Referendum debate escalates

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Student Government Association senate voted Thursday 9-4-0, with applause, to postpone the United Council referendum to next spring. Scott Asbach, president of SGA, then vetoed this decision earlier this week.

Because of the veto, the referendum will still be held online beginning today and run until Monday, Oct. 26.

There has been a bit of an uproar by students as many plan to persuade the senate to overturn the veto.

If the veto is overturned tonight, the voting period will end and will postponed until next spring.

Some members of the senate, including Asbach, feel postponing the referendum is doing the students a great disservice by making students pay two dollars for another semester of something that is not applicable to the times.

He said when UC was formed 50 years ago, students did not have as much of a voice as they do now.

Asbach’s apparent dislike for UC added to the very negative overtones during the debate at last week’s senate meeting.

He thinks the student representative meetings are more beneficial and applicable to the current times. Student representative meetings consist of each UW school’s presidents and vice presidents meeting every two months in Madison in a fairly informal setting with state leaders including Governor Jim Doyle and the UW System president, Kevin Riley.

“We sit in a big room and we talk. And it’s outstanding. I have never been so happy walking out of a meeting before,” said Asbach.

“We get so much done. Just talking about what everyone is doing and we brainstorm and we sit there and we solve problems.”

The debate turned to whether or not people on senate approve of UC and/or the president and UWSP student Kirk Cychosz.

Andy Letson, senator and speaker of the senate, said, “I believe that there is the possibility of bias by certain members of SGA because the president of United Council comes from this campus. Whether that clouded the judgment of senators... I cannot say. I hope not. I really hope that all the senators took the facts as they were.”

Kelley Schacht, the inclusivity and shared governance director for...

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"Suspicious package" revealed

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Tom Bebeau, a freshman acting major, walked into the Noel Fine Arts Center last Tuesday, Oct. 13, for his morning class.

“That day the props were due, and I brought the prop home for the weekend to work on it and get it done,” said Bebeau.

At 9 a.m. Bebeau was waiting, on the second floor of the NFAC, with another individual for his class to arrive. They began to wonder why no one was around.

He was then informed that the building was on lock down.

“One of the custodial workers saw somebody that looked like they had a weapon. I had no idea what was going on,” said Bebeau.

Around 9:15 a.m. they were told they had not seen the individual with the object in a while and that they could evacuate into the library with everyone else from the first floor. Bebeau was waiting, on the second floor of the NFAC, with another individual for his class to arrive. They began to wonder why no one was around.

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“I don’t want to say I did anything wrong. I was just in the wrong place at the wrong time.”

--Bebeau
Res. halls to receive AC
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The summer heat may be put to an end with the new North Campus Chiller plan designed to cool the residence halls.

The plant will be built just northeast of the Allen Center and will be ready for operation when completed. "The idea was an engineered response to a need from Residential Living to having chilling capacity for the student residence halls," said Kurt Schultz, vice president, housing. "The idea is for AC to be added to the summer residence halls that are being remodeled one per year," said Rasmussen, campus planner.

The main question that usually comes up with a project of this magnitude is cost.

According to the draft prepared, the project will offer new chilled water for $6,680,100. The Residential Living portion of this project will be financed through room rental rates. This means an increase of $93 per year for every room rented, or $195 per year for those rooms receiving air-conditioning.

"Just think that is a lot of money for something that students might not need or two or three days out of your year," said Brenda Gifford, director of the center for Student Living.

The hope is that the chiller will not only cool the residence halls, but also make the current unit WINDOWS more efficiently and provide back up capacity throughout the campus.

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Alumna finds herself in a very unfamiliar place

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When you’re studying for midterms and haven’t slept in two nights, the idea that you may be trapped in your dorm room forever seems imminent. Many students may not realize the amount of impact they can have on the world once they set foot off campus as a graduate and just where they may end up in this world.

A University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumna has not only made it out of Stevens Point, but has made it all the way to Afghanistan. Elizabeth Ganshert has made traveling a necessity to her everyday life. Ganshert studied abroad during her time at UWSP in France for a language and culture immersion program.

With this experience, she learned that travel was alive in her heart. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts in French and International Studies, she returned to her beloved country of France to get a bilingual dual master’s degree from the American University of Paris and the Institut Catholique de Paris.

“Through my coursework I gained exposure to the concerns of post-conflict societies throughout the world, as well as in-depth knowledge of international human rights law, policy development, and conflict resolution. I chose my general thesis topic, U.S. foreign assistance, and needed to highlight a specific region, people or culture in my research,” said Ganshert.

The specific topic Ganshert chose was Afghanistan. She believed that this topic was interesting due to the struggles that they endured and the impact the country is faced with from U.S. foreign policy.

“I began my research at the Library of Congress in January 2009 and, through various contacts was put in contact with Nasrine Gross, founder and director of the Roqia Center for Women’s Rights, Studies and Education - an encounter that was crucial to my research and eventually provided the opportunity to travel to Afghanistan,” said Ganshert.

After Ganshert researched Afghan women, she returned to France to continue her work. She then realized that she needed to get more of a real life experience concerning Afghan women. She contacted Nasrine Gross and proposed to Gross an internship and research opportunity with her in Afghanistan. Gross was delighted and made the trip both memorable and cost effective. Ganshert only had to pay for her plane ticket - the rest of the costs were covered by Gross.

“At this point I rushed to the Afghan Embassy in Paris to preface my visa request and started looking for plane tickets. There are no direct flights to Kabul, so the end result was: Paris-Doha-Dubai, with Qatar airways, and Dubai-Kabul, with Pamir airways. A long and fatiguing set of flights, though the most worthwhile 18 hours I have ever spent in transit,” said Ganshert.

Ganshert then began her life-altering experience in Afghanistan. Some moments for her were challenging, while others were a definite learning experience and tested her strength.

“One of Nasrine’s initiatives is to donate supplies to girls schools in the Kabul region. On the road I saw many newly built schools swarmed by little girls wearing the typical white veils. This is an extraordinary sight considering women and girls were forbidden to attend school and were isolated in their homes during the rule of the Taliban. We continued on and stopped at another school, though this one was different from the others, as it’s structure was made up of old U.S. Provincial Reconstruction Team trailers and a metal tent frame. It had started to rain and as we inspected the school I found that the math, science, Dari and English classes were proceeding in the rain as well due to leaky roofs, the metal tent frame provided no protection what so ever from the rain, yet the students and teachers remained underneath.

As I moved around with my video camera I soon had a following of little ones who wanted to observe what I was doing but shied away from the camera when it turned towards them,” said Ganshert.

“Nasrine tried to gather a large group of students to talk to them. She was speaking in Dari, discussing their hopes and dreams. One girl wanted to be a lawyer, another the President. Then the conversation switched to English and Nasrine asked the students to stand up and speak. One by one each girl introduced herself speaking perfect English. Considering the circumstances and outstanding dedication of the teachers and students, the entire event was overwhelmingly moving and was a weird, bittersweet when we left. As soon as I got back in our vehicle, I burst into tears. In fact, remembering this story right now brings tears to my eyes. In many ways the Afghan students are more devoted to their education than American students because they understand how precious it is. Unfortunately, they do not make it past the third grade due to an unprepared national education system and lingering patriarchal values that hinder progress for women’s rights,” said Ganshert.

Ganshert’s experiences in Afghanistan were something that she will never forget. She believes that each student should travel abroad - she does know the complications of money, but believes that money is nothing compared to these life-changing experiences. Not only does your viewpoint change, but you, yourself change.

“After I felt ignorant, as many of the Afghans I met, some having barely an elementary education, were teaching me things about the situation in their country that I would never be able to learn from a textbook, journal article or Western media source. However, I quickly realized that this was a unique opportunity to learn about one of the most complex regions of the world, add crucial information to my research and, perhaps most importantly, grow as a person,” said Gershant.

Gershant’s mentor, Bob Tomlinson, states the importance of traveling abroad as a student at UWSP and everything that you hope to aspire to.

“I try to encourage every student I meet to aspire to achieving their own individual goals. Each student is a unique individual with dreams, aspirations and goals as unique as the individual. I hope every student will find the right combination of experiences, mentors and challenges that will assist them in attaining their goals,” said Tomlinson.
International students face a whole new culture at UWSP

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For approximately 40 years there have been international students streaming like water into the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point from every continent in the world, with the exception of Antarctica. The quality of education in the United States, and the welcoming nature of central Wisconsin play no small part in the reason why so many students choose UW-Stevens Point as their abroad location.

The International Students and Scholars Office is the department in which students are recruited by UW-Stevens Point and the organization that assists their sojourn to America. The ISSO Web site states their mission to “promote the university globally; recruit and admit international students; orient new international students to one another; and serve as a resource for all UWSP and students throughout their programs of study.”

The ISSO’s biggest resource to link international students with United States citizens and other international students alike is the International Friendship Program. ISSO defines this program’s role as, “introduc[ing] Central Wisconsin families and UWSP international students to one another, encourag[ing] friendships and broadening cross-cultural knowledge and understanding.”

Director of ISSO, Dr. Brad Van Den Elzen, stressed how much these, and other international programs, are good for students but also very much wants international students UWSP tends to attract are mostly Asian, having about 50 percent of the international students coming from mainland China. Other main countries include South Korea, Japan, Thailand and Colombia. Along with these countries, students come from a total of 34 countries.

Academically, Van Den Elzen said most were studying in the business and accounting majors, but that international students are distributed across most of the majors. He noted that although English at the classroom level is difficult for some international students at first, the biggest challenge most of these students face is learning a new set of cultural norms. Teaching methods, classroom culture and casual interactions can all have a new set of rules in each country. To stay motivated, international students highlight the value of an American college degree and, more specifically, enjoy the small town. “Typical American” feel that Point has.

No stranger to these desires, Darejani Markozashili, a sophomore international student from the country of Georgia, said her main reason for studying at UWSP was “because foreign education, especially American, is valued back at home.”

“A lot of International Students find organizations on campus and is a way to engage themselves in getting a cross-cultural experience here on campus. “It is one of the most active organizations on campus and is a way to come meet us and be a part of any of our programs. Come find out what we’re all about.”

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009

* Aisle 5’s Season 2 will premiere in the Dreyfus University Center at 6 p.m.
* Kento Anime Society Masquerade Ball will be in the Debolt Center room 075 from 7 - 11 p.m.
* Elizabeth Aguiller will play jazz at Emy’s from 7 p.m.
* University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Combined Choirs Concert will be in Michelson Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 23, 2009

* Humane Society of Portage County Fur Ball will be at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center from 6 - 10 p.m.

Wayne Hoffman, mentalist/illusionist will perform in the DUC Encore at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009

* Taí Chi Chuan Practice in the Allen Center, Studio B starting at 8 a.m.
* Indoor Farm Market will be at Emy’s from 9 - 1 p.m.
* Learn-to-Curl Open House will be at the Stevens Point Curling Club from 3 - 6 p.m.
* “Batty Truths” Illustrated Talk will be in the Schmeekle Visitor Center from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
* The Complete Works of William Shakespeare will be performed in the Noel Fine Arts Center, room 221 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available for $4.
* The Newlywed Game will be in the DUC at the Encore at 7 p.m.
* No Big Deal will play at Rudy’s Redeye Grill at 8:30 p.m.
* A Murder Mystery Game will be in the DUC at the Encore at 11 p.m.
Will Allen, founder of the urban farming organization, Growing Power, is bringing his urban farming expertise to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Allen is not just farming; he is transforming the cultivation of production and delivery of healthy foods to underserved urban populations. He started his quest after helping some neighborhood children with their gardening project. He then went on to develop farming methods and educational programs that are now used as the basis for the non-profit organization Growing Power, of which he is the co-founder and director. Growing Powers’ goal is a simple one. It is to grow food, to grow minds and to grow community. Growing Power began with a farmer, a plot of land and a core group of dedicated young people. Today, our love of the land and our dedication to sharing knowledge is changing lives.

His efforts relate directly to the recognition of the unhealthy diet of low-income, urban populations and related health problems, such as obesity and diabetes.

On Monday, Oct. 26 and Tuesday, Oct. 27, Allen will be on campus to meet with students and present his ideas on sustainability. On Monday he will begin his stay with an 11:45 a.m. lunch at DeBel Dinner Center. He will be there to meet with students, deans, the chancellor, the vice-chancellor, food service director and facilities directors. “He will be there to talk and answer questions for anyone who has them,” said Katie Stenz, student sustainability coordinator.

Later that night, at 7 p.m. the showing of the movie “Fresh” will take place. According to the trailer for the movie, “Fresh’ celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system. Each has witnessed the rapid transformation of our agriculture into an industrial model, and confronted the consequences: food contamination, environmental pollution, depletion of natural resources and morbid obesity.”

After the 72-minute film, there will be a panel discussion where the audience is welcome to ask any questions pertaining to the movie’s content. Members of the panel will include Will Allen, Chris Malek from Malek Family Stewardship Farm and Central Rivers Farmshed, Jasia Steinmetz from the UWSP HPPD and Central Rivers Farmshed and Dick Okray from Okray Family Farms. After the panel discussion, everyone is invited to relocate at the Basement Brehlaus for the reception.

On Tuesday at 5 p.m. Allen will be giving the Willett Lectureship Series Presentation. The Willett Lectureship Series Endowment is a permanent endowment fund in the UWSP Foundation that is administered through the Office of Academic Affairs. The fund was established by a prominent Stevens Point family that donated money that earns spendable interest each year to bring distinguished scholars and speakers to UWSP’s four colleges. College of Natural Resources dean Christine Thomas elected to use the funds to support Will Allen’s visit.

A special thank you to all of the sponsors that helped make this happen. For any questions students can e-mail Katie Stenz at kstzenz@uwsp.edu or Harley Altenburg at halte594@uwsp.edu, your student sustainability coordinators.

Biannual shoot-off gives SLEA and Ikes the chance to show their guns

The shoot-off between the Student Law Enforcement Association and the Isaiah Walton League of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point gave both organizations the opportunity to demonstrate what they’ve learned during their practice. Though a friendly rivalry, the showdown on Wednesday, Oct. 14, revealed that when it comes down to it, SLEA’s got the bigger guns.

The versus SLEA shoot-off takes place during the fall and spring semesters and is open to any member of either organization. For those with a more competitive streak, being able to drop clay pigeons is a plus. For all, firearm safety is a must.

Stations were set up, allowing five members of the same organization to shoot for points. Each individual was allowed two rounds at each station before rotating and a total of ten rounds had the potential to either help or hurt the team’s final score.

For safety, each participant closed the gun chamber, turned the safety off and raised his or her gun immediately before shooting. Shooters indicated their readiness by yelling “pull” and with the click of a button, an operator threw a clay pigeon electronically.

Each individual was given one shot at the clay pigeon and one point was awarded for hitting the moving target.

After the totals were tallied, each team collectively participated in an Annie Oakley. During this portion of the event, everybody lined up and three people raised their guns at a time. If the first person missed, the second person could shoot the third person was given a chance if the clay pigeon was still flying. Shooting at a broken bird, a miss followed by a direct hit and shooting out of turn to the trees that are cared for by the Student Society of Arboriculture. For students in urban forestry, SASA is not only an opportunity to give back to the university, but a hands-on experience that one can’t get in a classroom.

“SASA is the only avenue for those of us who study urban forestry,” said SASA head pruner coordinator Troy Schreiner. Aside from SSA, the student society lacks the technical training necessary for the field.

Schreiner took the advice given to him by his advisor, Les Weimer, and joined SSA. He has been involved for the past two years and was recently elected as head pruner coordinator this semester. “I started going and just got hooked,” said Schreiner.

Given the indispensable experience it provides urban foresters and the contributions that are made to the university as a result of campus pruning, it’s no wonder that SSA received the best funded organization award.

Two types of trees on campus are given priority during campus pruning. Trees with deadwood require pruning to eliminate immediate hazards. Newly planted trees deserve the same attention and much work is involved in shaping and correcting the tree to prevent future problems.

Subordination pruning involves cutting back co-dominant leaders, which are branches that compete for the main branch in young trees. As a result of this competition, weak branch attachments persist and young trees are more likely to fail in the future.

Campus pruning takes place four times a week. Schreiner leads the campus prunes at noon on Mondays and at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Mike Delegan also leads one on Fridays at 1 p.m. and Tim Reiter leads one on Thursdays at 3 p.m.

SASA holds the National Register of Big Trees record for the largest northern pin oak, located behind the Dreyfus University Center.

“You don’t have to be a tree climber to contribute to the beautification and safety on campus. “Anyone can come out and learn from the experience,” said Schreiner.
Sports

Women’s soccer captures second straight WIAC title

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women’s soccer team clinched its second consecutive Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season championship last Saturday by defeating UW-Eau Claire, 3-1, and are only one game away from finishing conference play undefeated as they head into the postseason WIAC tournament.

"As the games progressed we learned more about the way each person plays the game and our team chemistry just exploded."

—Miech

Reflecting back on the season, coach Miech said, "I would say the turning point of this season happened as late as the Eau Claire game we had last weekend. At the game, there was a point where I looked at the other coaches and we agreed that what we were seeing was beautiful soccer." It was at UW-Eau Claire when the girls received their conference title, one that was almost expected of them.

Freshman forward Kirsti Nickels, who netted a hat-trick in the first half against UW-Eau Claire, said, "Something that kept us focused during that game was that our coach told us 'We don't lose conference games.' We didn't want to let down those expectations."

"A lot of spectators had their doubts about this year though because we are a younger team. It made the victory all the better when we proved these doubts wrong," Nickels said.

Miech couldn't agree more. She commented on the success of this team, in a year that was originally viewed as a 'rebuilding' year after the loss of 10 seniors, as her most proud piece of the season.

"As the games progressed, we learned more about the way each person plays the game and our team chemistry just exploded," Miech said.

"Also, the girls are living as athletes, considering all aspects of training including the often looked-over need for a healthy diet, sleep and positive dynamics within the team."

Miech also credited her coaching staff, commending the sacrifices they make for the team.

"This is 100 percent a team sport. No one should be highlighted more than another because the defensive players, offensive players and coaches are all absolutely necessary for good soccer to happen."

The final ingredient to a strong athlete is a positive attitude. Nickels reflected this strength about her team when she said, "We hope to win the conference tournament and do the best we can. We just need the defense to stay strong and the offense to score as many goals as they can."

The action behind this attitude, has already made heads turn this season. Don't miss out on the action, cheer on the women's soccer team on Nov. 5 for the WIAC conference tournament semifinals at the Point Soccer Bowl.

Fantasy football divides the Pointer office; Except, not really

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It is week seven of the NFL season, and in a fantasy football league of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point sports enthusiasts, I am facing esteem and most likely overconfident Pointlife editor Justin Glodowski. He was gracious enough to stop by and answer a few questions about our matchup. The loser will acknowledge his general suckiness in next week's issue of "The Pointer."

Best player on your team?
Griffin Gotta (Gobias Industries)—Drew Brees has basically carried my team, A-Rod style, so far this season. I don’t even really have a second best player with an actual last name on my team. (Ochocinco does not count.)

Justin Glodowski (Nightmares)—The best player on my team is a tie between Matt Schaub and Andre Johnson. When one of them scores, I pretty much get double the points. They’ve been scoring a lot through the passing game due to their poor defense. They end up down by a lot of points and have to throw a lot to catch up.

Biggest start/sit dilemma?
Griffin- The toughest choice here at Gobias Industries was whether to give Donald Driver the start; he has been pretty consistent all year long, but Rodgers prefers his fullbacks in the red zone, and who wouldn’t? Because of this, I had to stick with the big play ability of DeSean Jackson.

Justin— I can’t decide between starting Matt Forte or Pierre Thomas who is on my bench. Matt Forte likes to fumble the ball now and barely gets the ball. Pierre Thomas has to share with others, and I never liked sharing.

Player you’re most worried about on the other team?
Griffin—This week, I’m most worried about Reggie Wayne playing against the St. Louis Rams. Is there any further analysis I can give on this? Even if Jim Sorgi started for the Colts, I would be pretty concerned.

Justin— I’m most worried about the Philadelphia defense. Sure, the Eagles lost last week, but I consider that a total fluke and the defense played well anyway. They’re playing Washington, which is having quarterback problems, and they won’t even let the head coach call his own plays. I fear for interceptions and a ton of fumbles.

Player you most want from opposing team on your team?
Griffin—I wouldn’t mind having Andre Johnson, it seems like he runs over about three defenders per catch, but that’s probably because the only Texans plays I see are highlights on ESPN.

Justin— I’d most want Drew Brees on my team for the sheer fact that I could trade him to anyone and get a lot through my trade. Also, I would ensure that nobody else has him as a weapon for a while.

Player most likely to disappoint you?
Griffin—Although I can’t say I expect much from him, Kellen Winslow will probably let me down in some way. I considered picking up Zach Miller from the Raiders, but then I would have had a lock for player most likely to disappoint me: LaMarcus Russell.

Justin—My biggest fear is that LaDainian Tomlinson will fall apart due to age and injury. The Chiefs aren’t much of a matchup, but Tomlinson is fragile.

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Men's basketball adds former state coach of the year Randall

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball team is preparing for the 2009-2010 season with practices beginning this week and some new additions to the coaching staff, including assistant coach Lance Randall.

Randall joined the Pointers at the end of September after a lengthy hiring process and has settled in with the rest of the staff in time for the new season.

His previous coaching experience includes a 71-3 record, back-to-back state titles and Coach of the Year honors at Oshkosh West High School, as well as serving as head coach for the Birmingham Bullets in the United Kingdom. He also was an assistant coach in Chicago at Loyola University and head coach at Webster University in St. Louis. He began his collegiate coaching career as an assistant at Beloit College in 1994.

Praise for Randall has come from around the state, as well as UWSP head coach Bob Semling, who cited his knowledge and motivational skills as well as his relationships with other basketball coaches in Wisconsin as the main reasons for his selection.

"With Lance, we've got a really complete coach," Semling said. "He can teach the game and he knows how to win and because of that he is also a proven coach."

Semling also said Randall will be valuable in recruiting new talent.

"He is a tremendous recruiter with a great eye for talent who knows what it takes to play and how to tell which guys are going to work for us," he said.

Randall's connections between other coaches and players around the state are expected to weigh in for the Pointers.

"Lance is also beneficial because of his connections in basketball around Wisconsin. He is well thought of by people in every level," Semling said.

When the team needed to fill their spot for graduate assistant coach, Randall was able to contact J.R. Blount, a former player of his from Loyola who seemed qualified for the job. Other than playing four years in Division I basketball, Blount also helped Dominican High School, just outside of Milwaukee, win two state championships.

"I knew Coach Randall was good, and he was going to impact our program, but this was immediate," said Semling.

Randall also said that the UWSP basketball tradition is tremendous.

"I grew up a fan of [former UWSP coach] Dick Bennett as a young player and as I became an older coach I became close with his brother Jack Bennett, who really mentored me," he said.

"Stevens Point is a good fit for what I believe is winning basketball," Randall said. "It's a good fit for my family and I'm looking forward to being part of the community."

Rookie Brandon Jennings will play a large role in the Bucks' success this season.

After an offseason consisting of payroll slashing, introductions to new, exciting young players and the rehabilitation of veteran stars, the Milwaukee Bucks will begin their 2009-2010 season next week in hopes of setting a foundation that the franchise can build upon for years to come.

General Manager John Hammond made a point during the offseason to make the franchise more financially flexible. The plan began with the trade of forward Richard Jefferson to the San Antonio Spurs along with declining the option to match the Detroit Piston's offer to forward Charlie Villanueva.

Although the moves resulted in a loss of talented players, Hammond defended the changes to the team during the summer.

"The trade we made today provides us with much needed options in both the short and long term planning for our franchise," Hammond said.

One such option the Bucks had in September, when the Minnesota Timberwolves matched the qualifying offer made by the Bucks to point guard Ramon Sessions.

Milwaukee decided not to match the offer and lost the steadfastly improving Sessions.

This was a move that did not sit well with all Bucks fans. Alex Miller, a senior at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, was one of them.

"I didn't mind their offseason moves, but the only bad thing they did was getting rid of Sessions. He was a solid player and wouldn't have cost a lot of money," Miller said. "We just let him go."

If Bucks' fans were worried about the point guard position after Sessions' departure, their concerns may have been quelled to some degree after the 2009 NBA Draft, when the Bucks selected point guard Brandon Jennings with the 10th overall pick.

Jennings, who is best known for opting to play a year of professional basketball in Italy while waiting to reach the NBA's minimum age requirement rather than college basketball, has given Bucks fans a sense of optimism for the upcoming season.

"I like BJ, from what I hear he could be one of the quickest guys in the NBA," Miller said. "And I like how he looks to pass first."

Head coach Scott Skiles has also been impressed with Jennings who is now starting for the team during the preseason.

"He's obviously one of the most important players on the team because he does so much," Miller said. "He can block, rebound, score, pass; he just needs to get his back healthy."

Redd missed the majority of last season after tearing the ACL and MCL in his left knee only 33 games into the season. He is set to make $17 million this season and has a player option for the 2010-2011 season, potentially making him a trade option for the money-conscious Bucks.

Miller believes the Bucks should continue building towards the future, if the right situation comes along.

"They should try to get rid of Redd's contract, especially if they are doing bad," Miller said. "They should try to package his contract with Dan Gadzuric's and see if they can get some young players and draft picks in exchange."

If the big names stay healthy and the young players gel into Skiles' system, Miller sees the Bucks as an up-and-coming team with a bright future.

"I definitely think they're on the right track," Miller said. "It's not out of the question for this team to win 40 games if they can stay healthy."

Milwaukee opens the season on Friday, Oct. 30, in Philadelphia against the 76ers; tip-off is at 6 p.m. and can be seen on Fox Sports Net Wisconsin.
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Lines of ticketholders snaked from the second floor of the Dreyfus University Center to the concourse level of the building prior to David Sedaris’ performance on the evening of Monday, Oct. 19. Eventually, over 700 people filed into the Laird Room to hear Sedaris speak.

The National Public Radio humorist and best-selling author’s stop in Stevens Point was part of his national tour, which will continue into early November.

Although Sedaris has not performed in Stevens Point before, the community was not short of devoted fans.

Hanna Smith, who first heard of Sedaris by listening to NPR’s show “This American Life,” came to the performance with background knowledge of some of Sedaris’ works.

“One of my favorites is his review of various Christmas pageants at elementary schools,” she said.

While the pageant review was not included in Monday night’s performance, the crowd enjoyed Sedaris’ other writings. One fan favorite entitled “Just a Quick E-mail,” was a fictional e-mail from a woman named Rhonda to another named Robyn. Rhonda wrote to thank Robyn for the cheap wedding gift, and the letter became a rant about recent events that happened between the two women. With each sentence, the plot became more twisted and outrageous. By the end of the “quick” email, the audience learns that Rhonda married Robyn’s husband, Robyn is a paraplegic as the result of a car accident involving Rhonda and the two women are also sisters. After each twist of the plot, the audience’s laughter grew.

“The story just kept escalating,” Rebecca White said. “I knew it was fictional, but it was like, ‘Who would send this sort of e-mail?’”

Other stories Sedaris read will be in a book available next year.

One such story, “The Spider in the Bucket,” got many laughs from listeners. In the tale, a male spider was looking for a mate when he became trapped in a bucket without food for several weeks. Finally, a dead mosquito fell into the bucket as well. The spider used the blood inside the mosquito to write a farewell message to a fictional lover in hopes that other spiders who found his corpse would remember him as a “sex god” rather than a wimp. Soon afterwards, a wounded female spider also fell in the bucket. The male spider fell in love with her and nursed her back to health. When the female spider regained consciousness, she found the note on the side of the bucket. Enraged, she ate her fellow prisoner, escaped the bucket and went back into the wild to find a more suitable mate.

Sedaris combined romantic language and an ironic plotline to achieve his famous satirical style, which draws in the audience.

For example, when the male spider spends the night caring for the wounded female, Sedaris said, “The miracle of love was that you could experience it without bursting. It would not blow you to a million pieces.” Of course, the irony was that the female spider felt no affection and even ended up eating the male.

During the show, Sedaris also promoted books with a similar sense of humor. Our Dumb World by The Onion was mentioned and excerpts were read. “It’s that same atlas put out by The Onion. Soo naughty,” Sedaris said in an advertisement of the book. He recommended jokingly, that people should purchase the atlas as a Christmas present so that family members could read it aloud all day during Christmas.

Aside from reading from his favorite writing, Sedaris included time to connect with the UWSP audience.

For instance, he noted that Sedaris’ performance seemed impressed by the venue for the event.

Smith said she thought the Laird room was a good location for the performance.

“I’m surprised. I didn’t expect it to fit that many people or have such a good sound system... I would definitely go to see other speakers [in the Laird Room],” Smith who had never previously attended a speaking event in the Laird Room, said.

The room was completely filled by supporters of Sedaris, and by the resounding laughs heard on Monday evening, it seemed that the audience enjoyed the performance.

“I’m definitely a fan of Sedaris. I was impressed we got someone of his status and caliber here at Stevens Point,” White said.

See 37 Shakespeare plays this weekend

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When Arne Parrot got the okay to direct his first play as a member of the Players student theater organization he thought people would flock to the opportunity. The play that had been agreed upon by the player’s board and himself is popular in theater circles. Arne himself has seen it too many times to count. But when the auditions for the production of “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged” took place, only six people showed up to fill the three roles. Arne still feels it couldn’t have worked out better.

“I feel like if 200 people had auditioned I still would have cast these three people because each one of them brings a different energy of what I want to the show,” said Parrot.

The play opens this Friday in the Noel Fine Arts Center, Room 221.

See “Play” pg. 9

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See “Ad” pg. 3
Third annual Harvest Dinner delights

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The Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society hosted their third annual Harvest Dinner in the College of Professional Studies Café last Sunday night.

The dinner hosted 100 guests, serving a variety of dishes consisting of local ingredients donated by area farmers and students. Student members of SACS prepared the food from farms in central Wisconsin and the Campus Garden. Some of the menu items included butternut squash soup, spicy jambalaya, homemade breads, vegetable salads, freshly pressed apple cider and a number of desserts.

The dinner also featured live music, a raffle and guest speakers. Holly Petrillo, the organization's advisor, and John Sheffy, an outreach farmer from Rosholt, WI, both spoke. The night also included music, a raffle and guest speakers.

Holly Petrillo, the organization's advisor, and John Sheffy, an outreach farmer from Rosholt, WI, both spoke. The night also included music, a raffle and guest speakers.

Guests were also entertained by the Reduced Shakespeare Company, a parody of the plays written by William Shakespeare with all of the plays being performed for varying lengths of time. The play sets itself aside from traditional theater in many ways, the most obvious being the cast members are essentially playing themselves rather than one character.

"I'm excited because it will be very different and it helps, the show has a very improvisational nature," said cast member Hannah Kampschoer. "Playing ourselves, which is a new character that we usually don't play, there's a lot more honesty with it, so its not really acting as much as it is being a lot of time."

"Its different, instead of what I'm used to," said cast member Mike Kliss. "You look at a script and you go, 'okay this character is saying this because that's the type of person they are,' but to take those words and make them yours and you're trying to say those words just naturally."

The play has a very improvisational nature. The script allows for whoever is putting on the play at the time to take it and make it their own. The script encourages directors to change the many pop culture references so they are up to date or talk about things significant to the area its being produced.

"I get to add references to the current administration, and I poke a bit of fun at the faculty and other productions that Point has done in general; all in good humor, not anything malicious," said Parrott.

Parrott is also shaking things up in other ways. The play calls for three men to play the parts; Parrott has cast two girls.

"It calls for three white men specifically; three white men wrote it, but I've seen productions with three black women, and its hilarious and it works fine, they just have to change some of the jokes, you just have to keep the attitude that the script isn't the final word," said Parrott.

Kampschoer couldn't be happier to take over at least one of the male roles.

"I will say it was an absolute orgasm when I found out I got to play Hamlet, which is something I never even bothered to fantasize about," said Kampschoer.

The play by its nature also adds another non-traditional character to the show, the audience. The improvisational nature of the show allows for audience participation on many levels and the so-called fourth wall comes tumbling down. The audience can expect to become a part of what Arne calls a great sense of ensembles between the actors.

"For improv you really need respect and listening, and the ability to have another person in the scene and pay just as much attention to them and to yourself. They've really come together really well," said Parrott.

The cast had only a few words for the potential fourth cast member.

"Don't bring anything breakable to the play, that's the big one," said Kliss.

The show opens on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. and goes throughout the weekend with performances on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. The cost is $4.
It's raining. And it's cold. It's raining and it's cold and quite frankly, I'm mighty freaking sick of it. I just don't know what to do. Mother Nature is punishing us for something. I don't know what, but definitely something. Then, just to play with us, she makes the weather all mild and pleasant for two days only to trash our souls and make us say curse words under our breaths as we anxiously trudge to class where we can sit and mold in our smelly dampness.

After class, when you go home to sit in more depressing smelly dampness, you can make it all better by putting on some dry sweats, putting in your favorite rainy day movie, which is The Princess Bride just so you know, and curl up with a nice MLE, mutton, lettuce and tomato sandwich when the mutton is nice and lean and the tomatoes are ripe.

Okay, not really, but there is a quintessentially rainy day food. I speak of course of the age old combo of grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup. I'm not talking Campbell's soup and some Kraft slices. There are ways to make this simple dish delicious and deep.

First, the sandwich. The bread is the most important part. Don't just use the three for $1 white bread you get at Kwik Trip. Go to the bakery section of the grocery store and buy heavy wheat berry bread. This will add a nutty sweetness to your sandwich. For cheese, try smoked provolone or an aged Swiss; shredding a block of mozzarella and putting it on the sandwich will also work quite nicely. Proceed to use ingredients in typical grilled cheese style.

The soup is a bit more complicated. You will need

- 1 tsp. chopped garlic
- 1 tsp. chopped onion
- 1 carrot
- 1 stalk celery
- ½ chopped onion
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 1/2 oz. can chopped tomatoes

Add in the flour and stir until absorbed by the butter. Add the milk and cream until hot and set at a low simmer. Then, add tomatoes, sugar, salt, pepper and basil. Simmer ten minutes to allow all the aromatics to blend together. Serve with grilled cheese and curl up with your favorite movie and remember, live to eat.

## Random Rants with Andy: Balloon Boy

### Andrew Letson

**The Pointer Contributor**

Who would have thought that the story of the week last week would be about a balloon? Not me, that's for sure. I would have thought the story of the week would have been about health care, Afghanistan or even about Octomom popping out another litter. Instead we were subjected to a story about a boy who was supposedly inside an experimental balloon 5000 feet above the ground. The best part about it was the entire story was a fake.

**IT WAS A FAKE!**

The boy's father was trying to get fame and glory for his son, who was trying to get this balloon down? When the balloon hit the ground and we found out the boy wasn't inside, we were all relieved.

Even since we have learned that the entire thing was a fraud (thanks to the kid who ratted out his father), we have continued to obsess over the story. We love and hate the fact that a kid and his dad could dupe us so easily. The quality of television we have received from the Balloon Family has been 10 times greater than any other reality TV. For that, we should be proud that a simple American family can come up with a better story than anything else on television.

I, as a humble ranter, would like to thank you Balloon Dad for giving us such great entertainment over the past week. Thank you, you sir are a true American hero.
loyalty lies, as she fraternized with SLEA throughout most of the event.

Treasure, T.J. Dahlke, was the best shot for the Ikes with a score of nine out of ten. "That's average," said Dahlke who shoots for three different leagues and shot an estimated 2,000 rounds over the past year. After their one-point victory the previous semester, SLEA prepared for last week's event by practicing at a shooting range in Wisconsin Rapids. Their hard work paid off in their 64-60 victory. "We won last semester, so we were hoping," said Logan Cannon, SLEA president.

Though Neuman joked, "You have a better average, but our top end is good," the hour and a half long event was a friendly competition that confirmed great skill among both groups.

Neuman extended his congratulations to SLEA and said, "I'm looking forward to the spring semester when I will be fully healed from my shoulder surgery and the Ikes will have a chance to regain their title."

Festival held in hopes of saving a Wisconsin endangered species

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A small butterfly, a big festival. This weekend, about 100 people gathered at the Little Plover River Fisheries Area for the Karner Blue Rendezvous sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Society of Ecological Restoration. The Karner Blue butterfly, which is about the size of a nickel, is a federally endangered species.

Regarding conservation of the Karner Blue, Wisconsin has a lot to be proud of. According to the Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin has more Karner Blues than any other place in the world. In fact, the world’s largest population of the butterfly lives just 50 miles away from Stevens Point in the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. The Karner Blue, however, still needs our help. In the larval form, the species feeds only on wild blue lupin. This means no lupin, no butterflies. Plus, there are only two hatches of the butterfly per year, with each generation living only three to five days.

In 2007, the Society of Ecological Restoration began a project, sponsored by the DNR, to plant more lupin in the Little Plover River Fisheries Area. Last year, the group began planning a festival to celebrate and raise awareness for the Karner Blue butterfly.

The Karner Blue Rendezvous offered fun for all ages. Activities included arts & crafts, seed sifting and guided nature hikes. The festival also featured live music and local and sustainable foods. Festival goers enjoyed music and locally sourced foods. The inside of a wild blue lupin pod which

The Unprotected Adventures of Sexy Assassin

by Dustin Hauge

October 22, 2009 - 11

BRAGGING RIGHTS

Do you have reason to boast this hunting season? Send photos of your trophies along with your fish tales to jfowl695@uwsp.edu and exercise those well-earned bragging rights!

The inside of a wild blue lupin pod which the Karner Blue butterfly survives on.

This butterfly is a sign of a good habitat.

— Bueter

Blue, planting wild blue lupin is a great first step. Even if you don’t get any Karner Blues munching on your lupin right away, you’ll have a beautiful native flower in your backyard. Plus, the wild lupin is "a piece of our history," said English professor and Karner Blue butterfly surveyor Dan Dieterich.
University Writers: A stroll down Barney Street

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Every day that you travel to your lecture hall in the Science building, particularly in the D wing, you are actually strolling down something used to be Barney Street — the street bisected the campus between 4th Avenue and Franklin Street, and was named after Barney Kostuchowski. The street was there until Stevens Point issued a Resolution of Discontinuance for Barney Street and all adjacent properties. Suddenly, it was gone.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student organization University Writers keeps the memory of this street alive in the title of their magazine "Barney Street." This organization is dedicated to promoting writing along with the English department and Writer's Workshop.

"Barney Street" started publishing in 1978, and has been publishing student-stories, poems, photography and other forms of art in an annual issue each April. Each student's work is unique, but the magazine doesn't have exact guidelines in what can be published except that it has to be an original piece of a UWSP student.

Throughout the years the articles have had a diverse theme to them, changing each year.

"Last year in particular, many of the submissions were about nature or Wisconsin regionalism in some way, which makes sense because of UWSP's reputation as a nature resources school. Other common themes include relationships, coming of age and spirituality," said Amy Zandler, president of University Writers and Editor-in-Chief of "Barney Street.

Submissions aren't limited to English majors. "Barney Street" allows any UWSP student to have their unique work of art published.

The meetings are open to each student and provide information that helps to understand how a magazine works.

"We give UWSP students a chance to break into the publishing world and see their name in print as well as share their work with their colleagues. Our other events, such as readings, workshops and fundraisers, are open to the entire campus," says Zandler.

Mathew Chacko, the advisor of University Writers, believes that this student organization is very beneficial to the UWSP Campus.

"Barney Street' showcases some of the best writing and artwork produced by students on this campus. It's also a project that builds community, that brings together and makes visible student artists on campus. It introduces them to the process of submitting their work and, I believe, inspires them to revise and polish up work they do in their courses. It also offers experience for students interested in publishing or fundraising for arts organizations," says Chacko.

Zandler and other members of "Barney Street" are currently looking for work for this year's publication. At the University Writers meetings are every other Monday at 8:30 p.m. in CCC 114. When submitting your work, you can look at the guidelines on their Web site, www.uwsp.edu/ uwo/stuorg/universitywriters.

From "Harvest" pg. 9

garden was able to donate produce and herbs to the first Harvest Dinner in 2007.

Erickson said that the students were responsible for every aspect of providing this year's dinner, including creating the menu, food preparation and cleanup.

"In terms of setting up the dinner, [students] do everything from calling the farmers and getting the ingredients to designing the menu and preparing the food. We also use food grown by students in the Campus Garden, so we're involved in every step," said Erickson.

Co-President Laura Rollin stressed the importance of sustainable agriculture and its positive effects on health and the environment.

"Having our food travel from so far away is pretty unnecessary, especially in the summer months, where we can grow pretty much anything we need," she said.

Rollin said that other than tropical produce, many of the foods we consume can be grown sustainably in Wisconsin, reducing carbon emissions and pesticide use.

"It has less of an impact on the environment in terms of using fuel and creating emissions while helping the local economy. It's important for us, our bodies, our health and the land's health," she said.