



Thursday

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Referendum debate escalates

Avra Juhnke
THE POINTER
AJUHN217@UWSP.EDU

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 be 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 overtone 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

See Referendum pg. 2

"Suspicious package" revealed

Avra Juhnke
THE POINTER
AJUHN217@UWSP.EDU

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

handled the situation.

Jeff Morin, the interim provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs, said it was all resolved in



Photo by Avra Juhnke

The item in question turned out to be a theater prop.

"I don't want to say I did anything wrong. I was just in the wrong place at the wrong time."
-Bebeau

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.

As he was exiting the building someone stopped him and asked if he had brought something into the building. He said yes, and was brought in for further questioning.

A custodian had recognized him by the brown or tan coat he was wearing that morning.

"They came up and asked me, 'Were you carrying something wrapped in a piece of cloth that was kind of long?' and I was like, 'Yes.' And there was this huge sigh of relief," said Bebeau.

When students were allowed back into the NFAC, they applauded at the news. The students could be seen piling back into the building from the Dreyfus University Center.

Bob Tomlinson, the vice chancellor of student affairs, said, this may have been the students' approval of how the university

a half hour with straightforward procedures.

"The alert was at nine and they let everyone back in at nine thirty," said Bebeau.

"It was kind of embarrassing at first because ... I really felt bad. I mean I interrupted class time; I made a whole lot of people worry."

"The responsiveness of the whole university security was really good," said Bebeau.

Bebeau said Gary Olsen, the chair of the theatre and dance department, said it was a good test of our security responsiveness.

"A lot of my friends came up to me after and were like, 'oh, man you got me out of my class. I am so happy,'" said Bebeau.

Bebeau said this story was in a Chicago newspaper and even the USA Today.

It was in headlines all over the state as well.

"I don't want to say I did anything wrong," said Bebeau. "I was just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

From Referendum pg. 1

UC said the possibility of bias on campuses where board members attend, for or against UC varies, from campus to campus. The vice president of UC attends UW-Eau Claire. Their referendum is this semester with a vote yes campaign run by the student senate.

When yielded time to speak from the senate the first time, Cychosz himself fueled the fire.

"Every bad rumor you have heard about me is true. I am probably the most rude, crass individual you are ever going to meet. Just ask Mr. Letson or Mr. Asbach," said Cychosz.

"I don't like Kirk Cychosz either," said Michael Wilson, SGA executive director. "Every time I see him I want to throw a shoe at his face. But it's not about us and our personal politics with Kirk Cychosz. This is bigger than us."

Cychosz explained to the senate what UC is currently doing for UWSP, which is mainly lobbying for the regent reform. This is getting equal representation of all UW schools on the UW System Board of Regents.

"I believe that his interpretation of the benefits of United Council are biased because of his position in United Council," said Letson.

Senator Sarah Bodine brought the discussion back to its original purpose.

"Right now we are not in a debate whether or not we are going to be in United Council. That is up to the students," said Bodine. "So right now the issue at hand is if we are going to have the vote available to students in the fall or to the students in the spring."

Some members of the senate, including senator Crystal Laabs, feel SGA needs more time to educate the

has already commenced. Letson said he has already started sending out Student Messages of the Day to students including links to the UC Web site and tabling in the Dreyfus University Center.

Another issue that was addressed was if SGA had a contract with UC binding them to two years as a member. Usually, this is not an issue because the referendum has traditionally been simultaneous with the presidential elections.

Laura Ketchum-Ciftci, the SGA faculty advisor, said she does not recall ever seeing a

contract because they usually pass her desk.

Schacht said UWSP's last referendum was in spring 2008 and we would not be due for one until spring of 2010, but the student government can choose to hold a referendum whenever they choose.

Cychosz, in agreement with the postponement, compared this to the elections. He asked Asbach and Nate Schultz, vice president, how they would feel if their terms ended a semester early.

"I think the students who voted to have two years deserve two years of representation. Not a year and a half, but two years," said Cychosz.

"...it's not about us and our personal politics with Kirk Cychosz. This is bigger than us."

-Wilson

student body on what UC is, what it does and what they will be voting on in the referendum.

"I believe when we originally passed the United Council referendum, we passed it unknowledgeable in what United Council is and we are going to impact the student body of UWSP with a referendum about an organization they know nothing about," said Laabs.

Laabs also claimed there was has been no information about the referendum on campus at all and was quickly corrected and informed about the UC article that ran in "The Pointer" on September 17.

Education for the student body

Sauced students now have a way to ride safely

Kim Beckman
THE POINTER
KBECK271@UWSP.EDU

There's something new in downtown Stevens Point this year. No, it's not a new bar, more parking, a larger police presence or freshmen trying out their fake IDs. Let's face it, some things never change. The new kid on the block is the late night bus.

Beginning Sept. 3, a late night bus began running from 10:15 p.m. to 3:15 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. The bus has two routes that make stops at main locations including Shopko, Partner's Pub, the YMCA, campus, the Evergreen Apartments and Fourth Avenue.

During its first week, the late night bus only transported 170 riders. Since then, the numbers have continued to increase, averaging about 350 riders per week. During Homecoming, the late night bus transported a whopping 882 people.

Rich Harding, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student, has some personal experience with the

late night bus. According to Harding, the bus was very helpful when a few of his friends "were a little too 'sauced up' and walking was...a problem."

According to Harding, he will definitely ride the late night bus again now that colder weather has arrived.

Several institutions were essential in helping make the late night bus a reality, including the university, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Student Government Association, the Stevens Point Transit Department and the Stevens Point Police Department.

Susan Lemke, Stevens Point transit manager, said the main reason for the creation of the new bus line was general safety. Curbing vandalism (occurring between downtown and major student housing areas) was another concern. According to Lemke, one former victim of vandalism has already reported a "significant difference" since the implementation of the late night bus routes.

According to Matt Guidry, SGA student life issues director, the late night bus offers several benefits.

First, it allows students and community members to move to and from downtown after the regular buses have stopped running.

Secondly, mass transit in general can help the environment because it keeps individual vehicles off the road. In addition, the late

night bus may help cut down the crowds that hang out downtown after bar close. Having free and reliable transportation nearby also has the potential to reduce the number of drunk drivers.

"If we can get people out of their cars if they've been drinking, and onto the bus and home safely we're accomplishing a lot," said Lemke.

Another great feature of the bus is that it is free. Well, kind of. In reality, the late night bus system will cost \$86,337 for the 2009-2010 academic year. Of this, \$53,952 is funded by the state and federal governments. This leaves a total tab of \$41,386 for UWSP students, which averages to about \$2.44 per student per semester.

The university's contract with the city for the bussing is renewed annually, so student and community usage, cost and logistics will all be considered in spring when the involved parties meet to discuss the program's future, said Guidry.

Regarding the continuation of the bus program, Guidry said, "I feel so far...that it's looking pretty good."

The best advice for students that want to see the wheels on the late night bus go round and round next year: vote with your feet. According to Guidry, usage will be one of the biggest factors in keeping the late night bus alive.

SGA is also looking for feedback from students who have taken the late night bus. Comments, questions, praise and complaints can be e-mailed to SGA (sga@uwsp.edu).

Res. halls to receive AC

Jackie Lutze
THE POINTER
JLUTZ715@UWSP.EDU

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 3,273 square feet when completed.

"The idea was an engineered response to a need from Residential Living to have chilling capacity available for the new suite-style residence hall and the residence halls that are being remodeled one per year," said Carl Rasmussen, campus planner.

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

According to the draft prepared, the total cost of the unit will be \$8,680,100. 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 and an increase of \$195 per year for those rooms receiving air-conditioning.

"I just think that is a lot of money for something that students might need two or three days out of the year," said Brendan Gifford, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student.

According to Rasmussen, "The remodeling of eight residence halls in the DeBot complex, include the installation of four-pipe in-room heating and cooling equipment making air conditioning possible."

Dennis Johnson of Ayres Associates, stated in his release to the public, "Piping will connect the new north campus chilled water system to the current south campus chilled water system. This connection will enable the central campus chilled water systems to be operated at peak efficiency and provide back-up capacity throughout the campus."

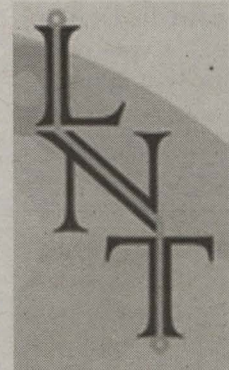
The hope is that the chiller will not only cool the residence halls, but also make the current unit work more efficiently and provide back up if it were to crash.

Rasmussen said, "An engineering study was performed to develop the most cost-effective and efficient plan to size and locate the plant and distribution system for all the buildings of the north campus." The project will offer new speed drive chillers that will bring significant savings in electricity consumption.

According to the proposal "Providing air conditioning in the residence halls is an identified need to maintain solid summer conference attendance. Summer occupancy provides important income for Residential Living capital and operational budgets."

Gifford said, "If they take a survey to see if students are for this then go for it, but if students aren't willing to pay, it really isn't worth it."

Construction is planned to start in May of 2010 and be completed by August 2011.



Late Night Transit

When UWSP campus is in session

Operates 10:15 p.m. - 3:15 a.m.

Thursday-Saturday

(Last bus leaves Shopko at 2:45 a.m.)

Does not operate during:

Thanksgiving break

Winter break

Spring break

Summer break

Alumna finds herself in a very unfamiliar place

Kim Shankland
THE POINTER
KSHAN945@UWSP.EDU

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 in 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 Afghan women. 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.

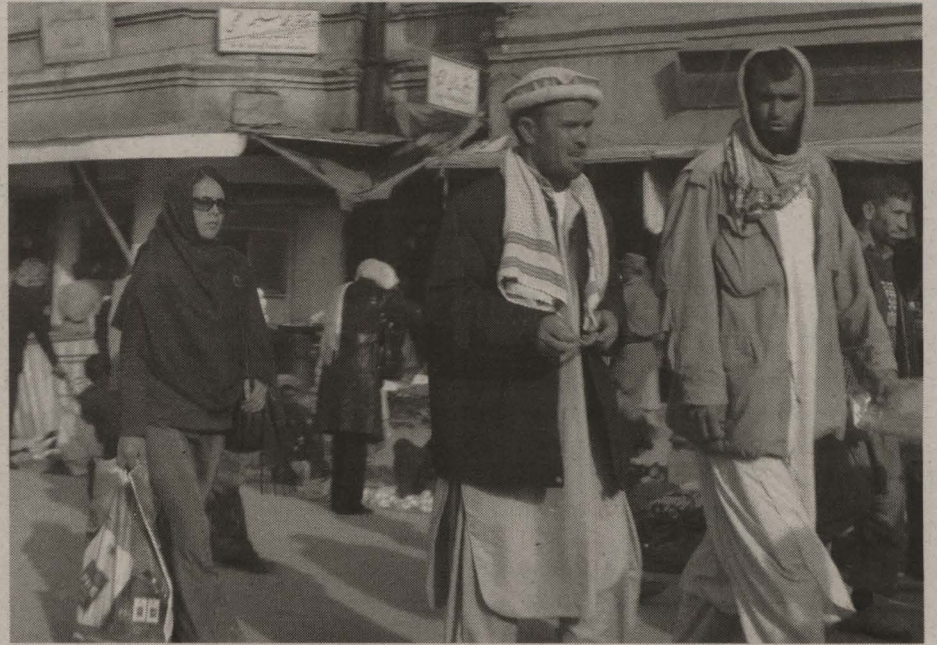


Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Ganshert

Elizabeth Ganshert, UWSP alumna, is working as an intern in Kabul, Afghanistan, where she is researching women's lives in the Afghan culture.

"At this point I rushed to the Afghan Embassy in Paris to process 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 its 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 it. 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 we received a warm send-off 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, many of the girls 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.

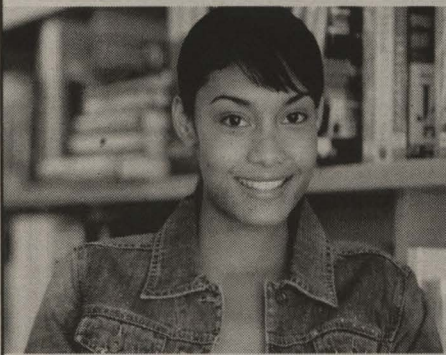
Ganshert's experiences in Afghanistan were something that she will never forget. She believes that each student should travel abroad - she does know the complications of money, but believes that money is nothing compared to these life-changing experiences. Not only does your viewpoint change, but you,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

"At first 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 Ganshert.

Ganshert'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.

FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE SHOWS

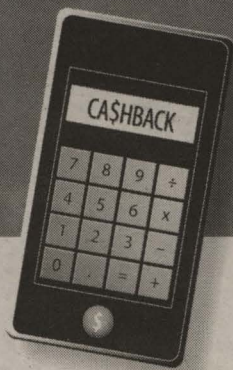


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International students face a whole new culture at UWSP

Heather Sheets
THE POINTER
HSHEE298@UWSP.EDU

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 UWSP; 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 for everyone.

"This office serves international students but also very much wants to welcome all students to connect to the world through this program," said Van Den Elzen. "It is good for everyone to globalize and expand their education and world view."

Van Den Elzen explained that the 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."

After being a foreign exchange student at Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids, Markozashili knew she wanted to stay close to college for academic reasons and because of the relationships she has formed here.

"Why wouldn't I stay in the same place? I have connections here and Stevens Point is just the right size. I am more than just a number and more than just a minority here," said Markozashili.

She said one of her main sources of friendship comes from the International Club on campus. Not only do they have monthly meetings, each with a theme country they celebrate, but the International Club also puts on large programs like the International Olympics (which is coming up this month), the International dinner, seasonal parties, welcome/farewell picnics and even various summer events.

"It is one of the most active organizations on campus and is a way a lot of International Students find community with others interested in all cultures too," said Markozashili.

Like Van Den Elzen, Markozashili encourages traditional students to engage themselves in getting a cross-cultural experience here on campus.

"Most people are so welcoming and tolerant here on campus," said Markozashili. "But I know some people are uncomfortable talking to a foreigner. I would like to say feel free to come meet us and be a part of any of our programs. Come find out what we're all about."

Weekend Buzz

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009

"Aisle 5," Season 2 will premiere in the Dreyfus University Center at 6 p.m.

Kento Anime Society Masquerade Ball will be in the Debot Center, room 073 from 7 - 11 p.m.

Elizabeth Aguillera will play jazz at Emy J's at 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

T'ai Chi Ch'uan Practice in the Allen Center, Studio B starting at 8 a.m.

Indoor Farm Market will be at Emy J'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.

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"That's what she said" of the week:

"It was really hard and it shouldn't have been, but it was,"
said Nick Meyer.

Rants with Andy can be read in the Letters to the Editor section.
Brain Damage will be back next week.

Science & Outdoors

Will Allen offers a “fresh” look at sustainability

Jackie Lutze
THE POINTER
JLUTZ715@UWSP.EDU

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 a farmer; he is transforming the cultivation, 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 diets 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 DeBot Dining 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 on the panel will include Will Allen, Chris Malek from Malek Family Stewardship Farm and Central Rivers Farmshed, Jasia Steinmetz from the UWSP HPHD and Central Rivers Farmshed and Dick Okray from Okray Family Farms. After the panel discussion, everyone is invited to relocate at the Basement

Brewhaus for the reception.

On Tuesday at 3 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 ksten220@uwsp.edu or Harley Altenburg at halte954@uwsp.edu, your student sustainability coordinators.

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

Jessi Towle
THE POINTER
JTOWE695@UWSP.EDU

The shoot-off between the Student Law Enforcement Association and the Isaak Walton League of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point gave both organizations the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned during target 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 Ikes versus SLEA shoot-off takes place during the fall and spring semesters and is open to any member of either



Photo by Jessi Towle

Ashley Look chose to shoot for the Ikes, though a member of both organizations.

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 and 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 were grounds for disqualification. Surgery on his shoulder put Ikes president, Tim Neuman, at a disadvantage. However, shooting one-handed proved to be a successful tactic as he added six points to the team's total.

Ashley Look created some tension as a member of both organizations. A sophomore, Look is actively involved with Ikes and is currently a cabinet member for SLEA. Though she showed her faithfulness to the Ikes by shooting for them last Wednesday, it remains unclear where her true

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.

Each individual was given one

See “Guns” pg. 11

Campus pruning not just for tree climbing majors

Jessi Towle
THE POINTER
JTOWE695@UWSP.EDU

Much of the beauty found on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus is due to the trees that are cared for by the Student Society of Arboriculture. For students in urban forestry, SSA is not only an opportunity to give back to the university, but a hands-on experience that one can't get in a classroom.

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

Schreiner took the advice given to him by his advisor, Les Werner, and joined SSA. He has been involved for the past two years and was recently elected as head pruning 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

“SSA is the only avenue for those of us who study urban forestry.”

— Schreiner

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



Photo by Jake Mathias
Members of SSA hanging out at a campus prune.

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 Deegan also leads one on Fridays at 1 p.m. and Tim Reiter leads one on Thursdays at 3 p.m.

SSA 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 experienced,” said Schreiner.

See “SSA” pg. 11

Sports

Women's soccer captures second straight WIAC title

Heather Sheets
THE POINTER
HSHEE298@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's soccer team clinched their 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.

UWSP women's soccer head coach Sheila Miech was asked which was greater: being, so far, undefeated among conference teams or being WIAC champions.

"Both go hand in hand, really; you usually need one to attain the other," Miech said.

With the victory however, comes more hard work. The team has earned themselves the number one seed and first round bye in the next level of the season's competition, the WIAC conference tournament. If they can

come out victorious here, the team will move on to the National Collegiate Athletic Association regional round, where they will compete to be the top Division III team in the nation.

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

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.

"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

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

Fantasy football divides the Pointer office; Except, not really

Griffin Gotta
THE POINTER
GGOTT172@UWSP.EDU

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 esteemed 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 their 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 let you down?

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: JaMarcus Russell.

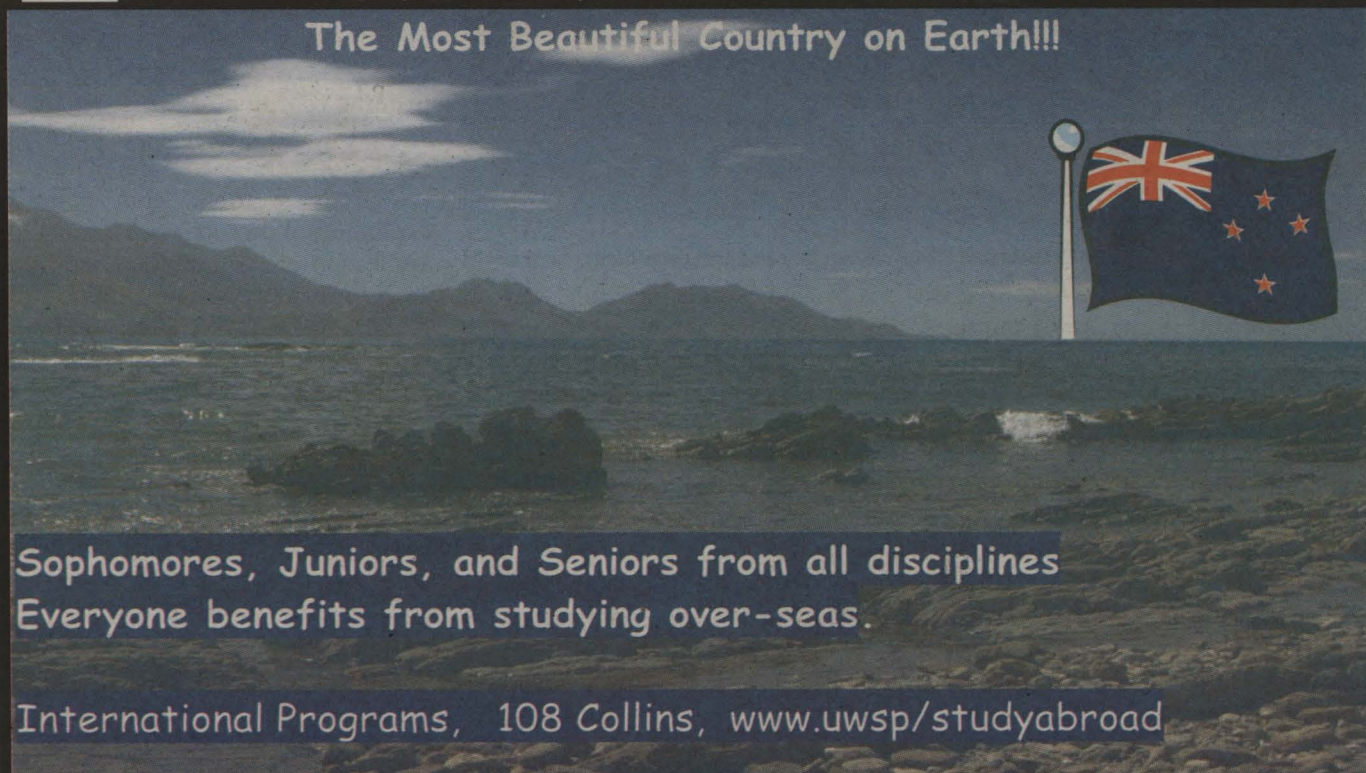
Justin—My biggest fear is that LaDainian Tomlinson will fall apart due to old age while walking onto the field. The Chiefs aren't much of a matchup, but Tomlinson is fragile.



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Sports

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

Dan Neckar

THE POINTER
DNECK184@UWSP.EDU

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 of 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 said he looks forward to the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference providing strong competition.

"It is without question the best Division III conference. These teams would compete with many Division I and II teams in the country," Randall said.

Randall also said that the UWSP basketball tradition is tremendous.

"I grew up a big 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,"



photo courtesy of Wisconsin State Journal

Lance Randall will bring his coaching pedigree to the UWSP sidelines.

Randall said. "It's a good fit for my family and I'm looking forward to being part of the community."

Bucks will open season with new faces and guarded optimism

Griffin Gotta

THE POINTER
GGOTT172@UWSP.EDU

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 Pistons' 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 came 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 steadily-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 excitement for the upcoming season.

"I like B.J., 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 had stretches in all three games, which is typical, where he's looked really good for certain minutes," Skiles said after a recent preseason game against the Houston Rockets. "You've got to be blind not to see the ability."

In order for the Bucks to build upon their 34-win season a year ago, they will need Jennings to continue his development as a starting point guard. They will also need full, healthy seasons from their two stars, Michael Redd and Andrew Bogut.

Bogut played in only 36 games last season, missing the rest due to a stress fracture in his lower back.

Miller knows the difference that having a healthy Bogut could make

for the Bucks this year.

"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.

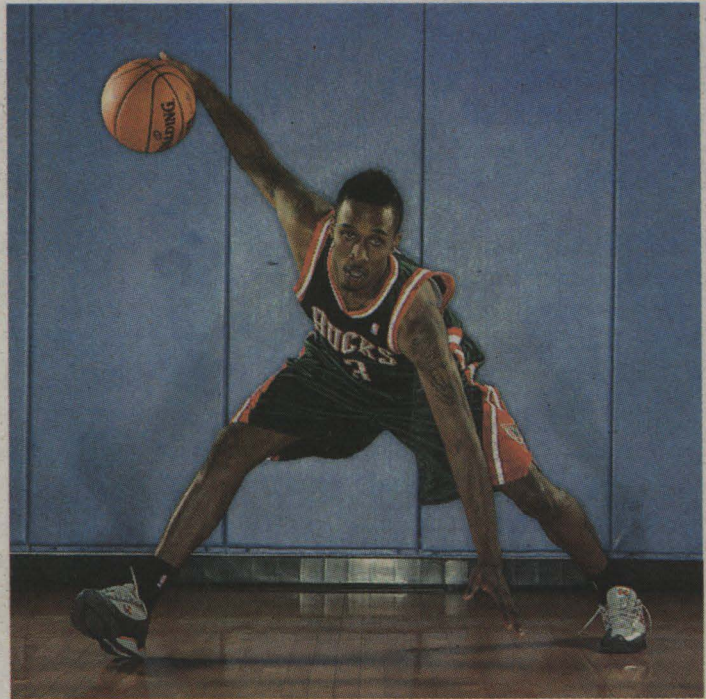


photo courtesy of Nathaniel S. Butler/NBAE via Getty Images

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

Arts & Culture

Sedaris appearance packs in laughs in Laird Room

Mary Biemann
THE POINTER
MBIEM244@UWSP.EDU

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.

"They might be considered fables, but since I have questionable morals, let's just call them 'stories with animals,'" Sedaris said to the audience.

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

"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 such affection and even ended up eating the male.

"I don't actually feel that anybody knows that much about my family... they know it's funny too."

—Sedaris

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 fave atlas put out by The Onion. Sooo naughty," Sedaris said in 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 fables and diary entries, Sedaris included time to connect with the UWSP audience.

For instance, he noted that Stevens Point has "the most cheerful YMCA" and a well-lit pool with large windows. Sedaris explained that he tries to swim every other day while on tour, and has seen a variety of YMCAs in his time.

At the end of his show, Sedaris allowed for several audience members to ask questions. One individual wondered if it was strange to know

that while touring and giving book signings, "everyone knows all these things about your life" since many of Sedaris' stories relate to his family and personal life. One anecdote he delivered to the audience related to his various family member's experiences

with jury duty, and several of his books include extensive stories from his childhood.

"I don't think the things people know are really of any consequence," Sedaris said in reply. "I don't actually feel that anybody knows that much about my family... they know it's funny, too. It's more of an illusion of exposing myself."

When asked what topics he considers to be off-limits, Sedaris said that he does not want to expose people's secrets.

"I've never written anything that would prevent anyone from getting a job," he said.

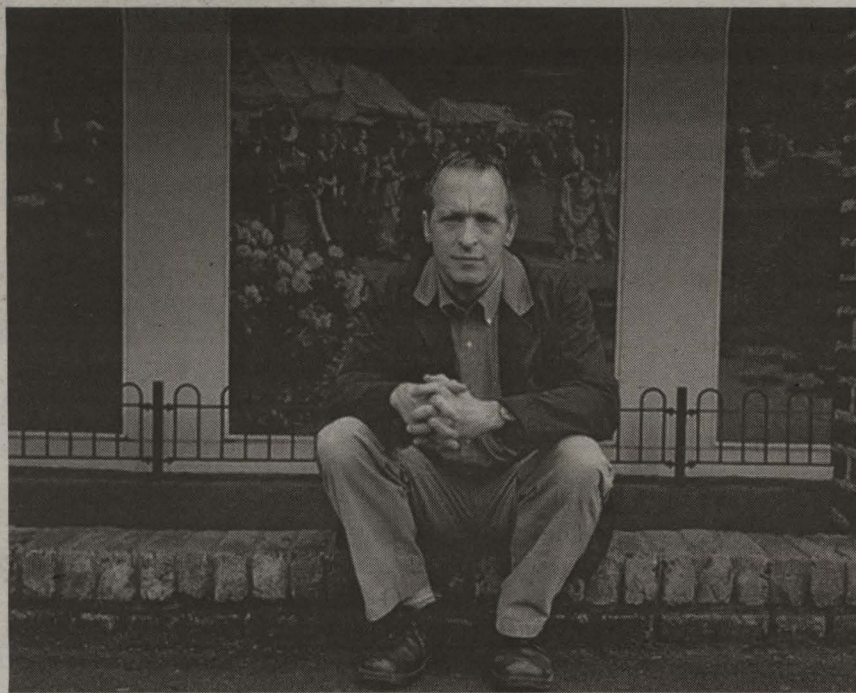
In general, attendees of the performance seemed impressed by the venue for the event.

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.



David Sedaris author of "Naked," "Me Talk Pretty One Day," and "Barrel Fever." Image courtesy of W Magazine

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,

See 37 Shakespeare plays this weekend

Nick Meyer
THE POINTER
NMEYE177@UWSP.EDU

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. Arne and his cast of three, Hannah Kampschoer, Maggie Raymond and Mikey Kliss have been preparing for about a month and a half to take on the challenge of covering 37 Shakespeare plays in an hour and a half.

"Its three actors doing 37 plays in an hour and a half if you're not attracted to that well....," said Parrot.

See "Play" pg. 9

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Third annual Harvest Dinner delights

Dan Neckar
THE POINTER
DNECK184@UWSP.EDU

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 using only ingredients 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 deserts.

The dinner also featured live music, a raffle and guest speakers. Holly Petrillo, the organization's advisor, and John Sheffy, an outreach director for the Global Environmental Management Education Center both spoke. The night also included crowning of the "SACS-iest Farmer" award was given to Chris Malek, a farmer from Rosholt, WI.

Co-President Jeremy Erickson described SACS as "a student organization focusing on sustainable agriculture and community



Student volunteers to serve food.

Photo by Dan Neckar

development."

"Our aim is to bring local students, farmers and community members together to gain a better understanding of food production," said Erickson.

Founded in 2005, SACS connects students with local farmers by allowing them to gain experience working on a real farm and learn about the importance of local agriculture and organic farming. In 2006, they built the Campus Garden on Franklin Street to host workshops on canning and composting and give students opportunities to learn about sustainable farming methods. The

See "Harvest" pg. 12

From "Play" pg. 8

The show, written by the Reduced Shakespeare Company, is 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 improv 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 it's not really acting as much as it is being a lot of time."

"It's 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 it's 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 and just in general; all in good humor, not anything malicious," said Parrot.

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

"It calls for three white men specifically; three white men wrote it,

"It's three actors doing 37 plays in an hour and a half if you're not attracted to that, well..."

—Parrott

but I've seen productions with three black women, and it's hilarious and it works fine, they just have to change some of the jokes, you just have to

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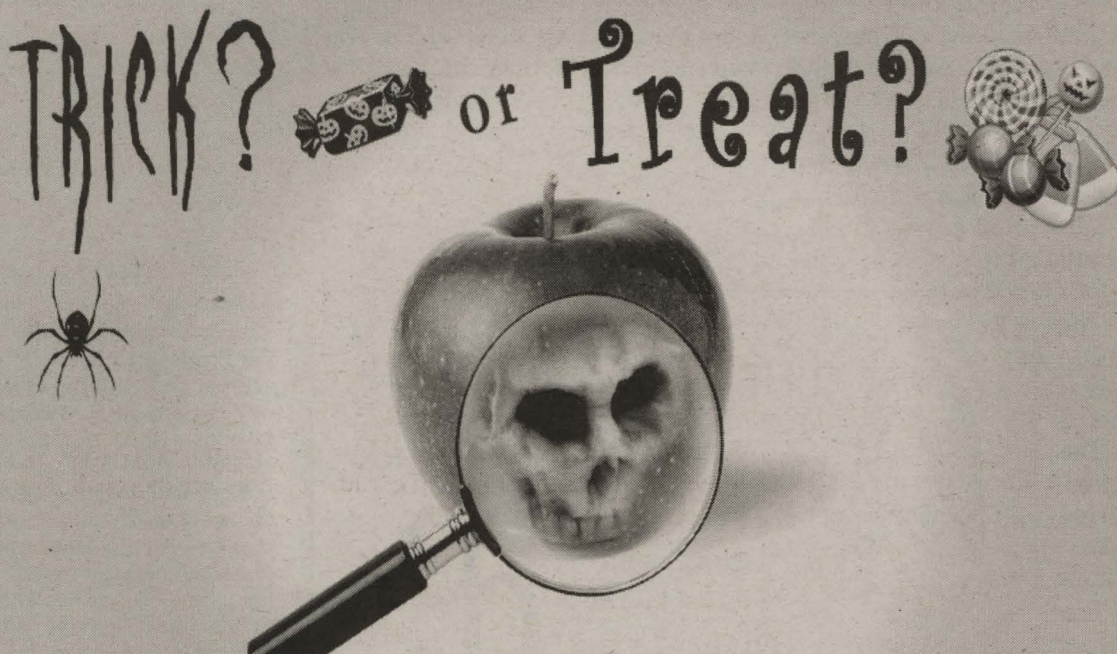
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keep the attitude that the script isn't the final word," said Parrot.

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 get 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 their 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.

Letters & Opinion

Food swings: Grilled cheese and tomato soup

Jake Mathias
THE POINTER
JMATH438@UWSP.EDU

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 yet, but definitely something. Then, just to play with us, she makes the weather all mild and pleasant for two days only to crush our souls and make us say curse words under our breaths as we damply trudge to class where we can sit and mold in our smelly dampness.

After class, when you go home to sit in more depressingly 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 MLT, mutton, lettuce and tomato sandwich when the mutton is nice and lean and the tomatoes are ripe.

Okay, not really, but there is a quintessential 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



photo courtesy of www.justataste.com

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 muenster 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 pint milk
- 1 pint cream
- 4 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup flour
- 1 15 oz. can chopped tomatoes
- 1 carrot
- 1 stalk celery
- ¼ chopped onion

- 1 tsp. chopped garlic
- 1 tbsp. basil
- 1 tsp. sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste

Sauté carrot, onion, celery and garlic in the butter until softened. 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
POINTER CONTRIBUTOR
ALETS410@UWSP.EDU

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 better ratings for his new reality TV show about storm chasing. Will the stunt work? Probably. Americans will probably tune in to see Balloon Dad chasing storms for a week or two, but once they realize the guy's kid isn't inside a tornado or lost in a hurricane they will change the channel. Why? Because the show will probably suck. If it didn't suck, why would this guy need to pull a stunt like this?

The best part about the whole thing is Balloon Dad gave us some great TV. Millions of Americans were glued to CNN, MSNBC or Fox News hoping to find out the fate of Balloon Boy. I know I couldn't stop thinking

about how this kid must be so scared and how were the authorities going 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.



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Newsroom
715.346.2249

Business
715.346.3800

Advertising
715.346.3707

Fax
715.346.4712

pointer@uwsp.edu

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University of Wisconsin

Stevens Point

104 CAC Stevens Point, WI
54481

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Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.

From "Guns" pg. 5

loyalty lies, as she fraternized with SLEA throughout most of the event.

Treasurer, 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."

From "SSA" pg. 5

On the weekends, members of SSA put on their saddles, safety glasses and hardhats and call themselves the "weekend warriors." During this time, they prune trees at professors' homes for suggested donations.

These donations allow SSA to attend conferences, where its members have the opportunity to meet prospective employers and enhance their professional development.

The weekend service does not extend to the public however, to avoid taking business away from companies in the area.

For Schreiner, SSA means technical knowledge and hands-on experience that he can't get anywhere else on campus.

"Just sitting in class doesn't mean much until you actually do it yourself," he said. Friendship has also made his experience with SSA enjoyable and worthwhile.

"Climbing trees is the highlight of being an urban forester and SSA is probably the only chance I'd have to do so at UWSP," said Josh Rasmussen, a member since last year.

If interested in campus pruning, even if you don't climb trees for your major, contact Troy Schreiner at tschr591@uwsp.edu or SSA president John Wayne Farber at jfarb149@uwsp.edu or stop by room 320 in the Trainer Natural Resources building five minutes prior to designated pruning times.

The Unprotected Adventures of Sexy Assassin

by Dustin Hauge



'PRESSURE'

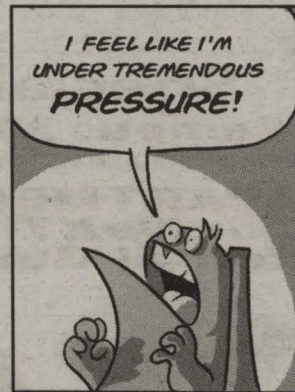


GOTTA MOVE! HOT ON MY TAIL IS MY MOST CAPABLE ADVERSARY... THE NIP!

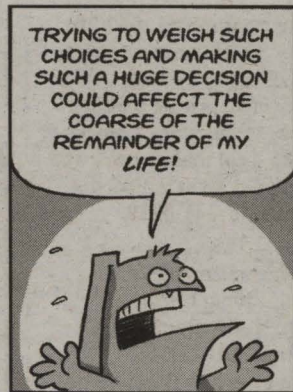


... THE NIHILISTS IN PLAID!

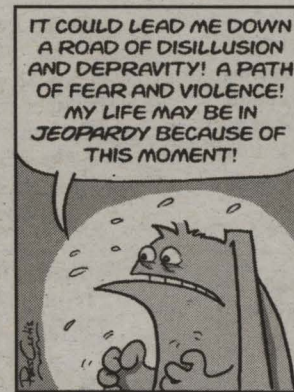
by Ross Curtis



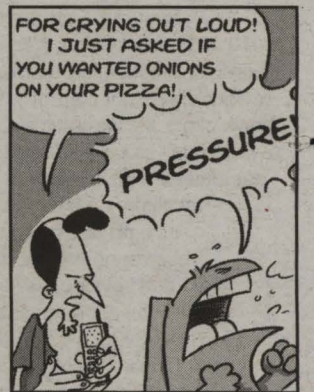
I FEEL LIKE I'M UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE!



TRYING TO WEIGH SUCH CHOICES AND MAKING SUCH A HUGE DECISION COULD AFFECT THE COARSE OF THE REMAINDER OF MY LIFE!



IT COULD LEAD ME DOWN A ROAD OF DISILLUSION AND DEPRAVITY! A PATH OF FEAR AND VIOLENCE! MY LIFE MAY BE IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE OF THIS MOMENT!



FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! I JUST ASKED IF YOU WANTED ONIONS ON YOUR PIZZA!

PRESSURE!

Festival held in hopes of saving a Wisconsin endangered species

Kim Beckman

THE POINTER

KBECK271@UWSP.EDU

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

population.

Jake Pipp, a senior natural resources management student, decided to check out the festival



Photo by Kristin Mroz

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

who participated in the seed sifting received 10 seeds in exchange for their help. "Ten seeds are more valuable than you'd think," said SER president Tanya Bueter. One pound of lupin seeds costs about \$375.

The festival drew community members as well as UWSP students. Troy Adams, who lives adjacent to the property where the festival was taking place, came over to investigate the music from the live band. By the time he left, he was wearing a Karner Blue butterfly button created at the arts and crafts booth and had gone on the 40-minute guided nature hike.

"There are Karner Blue butterflies here, but there's just a few and they need a lot of help," said Adams. He plans to do his part by planting the lupin seeds he received at the festival and helping monitor the Karner Blue

because he wanted to be outside for the day and was looking forward to learning more about the Karner Blue.

Why save the Karner Blue? "It's all about species diversity. This butterfly is a sign of good habitat," said Bueter.

If you'd like to help the Karner

"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.

BRAGGING RIGHTS

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and exercise those well-earned bragging rights!

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University Writers: A stroll down Barney Street

Kim Shankland

THE POINTER
KSHAN945@UWSP.EDU

Every day that you travel to your
lecture hall in the Science building,
particularly in the D wing, you are
actually strolling down what 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
campus literary 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's stories, poems, photography
and other forms of art in an annual
issue each April. Each student's work
is unique, as the publication 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 natural
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"

**"Barney Street showcases some of the best
writing and artwork produced by students on
this campus."**

— Chacko

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

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.