once in a lifetime chance to see some very prominent artists. The series presents a great opportunity for both students and community members," says VanHoorn. Get your tickets and experience this exciting and one in a lifetime performances.

See Festival pg. 11
Food Swings: The incredible, edible egg

As is we are still recovering from the "big sad time" with a bye week, no football team recipe this week.

Eggs. Simple, cheap, wonderful. A dietary staple among anyone with a stove and a frying pan. You can fry, boil, poach, baste and scramble them. Serve them on tortillas with cheese and salsa for a simple version of huevos rancheros. Omelets, benedicts, scrambles and bakes. Custards, ice cream, carbonara and mayonnaise. All these things rely on eggs to function properly. Also a complex and valuable ingredient, eggs tend to be underused by college students and only solved fried with a side of toast. Why? I don't understand. So many wonderful things can happen with just a tiny bit more effort.

Egg bakes are amazingly simple, incredibly delicious and can cheaply feed an army. With ingredients you have can be tossed in, and nothing is off the ingredient list. You will need,

- 8 eggs
- 1/4 cup milk
- Seasoned salt
- Black pepper
- Tabasco Sauce
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 4 pieces toast, cut in 1 inch pieces
- 1 lb. ground pork sausage
- 1 green pepper, diced
- 1/4 onion, diced

Preheat oven to 350°. Brown sausage over medium heat and drain the grease. In a greased 13 x 9 baking pan, combine toast pieces, sausage, pepper, and onions. In a separate bowl whisk together eggs, water, one cup of the cheese, salt, pepper and Tabasco sauce (to taste) until well blended. Pour over sausage and vegetables in the baking pan. Bake 30 minutes or until eggs are firmly set. In the last 5 minutes of baking, sprinkle the remaining cup of cheese on top of the bake and cook until melted.

This egg bake can be refrigerated and served the next day. It is also open to many variations. Add in sautéed mushrooms, tomatoes and spinach for a summery twist. Try it with ricotta or feta cheese for a sweet or salty cheese explosion. If you're brave, put in finely diced jalapenos. For some added bulk, top with biscuits. The possibilities are endless. Remember, live to eat and pursue the incredible, edible egg.

Letter to the editor: WRC shines light on assault

By Amanda Brown
WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER OUTREACH COORDINATOR

In regard to the recent article, "Womens Resource Center provides help to sexual assault victims," the Women's Resource Center would like to clear up a few misconceptions. The article was accurate, but it was also misleading, specifically in the introduction when stranger-rape is employed as an example of a campus rape scenario. While stranger-rape does occur, it is far less common than acquaintance-rape or date-rape.

People often assume that rapes are perpetrated by deranged, sex-crazed lunatics hiding in bushes waiting for young, nubile females to stroll by. This is a rarity and a dangerous misconception. Two out of three sexual assaults are perpetrated by a non-stranger. It's a horrible truth but perpetrators are often friends, relatives or intimate partners of the victim.

It's for this reason that teaching how to protect one's self from rape only solves half the problem. We also need to be teaching consent, and maybe then we can stop rapes before they happen. 84% of individuals whose actions matched the legal definition of rape believed that what they did was definitely not rape. Using sexual coercion is rape. Pressuring someone into sex against their will is rape. Sex with someone who doesn't have the ability to say no is rape.

Rape is about sex, but more specifically it is about power and control. That is what a perpetrator takes from a victim of rape. That's what we need to give back to them, to aid in the transformation from victim to survivor to thriver. Misconceptions like this one make it all the more difficult for victims to come forward, report their assault and take back control of their lives.
From Festival pg. 9

education, this organization has provided light to many individuals. Shama, Inc. president Mrs. Jyoti Chander spoke at this year’s festival about several of the group’s projects.

"WOW—Women on Wheels" is a program that trains women in motor car repair and taxi driving for the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi.

Chander recalled her recent visit to India, where she met with the women training for these revolutionary occupations.

A new branch of Shama, Inc. is called "SHAMA SlumKids" and is a completely volunteer-run program. The program provides a daily two-hour mobile school for children living in the shanty towns of Chandigarh.

Currently, about 300 children attend the seven schools, and about 50 children a year are sent to regular schools when they show an interest in education.

These projects, and others, were highlighted at the Festival of India. In addition, three hours of workshops provided information to festival attendees. Topics ranged from "Families with Adopted Indian Children" to performances on the sitar.

With so many options available, attendees found no shortage of activities to consume their time.

Chao Yang, a senior at UWSP, came to the festival for the first time this year. Along with taking in the music and traditional costumes, Yang’s favorite workshop was about arranged marriages.

"It’s something similar to my own culture, so I thought it was interesting. Couples often have their marriages arranged when they are younger," she said.

Other festival-goers came with ideas of activities already in mind.

"I always like to go to the palm reading," said Debbie Kreb. "The dances are also really unique. We found it interesting how the children start young, and dancing becomes a part of their daily lives."

Grocery lines extended down the hallways of SPASH. This year’s menu included tandoori chicken tikka, channa massala, paneer sabzi, basmati rice bryani, naan, raita, chutney & achar and mango ice cream.

The Krebs, who originally heard of Festival of India through the Portage County Cultural Festival held in May, have attended the Festival of India for four years and say they enjoy the cuisine.

"A lot of the things we’ve learned have to do with food," Debbie Kreb said. "After we went to the festival the first time, we found these recipes online and learned about all the spices and colorings."

This is the goal of the Festival of India: to enlighten members of the Stevens Point community while providing a spark of hope to the impoverished of India through Shama, Inc.

To learn more:
Shama, Inc.’s Web site: http://www.uwsp.edu/multicultural/shama/index.htm

Shoppers browse the Indian bazaar at the Festival of India.

Another favorite of the attendees included the India Bazaar and the henna tattoo stand.

"They have tubes of the henna ink for sale this year, so I’m going to get some," said Molly Kreb.

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