Renowned environmentalist Jean-Michel Cousteau has spent the week in Stevens Point conducting workshops for high school and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students, and will conclude his stop in the area with a public talk and film presentation tonight.

The presentation, "The Great Ocean Adventures of Jean-Michel Cousteau," will be held at 7 p.m. at the Sentry Theater. The event is sponsored by the Sentry Invitation to the Arts. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at the UWSP Information and Ticket Center.

Thursday's film presentation will include clips of a number of Cousteau's films with commentary by the man himself.

"I try to adapt to the audience that I'm going to meet," said Cousteau. "More than likely I’m going to talk about ... the toxicity of the ocean and what we are doing to it."

In addition to environmental diplomacy, Cousteau has produced over 75 films and a six-part PBS television series, "Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Adventures." He has won an Emmy, the Peabody Award, the seven d’Or and the Cable Ace Award.

Cousteau comes from a notable background. His father, Jacques-Yves Cousteau, was an explorer, inventor, filmmaker and environmental activist.

"The mission of Ocean Futures Society is to explore our global ocean, inspiring and educating people throughout the world to act responsibly for its protection, documenting the critical connection between humanity and nature, and celebrating the ocean’s vital importance to the survival of all life on our planet," said the society's Web site, http://www.oceanfutures.org.

The priorities of Ocean Futures include increasing the availability of clean water to all people, protecting coastal marine habitats and marine mammals, and creating sustainable fisheries.

Among Jacques-Yves' achievements are the invention of the SCUBA and the creation of over 115 television films and 50 books. Today, The Cousteau Society and Equipe Cousteau continue his environmental and educational work and are based in the United States and France, respectively.

"We need to explore; we need to better understand, to me it's as exciting as going into space."

-Cousteau

United Council referendum to be held in spring

The United Council referendum has been postponed until the spring semester. It is to be held simultaneously with the Student Government Association presidential elections.

After the senate two weeks ago Scott Asbach, president of SGA, vetoed the decision to postpone it, making the referendum date to be this past weekend.

At last week’s senate meeting a large handful of students turned out to voice their opinions about when the referendum should be held. Many expressed the desire for it to be held next semester to ensure time to learn about UC.

During last week’s senate, senators called to turn over the veto. After voting 10-6-0, the veto was upheld by the required, two-thirds vote.

After reconvening from a break, it was brought to the senate’s attention by Michael Wilson, SGA executive director, that Charles Summer, international student senator, did not understand which side he voted for because of the wording of the vote. Andy Letson, the speaker of the senate, moved to reconsider the veto.

The vote was then voted on account of a language barrier.

The results of the second vote, 10-5-0, which is less than the required two-thirds vote, overruled the original decision and the veto to postpone, pushing the referendum to the spring semester once again.

"The priorities of Ocean Futures include increasing the availability of clean water to all people, protecting coastal marine habitats and marine mammals, and creating sustainable fisheries.

The efforts of Cousteau and Ocean Futures have been instrumental in the success of several environmental projects.

"His collaboration with Green Cross International and the Natural Resources Defense Council on issues of global water security, protection of sensitive marine areas, prevention of oil spills and prevention of the use of damaging sonar systems have been long-standing achievements," said the Ocean Futures Society Web site.

In recognition of his outstanding work, Cousteau was awarded the Environmental Hero Award by Vice President Al Gore in 1998 and the first Ocean Hero Award from Oceana in 2003, among numerous other accolades.

"We need to explore; we need to better understand," said Cousteau. "To me it’s as exciting as going into space."

For more information on Cousteau and the Ocean Futures Society, visit www.oceanfutures.org.

"Follow your dream. Go where you want to go," said Cousteau. "I wanted to become an architect to build cities underwater, and I did."
Self-defense classes give students the tools to protect themselves

Lauren Shimulunas

On Aug. 31, two University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students were assaulted behind Toppers. One student was left unconscious. The assault led some to question the campus atmosphere, and to wonder how to use this event to increase student safety.

Though the Aug. 31 incident is somewhat of an anomaly—the worst incident Bill Rowe, head of campus security, can remember in his six years of service—it still happened.

Students reported six cases of assault from 2007-2008 according to the Wisconsin System Security Office. Every fall, a group of people including the chancellor, student government officials and campus police ensure that lights are working, and that campus safety awareness, but Bob Tomlinson doesn't think they take advantage of them nearly enough. "One of the things the university's looking at is a freshman seminar. Every freshman would be required to take a one- or two-credit course on just general orientation of the university," said Tomlinson.

Tomlinson said self-defense training to healthy American classes is a start to raising student awareness, but Bob Tomlinson does not believe that scope is wide enough. "It's just not a real high crime area," Rowe said about Stevens Point.

"There are so many different types of college students that are available for students, I don't think they take advantage of them nearly enough," said Mealy.

"If we're having a class, do they know what's going on? No," said Tomlinson.

The addition of optional self-defense training to healthy American classes is a start to raising student safety awareness, but Bob Tomlinson does not believe that scope is wide enough in the long run.

"It's a first step, and hopefully in the future we can grow this program," said Tomlinson. "One of the things the university's looking at is a freshman seminar. Every freshman would be required to take a one- or two-credit course on just general orientation of the university."

Tomlinson said self-defense training would certainly be a good thing to include in these courses.

Mealy has run two self defense seminars this semester already, and will hold one more women's self defense seminar on Oct. 29, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Studio B of the Allen Center. He invites anyone interested in learning more about self defense or martial arts in general to attend Taekwondo club.

"It helps you tune into your instincts and listen to what feels right and what doesn't," said Berger referring to self defense training. "But you won't get that from a two hour self-defense seminar. That comes with practice that comes with martial arts training."

Beginning club sessions are offered Mondays from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. in Health Enhancement Center room 154. Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in HEc room 110, Wednesdays from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. in HEC 154, and Thursdays from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in HEC 110, with advanced sessions also available.

For more information, visit http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/taekwondo.

War veterans find an outlet through writing their stories

Jackie Lotze

Many veterans and their families have important stories they want to tell about their journey and experiences with nowhere to express them. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is hosting a writing workshop so they can do just that.

On Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Dr. Mj Smoller-Phillips, from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will conduct the writing workshop for veterans and their families.

"This workshop will provide an opportunity for them to write their story to gain a fresh insight to help them understand those hard experiences and heal from them," said Smoller-Phillips.

Smoller-Phillips had been a creative writing teacher since 1987. She has won many awards and started many programs including Operation: Making Peace. This helps returning combat veterans and their families to register and reconcile the difficulties of military experiences with civilian and family life.

The organization then puts on workshops like this event offered at UWSP. "This workshop is for veterans and their families to have an outlet for their thoughts. There are no expectations. They can write stories, poem, or letters. It's just a way to get their feelings out," said Winton Miller, president of UWSP's vet club.

"Veterans may not come forward themselves so we want to be able to help family members cope and know how to help those they love," said Miller.

"The sooner they deal with this, the sooner they can move on with normal life." -Miller

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"The sooner they deal with this, the sooner they can move on with normal life," said Miller.

Many veterans also may feel they don't have a place, especially here on campus. This workshop offers a safe, secure, non-judgmental place for all who come, Miller said.

The workshop is also open to help family members of veterans. "Veterans may not come forward themselves so we want to be able to help family members cope and know how to help those they love," said Miller.

"The sooner they deal with this, the sooner they can move on with normal life," said Miller. "Yes, it's therapeutic, but it's also so much more." For anyone wishing to share their story or learn from others; forms can be returned to any of the following locations by Nov. 3: Information and Ticket Center, Student Involvement and Employment Office, Veterans Club Office, Room 64 of the Dreyfus University Center or to Anne Whipp, Club Office, Room 64 of the Dreyfus University Center or to Anne Whipp, Room 0101, SEC. There are 20 seats available in each session.

The deadline will be extended if seats are not filled but sign up now to secure your spot.

Last week, "The Pointer" stated that "This American Life" was a National Public Radio Program. While NPR does air the program, it is produced by Chicago Public Radio and distributed by Public Radio International. We apologize for the mistake.

-Pointer Staff

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HALLOWEEN

HALLOWEEN AND SAFE
Funding opens “Green” opportunity

Kim Shankland
The Pointer
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Have you ever felt that University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point was not “green” enough to your liking? By following a few simple steps your dreams could come to fruition. The Student Government Association Sustainability Reserve allows students on the UWSP campus to take their ideas and make it into something real to help the campus become more sustainable or ecologically friendly.

Many individuals or student organizations never think to use the SGA Sustainability Reserve because they don’t know exactly what it is. “SGA Senate created it to make the campus more ‘green’ and promote sustainability projects on campus. It was created as a reserve, and a reasonable amount is set every year about how much will be in the reserve. Student segregated fees help fund this,” said Emily Backes, issues director.

UWSP provides many opportunities to students and organizations, especially those involved with this area of expertise. The natural resources area of study is highly regarded across the nation as being full of experience, so the students are ready for their field when leaving the campus grounds.

This project is just one of the many that students can get involved in and make a huge impact.

“We have, after all, the largest and arguably most prestigious undergraduate natural resource program in the nation. It only makes sense,” said Andrew VanNatta, SGA senator.

Some of the past projects that the SGA Sustainability Reserve has been involved in and has passed are widely variable and make huge impacts on the campus and student’s carbon footprint. The LED lighting on the Health Enhancement Center marquee and the water softener in the equipment room were some major projects funded this way as well as the construction of rain gardens outside Old Main. Trees were also planted around campus which is always a good standby for a project. Funding from this reserve also put solar panels on top of the HECC and Pray-Sims Residence Hall. All of these projects were given a chance to reach out to the campus and students and open the eyes of many.

Though many students just want to jump in headfirst to start on the project, you firstly must get your project idea approved first in order to have the funds start. In order to get these funds, you need to pick up and fill out a Sustainability Reserve request form by the SGA office, which are available in the DUC Room 052. After filling the form out, your proposal must be presented to the Environmental and Sustainability Issues Committee for approval. If it is approved, a representative of the project comes to present it the Finance Committee for approval, then it is sent to SGA Senate for final approval.

Though you may not think that planting a small seed into the ground can make a big difference, it can. Little steps forward into making our campus flourish with ecologically friendly and a “green” way of life impacts all of us in a way that is beneficial all around.

“The reserve is a great way for small individuals to make a big difference right now. If’s empowering to know that you made a difference, no matter how small. Environmental sustainability may not be flashy often those most closely linked to it are working behind the scenes - but each individual effort makes a difference in a big way. Sustainability, in my opinion, is part of our collective conscience and engrained in our beliefs. If’s living against the land that requires the extra effort, and if this type of living that stands out the most,” states VanNatta.

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Summer 2010 is coming, REALLY! Don’t forget to register for your study abroad program -the world calls you!

Consider participating in one of UWSP’s nearly 20 different offerings. Choice from the likes of:

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Halloween candy sales average about $2 billion annually in the United States. It is the largest candy-purchasing holiday, bigger than Christmas, Easter and Valentine’s Day.

Over $1.5 billion is spent on costumes each year and more than $2.5 billion on other Halloween paraphernalia.

The first Jack-O-Lanterns were actually turnips and originated in Ireland.

Pumpkins are not only orange, they come in blue, yellow, green and even red.

The name "pumpkin" comes from the Greek word "pepon," meaning a large melon.

The largest pumpkin grown was recorded on October 2, 2004 weighing 1,446 lbs.

A 1995 law in Sandusky, Ohio prohibited trick of treating by anyone over the age of 16.

Legendary magician Harry Houdini died in Detroit from a ruptured appendix on Halloween in 1926.

Halloween is the third biggest party day of the year behind only New Year’s and Super Bowl Sunday.

Happy Halloween everybody. Be safe!
Science & Outdoors

SIEO gears up for alternative spring break trip in Utah

Mary Biemann
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While college students may choose to celebrate this year’s spring break in the stereotypical fashion by either partying or sleeping for an entire week, a select few will be chosen to embark on a service trip to Moab, Utah.

Participants will be volunteering with the Plateau Restoration organization in Moab from Mar. 21 to 27, 2010. According to Student Involvement and Employment Office Service Trip Coordinator, Katrina Mijal, the trip involves several projects to help the natural habitat of the Colorado Plateau.

Plateau Restoration’s alternative spring break trips “do things like trail clearing or trail building, planting and invasive species removal. A lot of it is weather-tentative, obviously,” said Mijal.

Plateau Restoration will be managing everything from education, service projects, lodging and meals and the free day for the group. According to the Plateau Restoration Web site, http://www.plateaurestoration.org, typical days on the trip include two hours of discussion and eight hours of project work.

Discussion topics include the ecosystems and ecological management of the Colorado Plateau. The free day is either a rafting trip on the Colorado River or a tour of the Arches National Park.

During the trip, participants will be staying at a campground in Moab and just put our posters up around campus and we have brochures printed up, but I myself haven’t done as much publicity as I usually do. It’s really cool because we have so many people who are already asking about it,” said Mijal.

Applications for the trip can be found online at the SIEO Web site at http://www.uwsp.edu/centers/sieo/ and to obtain an application, visit the Information and Ticket Center in the Dreyfus University Center by Friday, Dec. 11.

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance on Jan. 8. Those going on the trip will pay the final $100 on Friday, Jan. 22, and the other applicants will have their deposit returned in full.

In addition, applicants will be expected to help with the two Service Trip Program fundraisers. The Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser will be on Saturday, Dec. 12, and the Make Life Sweeter fundraiser will be on the evening of Thursday, Feb. 11.

“The fundraisers specifically benefit the Service Trip Program, and the thing that we’ve found is that we try to keep the trips as cheap as they possibly can be. It’s really important that we try to fundraise as much as we can so that we can help subsidize some of that cost for students,” Mijal said.

Currently, college credit for the trip is not available, but Mijal said that is being discussed for future service trips.

“That’s something that we’re really interested in, but at this time it’s still in the works and people are still talking about it. It’s something that they hope to implement into college here at UWSP in the future,” said Mijal.

For more information on the trip and to obtain an application, visit the SIEO Web site or pick up a brochure from SIEO, located in the lower-level of the DUC.

Shedding some light on Schmeeckle Reserve

Jackie Lutze
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is one of the few schools that can say 275 acres on campus is covered in wildlife.

“The Schmeeckle Reserve is important as a classroom and for leisure to UWSP students and the community,” said Elise Kahl, a Schmeeckle Reserve graduate student.

Research is constantly being done to improve the natural forest that so many animals call home. Collaring of deer and bat monitoring are two of the many things that students and experts have done to better the reserve, along with the current effort to remove buckthorn, an invasive species.

The Schmeeckle Reserve Visitor’s Center is nestled in the woods on the north side of the reserve. Within this small wooden building is a gift shop, conference room, offices and the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. The Cedar Sign Company, in the basement, specializes in custom wooden signs like those seen around Schmeeckle Reserve.

Many students and community members of Stevens Point have walked the numerous paths found in Schmeeckle Reserve. They know about the Green Circle and the mile loop around Lake Joanis, but also called “Insects of the Night.” The reserve staff will show a special program also called “Insects of the Night.” This show is put on and written by practicum students at UWSP and is showing at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. around the Visitor Center’s campfire.

The entire event is taking place from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. this Friday, Oct. 30. Two loops in the Schmeeckle Reserve will be lit with torches and jack-o-lanterns. There will also be snacks and crafts provided for all who attend. The event is open to the community and UWSP students free of charge. “Our visitors range from anywhere between age nine to 79,” said Kahl.

The Annual Fall Candlelight Hike Festival is among the many events hosted by Schmeeckle Reserve.

The Annual Fall Candlelight Hike Festival is among the many events hosted by Schmeeckle Reserve.
Exploding grouse populations: Something hunters will have to get used to

Jessi Towle
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Though many trees have already lost their leaves, the gold tamaracks signal prime ruffed grouse hunting in Wisconsin. While first-time hunters of ruffed grouse may be more likely to wet themselves from the exploding drumming noise during the bird's takeoff than actually use their shotgun, grouse hunting is an adrenaline pumping sport in full-swing.

The ruffed grouse is perhaps most frustratingly known for the drumming noise that the male produces during the spring breeding season. The male rapidly beats its wings to attract the female, an action that does not have the same effect on the hunter. The noise made before the bird takes flight is the essence of the love-hate relationship that drives hunters to scour the woods during grouse season.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, "Ruffed grouse are one of the most popular upland birds to hunt." Grouse and woodcock are often hunted at the same time, but the DNR cautions hunters who do so, as stricter regulations are involved in hunting the latter.

When hunting woodcock, a hunter is restricted to a shotgun that holds no more than three shells. Although the same federal regulations are not imposed on grouse hunters, this rule must be followed if hunting both. A special game license is required for all game birds and migratory birds, not including waterfowl. Grouse hunting has been underway in Portage County since the second week in September and continues until Jan. 31 of next year.

The season began more recently for zone B, the eastern half of the state, on Oct. 17, and will end on Dec. 8 of this year.

The state is divided into two zones by U.S. Highway 41. The daily bag limit for zone A is five birds, while the daily bag limit in zone B is two.

The DNR Web site indicates that "grouse populations are cyclical and follow an 8-10 year cycle." Various factors are presumed to affect the population including food, weather and predation.

Good news came for grouse hunters throughout the state this year with a 10-week broad survey conducted by the DNR. According to the survey, ruffed grouse broods were up 31 percent statewide, compared to 2008.

During the study, DNR personnel observed the number and size of brood birds from June 14 to Aug. 22. The wildlife survey then summarized the reports. Though budget cuts reduced the amount of field time allotted for the project, the findings give hunters an idea of the amount of brood rearing conditions.

The northern and northeastern regions of the state witnessed an increase in grouse population based on the study. Along with these regions, the west central part of the state also makes up the primary range of ruffed grouse. However, the survey revealed no change in this region from last year.

The survey concludes that "ruffed grouse numbers this fall will be better than the previous three to four years and are well on their way to a cyclical high."

With such a great forecast, hunters across Wisconsin are sure to be taking advantage of the population uprising, while working on their reflexes and remembering to fire their shotguns.

DNR proposes new changes for 2010 deer season

Jessi Towle
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Propriely tagging and registering deer in the past allows hunters to participate in a current decision-making process that may drastically affect upcoming seasons. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is in the framework for the 2010 gun season. The changes will depend on public feedback, and will result in various different attitudes going into next year's season.

Public hearings, which began on Oct. 14, seek input on the proposed changes. The DNR will hold a total of 11 hearings until Nov. 3. According to the DNR Web site, "the proposed season framework includes:"

1. November firearm season:
   Statewide 10-day beginning two Saturdays prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. Chronic Wasting Disease zone would use the same dates. Season would be the normal bucks plus variable quota system.

2. Archery seasons:
   Open statewide on the Saturday closest to Sept. 15 and continues through the Thursday immediately prior to Nov. 3. According to the DNR Web site, "the proposed season framework includes:"
   1. November firearm season: Statewide 10-day beginning two Saturdays prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. Chronic Wasting Disease zone would use the same dates. Season would be the normal bucks plus variable quota system.

3. Youth season: Statewide 5-day either-sex beginning the second Saturday in October. Saturday through Wednesday. Dates will be the same as #3 and #4.

4. Early muzzleloader season: Statewide 5-day, antlerless only by permit beginning the second Saturday in October. Saturday through Wednesday. Dates will be the same as #3 and #4.

5. October herd control firearm seasons: Herd control units only. Five-day, antlerless-only season beginning the second Saturday in October. CWD October season would use same dates. Saturday through Wednesday. Dates will be the same as #3 and #4.
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point senior Jessica Urban became only the second player in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference women's golf history to receive Player of the Year honors in back-to-back seasons when the WIAC awards were announced last Thursday.

For Urban, the honor reflected on the completion of her objectives for the season.

"Some of my main goals were to repeat as WIAC Player of the Year, have a scoring average of 77.4 or lower, win 50 percent of the tournaments I play in, and [work on] some technical skills out on the course," Urban said. "I pretty much accomplished each one of these goals."

After winning Player of the Year honors the previous season, Urban dedicated herself to making a run at the repeat.

"There was a lot more pressure on winning it this year than last year. Last year, I didn't even remember that they gave a player of the year award so I didn't expect anything or set a goal to win it," Urban said. "After winning it last year, I had that award on my mind all season because I wanted to win it again. It was a big goal I had for the fall season so I put a lot of pressure on myself to play well at each tournament."

Urban did just that, finishing with a scoring average of 77.4, good for best in the WIAC, along with winning three individual events during the season. She also finished second at the season-ending WIAC championship; her third round score of 72 was second-best in the championship's history and according to Urban, one of her proudest achievements of the season.

When her career at UWSP comes to an end, Urban plans to see how far her golf skills can take her.

"I have set some goals for the future to play golf such as going to qualifying school for the Futures Tour," Urban said. "The Duramed Futures Tour is a developmental tour to "to prepare the world's best young women professional golfers for a successful career on the LPGA Tour," according to the official Duramed Futures Tour Web site.

"I want to give golf a shot after college so I can look back and say I at least tried playing golf professionally," Urban said. "I think it would be a blast seeing what I could do and experiencing golf in a different way."

"I want to think it was one of my main goals, to repeat as WIAC Player of the Year," Urban said. "I thought it was going to be tough to repeat Player of the Year and it was hard, which only made it worth so much more," said Urban. "That will be one thing I will remember forever."

"Every year since coach Nichol has been here, it's gotten better and better," Urban said. Urban said the summer workouts helped to keep the team together in the offseason.

"His off-season workout is demanding, but we need it," Urban said. "Once we get back to the school, we run as a team every morning at 6 a.m. with our coach."

Urban said the new freshmen will be good for the team not only because of their talent, but their conduct off the ice as well.

"They're all really good players, and off the ice, they're really good guys," Urban said. "We're not going to win with a bunch of idiots. You need good guys who get along together, and that's definitely the case here."

Urban's accomplishments, both on and off the ice, have earned her the respect of her coaches.

"It means a lot to me because that was one of my main goals, to repeat as WIAC Player of the Year," Urban said. "Seniors defenceman Tom Upton said that the leadership of coach Nichol has been crucial to the team's success."

"Every season since coach Nichol has been here, it's gotten better and better," Urban said. Urban said that although they are all very talented, they'll need more than that to succeed.

"I think we have tremendous talent, which is promising and exciting. But talent doesn't win championships, and it doesn't win games," Nichol said.

He emphasized the importance of the program's tradition and expectations for success.

"I put a lot on my veteran players and I try to teach them to be mentors each year," Nichol said. "So right now our freshmen are learning the Pointer way, and by the time they're seniors and juniors if I'll be their turn."

Senior defenceman Tom Upton said that the leadership of coach Nichol has been crucial to the team's success. "Every season since coach Nichol has been here, it's gotten better and better," Urban said. Urban said the summer workouts helped to keep the team together in the offseason.

"His off-season workout is demanding, but we need it," Urban said. "Once we get back to the school, we run as a team every morning at 6 a.m. with our coach."

Urban said the new freshmen will be good for the team not only because of their talent, but their conduct off the ice as well.

"They're all really good players, and off the ice, they're really good guys," Urban said. "We're not going to win with a bunch of idiots. You need good guys who get along together, and that's definitely the case here."

Upton looks forward to a demanding, physical game in their conference opener against St. Scholastica.

"Last year they were ranked second in the country for most of the year. They're going to get ugly and they're going to hit hard all night," Upton said. "They're a well-rounded team, and they work hard just like every other team in this league."

The Pointers will play the St. Scholastica Saints from Duluth, Minn. in their first home game this Friday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m. at the K.B. Willett Arena. UWSP will again face St. Scholastica on Saturday, Oct. 31, at 7:30 p.m. at the same place.

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Adventure Racing Club offers outdoor challenges

Heather Sheets
http://po-inter.uwsp.edu

Adventure racing, an internationally known sport, has spanned the globe all the way to Stevens Point, where it is charging onto the athletic scene. The Adventure Racing Club has been a sanctioned athletic club at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point since the 2005-2006 school year, and is described as "various physically demanding outdoor activities such as backpacking, mountain biking, canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing and rappelling," according to the club mission statement.

Adventure Racing Club president Heidi Hargarten further defined Adventure Racing as a "multisport event for all ages that takes place all year long." Hargarten pointed out that although races are usually attended most heavily by college students, all participants are welcome. Races themselves are viewed by participants, most who have had past track or cross country experience. The races vary in difficulty and endurance and Hargarten said that beginners usually start with a four to six hour race while more experienced Adventure Racers engage in races that can last for days.

With the kind of fitness it takes to compete in races like that, athletes train constantly each week. Hargarten said that twice each week they do what the team refers to as "the workout." "The workout" is a core-based exercise that focuses on strengthening muscles. A demonstration video of these exercises can be found on the UWSP Adventure Racing blog, http://uwspadventuracing.blogspot.com/.

Other activities that club members participate in are group runs, bicycle rides, canoeing trips, orienteering practice and rock climbing. On their runs and bike rides, which the club calls "run with the pack," athletes practice running with their competition packs which can contain as much as a first aid kit, bike repair kit, tire pump, spare tire, compass, map case and 70 ounces of water.

"That's the best part, the adventure as a whole." — Hargarten

Adventures are about people seeking the adventure. "That's the best part, the adventure as a whole," said Hargarten. "Running in the woods, crashing through trees, being in a canoe, it's the cumulative experience.""We get to experience pieces of cities and nature that not a lot of other people have the chance to," Hargarten said.

While Hargarten highlighted the connection with nature that comes from participating, the club's mission statement expands to say that it is "an organization focused on leadership, teamwork, physical and mental growth, we also work to foster new friendships and a passion for the great outdoors."

The UWSP Adventure Racing Club hosts the annual Beaver Blast in Stevens Point on Nov 7. It is open to everybody and free for students. To register for the race visit their Web site at http://www.uwsp.edu/storg/adventuracing/. For more general club membership information, e-mail a club officer at http://www.uwsp.edu/storg/adventuracing/contacts.htm.

Observations from the NBA's season opener

Griffin Gotta
The Pointer
GriffinT128@uwsp.edu

Tuesday night was one of my annual Happiest Events of the Year, which include Thanksgiving, the opening round of college basketball's postseason tournament, and any time I go to my friend Des' cabin. This time, the occasion was the beginning of another National Basketball Association season.

The first game of the season was between two teams that revamped their rosters in the offseason and who will be jostling for position in the Eastern Conference all year; the Boston Celtics and the Cleveland Cavaliers. Since I would have been watching anyway, I decided to log some of my thoughts on the game, and then share them with you. Exciting!

One of the more interesting questions this year in Cleveland will be how head coach Mike Brown splits time between his two centers, Shaquille O'Neal and Zydrunas Ilgauskas. Ilgauskas, for the most part, looked pretty lost for most of the 24 minutes of play. Usually he operates well within the Cavalier offense, posting when he can and waiting for open jumpers off penetration the rest of the time. Tuesday his touches were limited, and his shots seemed forced.

LeBron James, predictably, was a force on both ends of the court. Finishing with 24 points, nine rebounds and eight assists, he also tallied three blocks in the first quarter and had four overall. The last one came on a Ray Allen breakaway where Allen looked back, saw James lurking behind him, altered his jump to use the basket for protection, and James still swatted the ball out of bounds. If anyone will ever get me to the point where I take a play like this for granted, it's James.

Offensively, James came out with a refined jump shot. When his feet were set, his shooting elbow was tucked in tighter to his body and the shot was much more consistent, even on misses.

Through most of the second quarter and into the third, Cleveland's offense did next to nothing. Granted, they used four new players in their rotation that were not a part of the team last year, and this is only one game, after all. But the offensive stagnation that has plagued Cleveland has been present for years now. Players standing around, without any indication they are running designed plays. With James in, they can get away with this, which may be the reason the problem never seems to get solved.

The Celtics on the other hand, took advantage of Cleveland's near-two quarter sleepwalk. Boston hit nine threes, five of those coming in the first quarter and had four overall. Rajon Rondo and Garnett, forcing Shaq out to the perimeter, where he stood no chance at stopping drives into the Cavalier defense. My guess: This will be replaying itself throughout the season in Cleveland. Shaq kills a team's pick-and-roll defense (ask Phoenix). Pierce did what he seemingly always does in close games, knocking down jumper after jumper from the elbow of the five-foot line, and the Celtics won, 95-89.

So, the Celtics appear to be improved with their new additions, while the Cavaliers have the same problems with a much larger man in the middle. In the end, do these things even matter yet, one game into the season? Maybe, maybe not, I'm just glad to be talking about them again.
Last weekend 90FM and Centertainment Productions hosted the 27th annual Jazzfest, a 56-hour marathon of classic and modern styles of jazz.

The station kicked off the event by broadcasting a live performance by the Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey who played for students and community members in the Dreyfus University Center at the Encore on Thursday.

The Tulsa, Okla. based band has had a revolving cast of members since its conception. Its current lineup consists of Brian Haas on keyboards, Chris Combs on guitar and lap steel, Matt Hayes on upright bass and Josh Raymer behind the drums. They have toured extensively since the 90s, sharing stages with acts like Les Claypool, Mike Gordon of Phish and Marco Benevento.

JEJ’s approach is difficult to classify, with sounds bouncing from traditional jazz to a twisted variety of fusion, mixing in elements of rock and hip-hop. Their energetic mix of styles create compositions like “Dredtoven,” which Haas described to the audience as “a kind of blend between Beethoven and Dr. Dre.” Their performances also include render standards from greats like Coltrane, Ellington and Monk.

But while they embrace the pioneers and icons of jazz, they are quick to dispel the music’s limitations.

“I don’t think jazz should be turned into classical music,” said Haas. “Jazz should be living, breathing, vibrant, dangerous, dirty and risky.

“It’s not something that can be pegged down to rules because jazz is really just the progression of the music,” said Hayes. The members of the band strive to destroy those rules enforced by people who consider themselves authorities in the jazz community. They frequently mention their dissatisfaction with legendary trumpet player and jazz traditionalist Wynton Marsalis.

“It really just comes down to capitalism. Cats like Wynton are just trying to guard their jobs. In order for them to keep getting paid, the public has to think that they are the authority on the subject, but there can’t be any authority on something as elusive and nebulous as jazz,” said Haas.

90FM Program Director Jared Olson said that the collaboration between the station and Centertainment Productions was key in bringing an alternative-oriented band to Jazzfest.

“That’s probably the best jazz band we could’ve gotten for the event. It was perfect because they value a lot of the same things we do, trying to explore jazz music more than rehash the same ideas,” said Olson. “They were really creative. They weren’t just switching genres between songs, they were doing it between measures,” he said.

Olson attributed the demand for jazzfest to the university’s music students and faculty, as well as the support of jazz off campus and in the community.

“It really comes from the community and our strong jazz program on campus. If you look at our local concert updates, a quarter of the bands playing is jazz, I think it’s easy to say that it is still very alive in Stevens Point,” said Olson.

Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey kicks off 56 hours of jazz

Rachel Carle

The Noel Fine Arts Center is offering a truly Japanese experience this month. The sounds of Japanese music, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point students and others dressed in kimonos and ultimately the atmosphere of Japanese Art as part of COFAC Creates.

Beginning Oct. 26 until Nov. 25, "COFAC Creates: Japan - The Floating World" takes place at UWSP campus. The month is packed with events including a special Japanese art exhibition of 200-year-old Japanese woodblock prints. There will also be performances, workshops, films and lectures.

When first walking into the Edna Carlston Gallery, the prints on the walls simulate the way Japanese culture began and their transformation throughout time. Each of the prints have underlying themes and express something all their own.

"Japanese woodblock prints, also known as 'ukiyo-e,' or pictures of the floating world, were first published in 1602 in the early Edo period (1615-1688). These mass-produced prints illustrated themes, such as sake, women and theater, favored by upper class citizens and artisans," said Assistant Professor of Asian art history, Cortney Chaffin.

Chaffin, the coordinator of this event, along with many others involved with this project, feel that this gallery exhibition should be the starting point for each student when viewing the prints. This premier collection was from the Chazen Museum of Art in Madison, Wis. Since the 200-year-old prints have such vibrant, watercolor pigments, they can only be exposed to light for a short amount of time. But this is not stopping the COFAC and other coordinators of this event from spreading this dynamic Japanese culture.

"The heart and soul of this program is the gallery exhibition and should be a starting point for every student. I think they will find the vibrant colors, subtle textures and dynamic themes of the prints fascinating. Hopefully, students who are inspired to learn more about Edo period Japan through our wonderful series of lectures, workshops, films and performances. This is a great opportunity for students to experience Japanese culture and history right here in Stevens Point," said Chaffin.

This event is bringing to the Stevens Point area culture that it has never truly seen before. To experience something of this proportion is truly an opportunity that one does not want to miss. Many students have Chaffin as a professor in their classes, along with other art history students, and get to experience hands-on what it takes to create these Japanese woodblock prints. Design professors, students and the community all get something out of this opportunity.

"I hope that this event will help to revitalize our long tradition of Asian studies on campus. I hope students will consider taking courses on Asian art, history, culture, languages, politics, etc. This event is a spectacular chance for students to become inspired to think outside the box and learn more about Japan. For the community, this event offers an opportunity to experience new in new cultural experiences right here in Central Wisconsin," said Valerie Barske, assistant professor of Asian art history.

This experience connects the student's minds to what they are learning in their art history classes. It also highlights that not only is it important to understand the concepts of what you learn, it is also vital to see the culture and history in the making. "I can definitely see the style that [my professor] was talking about in class. You can see how it reflects symbols and all the cultures that she mentioned. It's good to have culture come to Point," said UWSP student, Elizabeth Smith.

Other activities are going on throughout the time period mentioned that highlight the Japanese culture, art and theatre.

Other activities are going on throughout the time period mentioned that highlight the Japanese culture, art and theatre. Starting on Oct. 29, Drew Stevens, curator of prints, drawings and photographs at the Chazen Museum of Art in Madison, Wis, has a lecture about "Printmakers in Edo." On Nov. 1, a Japanese Film Festival: Kwaider will show its film about Japanese Ghost Stories. On Nov. 5 a lecture, Admiring the Sunrise: Japanese Woodblock Prints as seen by 19th century Europeans will be held by Dr. Larry Ball, art historian, of UW-Madison. Again, on Nov. 7 Furonimoto will host an interactive workshop, A Kabuki Primer: A,B,C's of Performing Kabuki in the Noel Fine Arts Center. Nov. 8, another Japanese Film Festival: Double Suicide will be held. Nov. 11 will be a lecture, Appraising Desire in 'Ukiyo-e': Representations of Courtesans in Late 18th-century Japan by Dr. Julie Davis, art historian, University of Pennsylvania, Nov. 15, another Japanese Film Festival: Centering, More will be a lecture, The Race to Erase: Reflections on a 'Post-Racial' Society by Junichi Semitsu, professor of law, University of San Diego School of Law. Another lecture will be held Nov. 18, Personas Perspective: Prints by Yuji Hiratsuka. The closing reception of the Japanese woodblock prints will be on display until Nov. 20.
In an exhausted horror movie market where blood and gore have taken over for old fashion suspense, "Paranormal Activity," stands alone as the most frightening movie I've seen in years. Its not the "I have to look away because this is so gruesome," type of horror our generation has grown up on. The way the commercial is being played, about every five seconds, it's hard to ignore the grainy home movie-style footage as it's placed between scenes of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia." I admit at first I was skeptical, but by the end of the movie and by the end of the night, it was pretty apparent that sleep was going to be a chore after what I would call an exhausting movie experience. The movie follows the format laid before by movies like "The Blair Witch Project" and "Cloverfield," introducing the film from the get go as being "found footage" to give a gloss of realism. The movie actually begins with a thank you to the Ranchos Penasquitos Police Department and the families of Micah Sloat and Katie Featherston, the main characters of the movie and the real names of the actors. With the "this is real" seed planted, the movie begins to follow the lives of Micah and Katie as they deal with paranormal phenomena that has been following Katie since she was a small girl. Micah, who hasn't had to deal with this before, takes the antagonistic route in dealing with the phenomena. Throughout the movie he goes on ignoring all of the warnings dealt out by a ghost specialist and also by Katie. As Micah's hostility escalates, so do the paranormal happenings, and sleep becomes impossible for the couple. The acting of Katie Featherston and Micah Sloat is unnervingly real. At points you seem to feel what Katie feels; breathing on her neck in the middle of the night, unknown eyes following her every move. The actors do all the filming in the movie and this is what truly engulfs the audience into the lives of Micah and Katie. We are there with them for every hair raising moment in the house, creating a terrifying claustrophobia effect of being unable to escape. As they get more sleep deprived, everyone in the theater looked more and more exhausted. The acting elevates the suggestive nature of the film. Rather than show anything, Peli uses shadows and simplistic happenings to create true terror. It's the little things that put you on the edge of your seat. An unattributed shadow moves across the door, or a bed sheet gets lifted by nothing. Throughout the movie it's not what you see, it's what you don't see. It's the blank areas that your mind is forced to fill in that keep you from breathing. The ending doesn't disappoint, offering just enough to make your mind assume the fetal position. It surfaced on us so we could know the theater out of their chairs, as the lowest scream of the night in theater four came right at the end of the movie. Paranormal Activity has taken the country by storm, three years after Peli filmed it in just seven days in his San Diego home. Costing Peli only $15,000 to make; the movie has already grossed more than $62 million. The makers of all sleep-aids should thank Peli for this film and the fear of what will happen after you fall asleep that it creates.

**90FM Reviews:**

BOAT "Setting the Paces"

Jared Olson
CONTRIBUTOR

BOAT's new album "Setting the Paces" is contagiously enthusiastic rock 'n roll for all of us who think it is normal to smile in public. I can't help but think that these guys like kittens too. This is the band's fourth album, and the third for Magic Marker Records. Pretentiousness told me to expect either genius or redundancy. It isn't redundant. BOAT's last two records, "Let's Drag Our Feet" and "Songs That You May Not Like," displayed a great deal of creativity glazed over their usual shtick of casual silliness. The band has developed a solid formula for turning simple pop hooks into surprisingly epic journeys. I've never listened to an album more than three times in a row on purpose, but I just listened to this 38-minute sing-a-long at least 10 times today. Constantly catchy guitars drive almost every track on the album, but that is not to say the rhythm section is lacking in the least. This band is tasteful, all around. Similar to Forrest Gump and bartending milk with the cocaine and death. The drums are inspired, to say the least. Utilizing the entirety of a drum set within a single song is something this guy must hold as a standard. The opening track "We've Been Friends Since 1989" is practically a clinic on how to organize interesting pop music. The bass starts a simple three-chord melody while the friendliest vocalist informs you that "you can declaw all of your pets, but your new black sofa will still be a mess." In that four-second you may wonder if this just another twee album full of cutesy nonsense, but then BOAT makes twee their bitch.

Instead of simply riding the smirk that is a xylophone, they combine the hook with raw garage rock that could make even the frostiest frost- faced hipster admit that sometimes they wear shorts when it gets really hot. The song bobs and weaves for an enjoyable two minutes of quick transitions and nostalgia, then breaks down into a vocal hook that builds into an anthem of comforting depression.

Perhaps the true hallmark of the band is the vocalist's ability to sound just as quirky and refreshing as the music. His range goes from a spoken-word baritone to a passionate yell-sing reminiscent of groups like The Unicorns and Negativeland. Lyrically, the album is an honest portrayal of what life used to be like, and how everything was supposed to be grander by now. It is not depressing music though, which makes for a warming juxtaposition of sarcasm and reality. This motif comes out most prominently on "God Save the Man Who Isn't All That Super" where life's shortcomings are celebrated with the passion of an over-cautinated 10 year old.

BOAT is proving that new musical ideas still exist even in the world of pop oriented rock 'n roll. "Setting the Paces" is full of attention-grabbers ranging from unexpected transitions to hooks galore, and I can't get enough of it. Listen for it on 90FM.
Letters & Opinion

Vote "yes" on November 3rd!

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, residents of Stevens Point will vote on a referendum for the Stevens Point Area School District. This referendum will determine whether or not the district can raise additional funding by increasing property taxes. If it fails, the district will undertake cost-cutting measures. Among the measures recommended by the district superintendent, are eliminating elementary school band, chorus and orchestra, eliminating all K-8 activities and interscholastic athletics and letting go of 15 elementary and 27 secondary teachers.

These measures will drastically impact the education of local children. Studies have consistently proven the value of music and athletics as integral components of children's education. Participation in music teaches children discipline, perseverance, creativity, reasoning skills, cooperation and self-expression. In addition, involvement in music enhances children's performance in academic areas. Students in Japan, Hungary and the Netherlands receive required musical instruction throughout elementary and middle school, and their scores on international math and science exams surpass most other nations, including the United States. Athletics likewise enrich children's character and academic development. Children who participate in athletics benefit from increased motivation and drive, as well as improved concentration, coordination, decision making and social skills. A 2002 study also discovered that students in schools with high academic performance had higher physical activity levels than students in schools with lower performance.

In order for students to fully reap the benefits of participating in music and athletics, they must become involved in such activities at an early age. The musical brain is 80 percent mature by age three, which means the benefits of early music instruction can be seen for a lifetime. Musically educated children are more likely to develop a love for reading, which is equally valuable. Athletics, early activity plays a crucial role in developing the muscles used during adolescence or adulthood. If the Stevens Point referendum fails, students will miss out on the most critical aspects of musical and athletic development.

Even if you do not know any students in the Stevens Point Area School District, please vote "yes" for the referendum on Nov. 3. The children of this district may someday teach your children or be your doctors, lawyers or colleagues. They will be the best-equipped to face the future roles in society if voters elect to provide them with a complete education including musical and athletic instruction. Your vote can make a difference. In the past, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point vote has helped swing local elections in favor of education. For any information about registering to vote, visit the following Web site: http://stevenspoint.com/vote/vote.html

Please take a moment to look back to your elementary or middle school days and imagine how different your schooling would have been without music and athletic programs. I hope this reflection will encourage you to vote "yes" for local students on Nov. 3!

-Jessica Ryan

THE POINTER

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Harley Altenburg

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Just last year there was some debate on campus as to what was going to happen with parking lot R, the parking lot directly in front of the Dreyfus University Center. The major discussion was whether the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point should expand the parking lot or conserve the "green space" that existed. Well, clearly, UWSP opted for the former.

There are many complaints on campus, too numerous to be listed. However, the lack of adequate parking is at the top of the list. This is a problem for students and community members alike and the University recognizes this.

In lot R, there are now 276 parking stalls, which include seven handicapped spaces, 147 meters and 122 permit spaces. The previous configuration of the parking stalls, which had three handicapped spaces, 60 meters and 98 permit passes. That is a total addition if 115 spaces. The lot now allows 12-hour parking versus four-hour parking.

But did the choice to expand the parking lot result in the destruction of a valuable resource? The University Center parking lot is a result before the expansion of the parking lot consisted of two sheds and what might be called a lawn. The relatively small area of lawn was, by and large, an ecologically sterile environment unable to support any biodiversity.

The area had been used for snow removal during the winter months and the equivalent of 400 watts of lighting using only 143 watts of fixture. Also, the parking capacity and energy efficiency of lot R and has perhaps set an eco-friendly precedent for future parking lots to come. Nice work. Special thanks to Carl Rasmussen for his major contribution to this article and to Lot R.

Are there sustainability issues that are important to you? E-mail your student sustainability coordinator, Harley Altenburg at halte954@uwsp.edu or Katie Stenz at ksten22@uwsp.edu. For more information about sustainability at UWSP, visit www.uwsp.edu/sustainability.

In October 2009

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Classifieds

October 29, 2009

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The Unprotected Adventures of Sexy Assassin
by Dustin Hauge

The Great Khan
by Ross Curtis

Leguminous
by Ty Natzke

WE APOLOGIZE, BUT THE ARTIST HAS BEEN FORCED TO TAKE A LONG
FURLOUGH
AND WILL RETURN SOON SO HE CAN
COMPACT THIS STRIPS'S PUNCHLINE INTO
THE LAST PANEL AND THUSLY RUN
ITS INTEGRITY ENTIRELY
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.
WE NOW RETURN YOU TO THE COMIC
IN PROGRESS...

by Dustin Hauge

by Ty Natzke

by Ross Curtis

by Dustin Hauge

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