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Photo courtesy Susan Lebow

Students learn about the multitude of student organizations on campus at the Involvement Fair

Campus involvement at its best

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This year's involvement fair had quite the turnout, which anyone could tell by walking into The Laird Room on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 10. It was clear to see that students have countless opportunities to get involved on campus.

When walking in, students immediately saw signs promoting everything from the Allen Center to the many campus sororities. It was a hustle and bustle of people, everyone trying to get their few words in before someone ventured past them.

The involvement fair featured on campus organizations as well as those based off campus, all looking for people to help them out.

According to Sherri Vetter from St. Michael's Hospital, "We count on

this fair to bring in our volunteers. Almost everyone we talk to who signs up follows through and helps us in any way they can."

Many on-campus organizations have paid positions on their boards to help students stay afloat with the economy. Residence Hall Association and newly named SPTV (formally Student Television 98) are just two of the many organizations that offer paid positions. But with the school's new budget, students fear that on campus jobs like this may be disappearing.

Tracy Berg, promotions coordinator for SPTV, explains, "Well I'm not sure the economy really affected our organization, if it has, it has affected the entire university since we are funded through them."

Another organization that is based off campus is the Lincoln Hills Poetry Project. This year was their first year back in three years simply

because they have had such a good turnout from the fair they had to start turning applicants down.

But this year they had high hopes. President Katelynn Paape commented, "Considering we had no literature to provide we were rather pleased at this count [43 new members]. It's an appropriate size for trying new activities to expand the club, yet is not so large as to 'lose' members during our expansion efforts."

Another popular organization was Colleges Against Cancer, promoting events such as Bowling for Boobs which helps raise money for breast cancer.

At the end of the night students walked out with bags of papers, fliers and amounts of candy equatable to a night of Halloween trick-or-treating from the many organizations that caught their eye.

GDRs becoming more liberal with less credits

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If you've ever felt like you're jumping through hoops just to graduate, listen up. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, which currently has a mammoth general degree requirement of 62-65 credits, is completely reinventing its general degree requirement program.

UWSP's GDR program has been generally the same for the last 30 years. GDRs affect current students, and impact prospective students.

Speaking of the current GDRs, student member of the General Education Policy Review Committee Andy Letson said, "I think it makes it tough for us to recruit students ... We also, in my opinion, have a harder time retaining students."

Changing the GDRs has been a long process. The 10 member General Education Policy Review Committee began the transformation process in Spring of 2008 after initiation from within and reviews by two important organizations, the American Association of State Colleges &

Universities and the Higher Learning Commission.

The new GDR program will have a maximum of 45 credits. Reducing the number of credits, however, isn't the only goal of the new general education program.

"We don't want general education to be something you 'get out of the way.' We want it to be something that

Letson explains the idea of integration, saying, "Even when you're a senior, you'll still be taking 300-level general education courses to help you connect the material that you took as a freshman to the material you're taking as a senior."

Preparing students for success in a constantly changing economy is the goal of a liberal arts degree.

"We don't want general education to be something you 'get out of the way.'"

-Guay

adds value to the degree," said Don Guay, co-chair of the Gen. Ed. Policy Review Committee.

The major goal of the new general education program is greater connectedness and flexibility.

The new GDRs will be more than just long lists of fragmented requirements. Students will need to complete courses from three different levels: Foundation (developing fundamental skills), Investigation (understanding the physical, social and cultural worlds) and Integration (becoming a global citizen).

"One of the things that we try and do here, at this university, is provide our students with a liberal education. That, of course, doesn't mean train you to be a liberal but to give you a broad idea of the different things out there," said Letson.

Why should students care about the GDR review process? After all, current students will have graduated by the time the new requirements are rolled out, at the earliest, in the Fall of 2011 and won't be affected by any of the changes.

See GDR pg. 2

News

United Council membership referendum is approaching

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The student body of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has the opportunity to vote on a referendum determining its membership of United Council this school year.

UC is a state recognized organization unifying all member campuses and giving them a voice to state legislature. UC focuses on issues and decisions pertaining to higher education that affect all students.

Currently, of the 26 UW system campuses, only 15 UW campuses are members, four of which are four-year schools.

Each campus is to hold a referendum every two years to determine its membership of UC.

UW-Milwaukee went against this policy by having the referendum twice last semester and then again early on this semester.

"During the summer, the [UW-Milwaukee] student senate decided to run an election two days after class started, so that was a little interesting to say the least," said Kirk Cychosz, the president of UC.

In turn, just last week they pulled its reigns. This was one of UC's

largest benefactors. This will leave UC without approximately \$60,000 next semester.

Students at member schools pay a \$2 refundable fee each semester to UC. UWSP provides \$18,000 a semester.

Andy Letson, a student who claims his involvement to be on the periphery of UC, said he has not been able to figure out how to get his money refunded.

He said, "You cannot find how to get your stuff back on their Web site. It has always been kind of a concern of mine. If they don't give you any instruction on how to get your money back; It's not at all refundable. If students don't know that it is refundable, it's not refundable."

Once a school pulls out of UC, the institution can hold a referendum to rejoin again in the future.

Cychosz is confident in the future of UC.

"Schools come and go. It really depends on student government action. I am not worried about the future of United Council," he said. "We went through a very painful

restructuring process ... We have really changed how United Council operates and we are now modeled after a lot of other successful non-profit organizations ... we've really streamlined and changed how we operate ... And now we're moving forward."

"It would be very difficult for them to continue in the capacity that they are, just because they don't have the funding," he said. "UC has lost a lot of its respect within the legislature because they don't have the member campuses they used to."

Nate Schultz, the Student Government Association vice president and the UC campus liaison for UWSP, said, "I think we

have a genuine concern ... about the strength of United Council and why people are pulling out. I think that some reasons are that they don't know about how the reconstruction is going to work and they want to see how solid it's going to be."

Letson thinks UC focuses on too many social issues rather than issues in academics, like not having enough desks in classrooms.

He also feels under-represented based on what the UC policy platform states the organization will support.

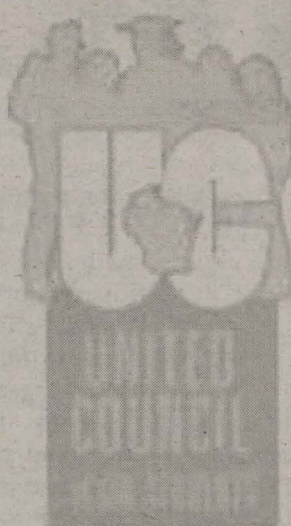
It states that UC will "support any legislation or policy that would improve the recruitment, retention and graduation rates of students of color, students with disabilities, non-traditional students, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer and questioning students, female students and other traditionally underrepresented and disenfranchised students."

Letson does however have a positive outlook in regards to Cychosz as president of UC. "Personally, I think United Council can do some really great stuff. I think [Cychosz] can push the organization into a good direction, the direction it needs to go in."

UC originated in Stevens Point and is in its 50th year in existence. To commemorate the 50th, Schultz said UWSP would like to hold a UC winter convention but it is not budgeted for it as of yet.

Schultz said, "We'd love to host it. We're looking at options, if we have some sponsors. We want to be there for the 50th anniversary but we have to plan."

Look for more on the referendum from SGA in the coming months.



Welcome back from your summer break, now...

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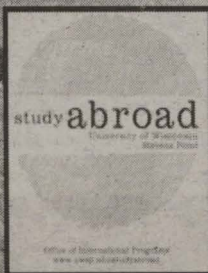
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From GDR pg. 1

"We understand the challenges and frustrations we have with the current GDRs and I think it's just responsible of us to want to clear those problems for future students," said Letson.

Students are encouraged to help the committee do just that. Pop into Noel Fine Arts Center 110 at 9 a.m. on Mondays to sit in on a committee meeting, click on the "Comment on the General Education Proposal" link on your MyPoint homepage, or e-mail Guay at dguay@uwsp.edu with your ideas.

"If you don't like the current program, tell us why and then look at the new one and give it some feedback. Tell us if it's something you'd be interested in," says Guay.

**Campus Beat
will return
next week!**

**Make sure to vote for
one of the nation's
largest student-run
radio stations, WWSP**

90FM, at <http://radiowoodie.ratemyprofessors.com/region/midwest/>.

90FM is a student organization of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Communication department and is in the running to win an mtvU Woodie Award along with 50 other college radio stations across the nation.

The College Radio Woodie award recognizes the best college radio stations in the nation as part of the Woodie Awards, honoring the music voted best by college students. As the URL listed above states, "This year we would like to hear from Rate My Professors' users on which college radio station deserves some wood."

Where is there a better place to find college students who vote?

The top 25 nominees will be announced on Sep. 29 and the winner will be honored on MTV, November 18.

**RATE MY
PROFESSORS**



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Ever wonder why certain areas of campus are closed to the public? Ever hear a rumor that there is a mysterious tunnel, hallway, floor or room that students aren't allowed to enter and is closed off for reasons unknown?

Here in The Lost World of the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, we do the dirty work for you by exploring those hidden locations on campus that some may not even know exist.

For our first location, we visited an area of UWSP that hasn't been visited or open to the public in years: the third floor of Old Main. The third floor is accessed by a doorway and stairwell on the western side of the second floor and marked by a sign warning that you're not supposed to go up to that floor and the door should not be opened.

Originally, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Bob Tomlinson, Avra

Junhke and I were to be the ones travelling up to the mystical third floor. Soon, the word got around Old Main and many administrators sought to get a glimpse at what remains above as well. Our group wound up being considerably larger than expected.

We accessed the third floor through the stairwell by using a special master key. Upstairs we realized that there wasn't much left of the third floor of the building. We became surrounded by insulation and walked on wooden planks from room to room. The insulation was thick but we were told it could possibly give way and lead to someone falling through to the second floor, so we had to stay on the planks.

Many on the trek recalled what it was like before the walls and floors were stripped bare and tassels hung from the ceiling like a haunted house, when music classes were once taught on this floor.

"I took guitar lessons from a UWSP music student sometime around 1970," said Jackie Christianson, program assistant to the

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. "We met in a practice room on the third floor here in Old Main. I do recall there were lots of small practice rooms and lots of student activity on those evenings; students visiting with each other and practicing their instruments."

"I remember having a 'music appreciation' class up there, with listening desks where you would listen to the music from your class assignments [with] big headphones," said Jean Scherer, Assistant to the Chancellor.

At times, we were forced to crawl around vents, ducts and piping that ran all around certain rooms. At one point, everything opened up to a window facing the front of Old Main. Many expected bats to be present throughout but we only found one bat in a bucket which scared enough people from following us down that walkway.

"Because of the heavy concentration of bats in the third floor during the late 80's and early 90's we had a bat proofing done which cut down considerably on the bat

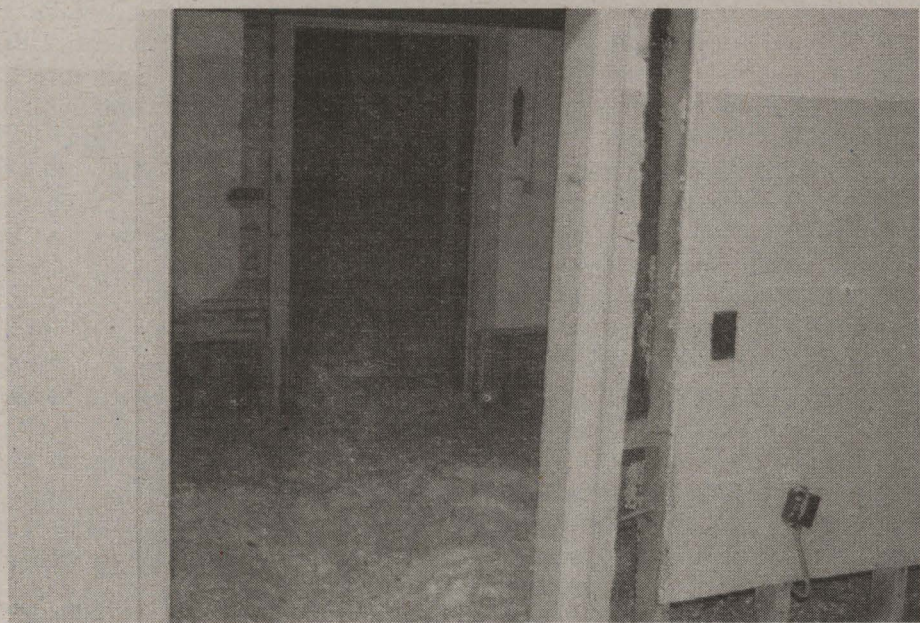
population frequenting the rest of the building," said Greg Diemer, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs.

The heat in the third floor was also deterring the visitors with us from staying too long as the machinery up there produced a lot of it.

I did have the opportunity to go even further as I climbed a ladder to the attic above the third floor. Filled with cobwebs, dust, and dirt, I was only able to get a few pictures before heading back down. The attic seems to be housing some sort of box shaped oddly like a coffin. I guess we'll never know if anything is in it.

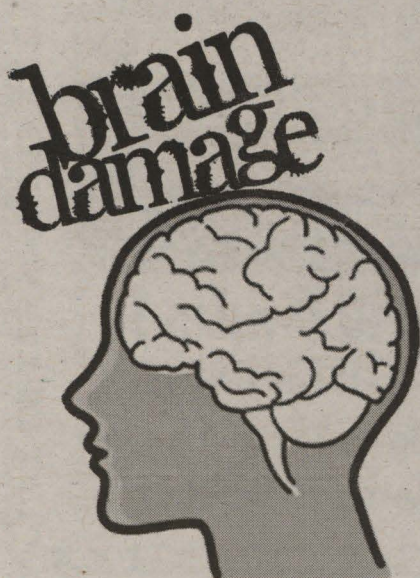
The third floor was primarily closed off from the general public due to safety issues caused by additions made to the original building. Now, only maintenance workers and those inspecting the building visit the third floor leaving it lost to the general campus.

For suggestions on future The Lost World of UWSP, e-mail me at jglod170@uwsp.edu. Also, check out the back page for more pictures.



Photos by Avra Juhnke and Justin Glodowski

Paths can be seen as people have previously dared to walk across the insulation that encompasses much of the forbidden third floor of Old Main (Left). Many of the administration couldn't help but join us on our trek to the third floor as we made our way around it. (Top). In the attic, a coffin shaped object could be spotted easily but no one knew exactly what it was (Right).



Charles Curtis was the first and only Native American to serve as Vice President of the United States. He served under Herbert Hoover.

If you have three quarters, four dimes, and four pennies, you have \$1.19 You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar.

There is an organization called SCROOGE in Charlottesville, Virginia that stands for Society to Curtail Ridiculous, Outrageous, and Ostentatious Gift Exchanges. This was formed to keep gift giving affordable, meaningful and simple.

It is estimated that millions of trees in the world are accidentally planted by squirrels who bury nuts and then forget where they hid them

The first passenger in space was a dog. The first passengers in a hot air balloon were a sheep, a rooster and a duck.

The vibrator was designed in the nineteenth century as a medication to combat the anxiety symptoms of "hysteria" (now known as premenstrual syndrome).

spotlight on

Any Swing Goes



Photo courtesy of Alicia DeGroot
Jimmy Scott and Shelly Hayes put on some moves as members of the student organization Any Swing Goes, which focuses on teaching UWSP students how to dance for free and for fun.

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After a long day of classes, students at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point want to unwind. It may take throwing the football around, lounging on the futon with the Food Channel on in the background but for a few on campus, unwinding takes on a whole new twist. Any Swing Goes is a student organization that focuses on how to teach students to ballroom dance with many different styles including jitterbug, triple swing, lindy hop, mambo, cha-cha, tango, and waltz.

The organization was started a few years ago by a student who hoped to teach swing and salsa to other students for free. Since then, it has been student taught and still maintains its tradition of remaining free to all students.

"We are possibly the most laid back group on campus. There are no obligations or fees," said Any Swing Goes president Alicia DeGroot.

None of the officers are dance majors or ever have been. "In fact, two of our officers [Jimmy Scott and Shelly Hayes] came to Any Swing Goes last fall never having a dance lesson in their lives. By spring, they were teaching swing to the group," said DeGroot.

Three years ago, participation in the organization was very low.

"When I became officer, Any Swing Goes was on the verge of collapse," said DeGroot. "Myself and others made a goal that we would keep it alive and ensure its survival for years, even after our graduation. I think that we have accomplished that. We have lots of ideas in the works, but we are all still a young organization just getting [a] foothold in the University. Right now we are focusing on the best way to spread the love of dance that the officers of Any Swing Goes share."

By promoting and expanding the knowledge of dance, they now have

about 20 students attending each lesson - many of whom have become regulars.

Mackenzie Kujawski, a second-year dancer to the organization, said, "I decided to join this group because I had already learned the basics of swing and salsa and loved it. I wanted to add more to my ballroom repertoire and this group teaches so many different types of dances."

The organization also performed for Centertainment Productions last November and taught a lesson at the Swing Fling in February. According to DeGroot, "We hope to sponsor our own dance soon. Other organizations should know if they would like Any Swing Goes to be involved in or appear at a function, especially a dance, we would be thrilled to do so."

Tuesdays and Thursdays in October are the regular meeting times for Any Swing Goes in the same place, or students can contact Alicia DeGroot with any questions about participation. As the organization motto states, which is borrowed from Dave Barry, "It doesn't matter if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance, because any swing goes."

Hootenanny ushering the Learning Resource Center into its heyday

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A scene is usually set quite vividly in one's mind when the word "library" is used: musty reserves with stringent, eyebrow furrowing rules and knobby fingers pushing a tired pair of spectacles upward.

On Thursday, Sept. 17, this long-time perception of "library" is about to be obliterated as the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Learning Resource Center (LRC) puts on a shindig called Hootenanny.

This Hootenanny will take place in the library's main lobby from noon until 5 pm. This Hootenanny will include live music, Nintendo Wii gaming and lots of food and an opportunity for students to see the broad scope of resources the library now offers.

Andy Pech, coordinator of the Main Desk and Outreach at the UWSP LRC, believes he has witnessed a great tragedy upon watching students file in and out of the university without utilizing all the resources available at their fingertips. Pech hopes that his brainchild, the Hootenanny, will get students into the library early in the year and acquainted with its resources in time to use them.

"Casual orientations for the Tutoring-Learning Center, Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, Information Technology services, Idea Studio, Archives, Instructional Materials Center, Museum of Natural History and Food for Thought Café will be taking place to showcase the unconventional selections each offers. And with new students coming in every year, I'm aiming for the Hootenanny to become annual," said Pech.

Especially highlighted will be the new technology and new society coming into play. On the technology end, students will be able to explore their options in purchasing laptops

from IT services as well as using digital cameras, video cameras and digital printing. Group study rooms have also received technological makeovers and now boast 50-inch flat screen monitors. A special group study room, the Idea Studio located on the first floor next to the circulation desk is now not only open for group think sessions and practicing giving presentations, but is also used for team-building Wii sessions to help any organization or group bond together.

A new society is also emerging during the Hootenanny called the Song Readers Society. This society is designed to be a "community of people who enjoy music and like to talk about it," commented Pech. Students who chose to join this society will borrow a pre-synched iPod from the library with musical selections featuring The Rolling Stones, Celtic music, The Clash, Bob Dylan and others. The group will meet five times and carry on a blog to discuss their thoughts about the music. Seminars will be given by Professor David Arnold, Professor John Coletta, Andy Pech and Professor Tom Reich to further impress the context of the music and its cultural significance.

Through this society, and through more open mic poetry nights and literature, music or film based speakers, Pech wants to encourage the deep thought processes that he believes universities should foster in and out of the classroom.

There will be live and local musicians on stage in the lobby including Black Spruce Swamp Stomp and Russell Pedersen and Collin Mettelka. Also, craziness might just manifest itself when you find out that the gloom entrenched library you once envisioned is in fact a vital and fun place you treasure.

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Science & Outdoors

For Wisconsin, going green never looked so terrifying

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The emerald ash borer is an enemy among us. An exotic species, the insect was first discovered in the Detroit area of Michigan roughly a decade ago and arrived in Wisconsin in August 2008.

The wood-boring beetle has since been referred to as the "green menace," and five different locations throughout Wisconsin have acted as sites of infestation. The span of territory that has been subjected to destruction, which includes both rural and urban forests, indicates the seriousness of the threat they present, and gives rise to a growing political debate as well.

It is inevitable that emerald ash borers will continue to plague the native ash trees of Wisconsin. Ultimately, the means to the trees' end is made possible by the larva stage as it feeds under the bark, destroying the tree's abilities to transport water and nutrients. As the trees starve to death they attract more adult beetles, which are prolific breeders, thereby initiating a cascading series of events that ultimately diminishes the ability to contain this forest epidemic.

To survey the emerald ash borer population, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources places hundreds upon thousands of purple traps throughout the state on an annual basis. Though it is with good intentions that the DNR employs the use of such survey tools, in reality, only three "Darwin award winners of the emerald ash borer" have been trapped thus far, revealed chair of the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point urban forestry professor, Les Werner. It has proven ineffective in detecting new infestations.

Currently, there is no statewide solution that will bring an end to the spread and detrimental effects of the emerald ash borer.

Chemically, the trees can be treated on a preventative basis through the use of injections, much like an immunization. Unlike the

immunizations received by humans, this type of precautionary method is not long withstanding. Injections given to ash trees would more than likely need to continue on a bi-annual basis in order to be an effective treatment.

Although prevention through injection is possible, it is neither practical nor economical. The cost of treating an individual tree is expensive and given the abundances of trees in Wisconsin forests, this type of prevention method would require funds that do not exist.

At the outset, the idea of quarantine, which prohibits the removal of ash wood from sites of infestation, seems a worthy endeavor. However, a lack of funds and regulatory personnel also eliminates this preventative method.

As a result, the state places the

"To say 'we've got a handle on this' doesn't cut it"

- Werner

proposed on-the-ground management strategies in the hands of volunteer cooperation. All this considered, the politics of the situation emerge when presented with the private property owner who may not have the resources available to take necessary action against the insidious insect.

In some communities, ash trees constitute approximately 35% of trees in the city. The prospect of losing this percentage of canopy trees, and the benefits they provide, is alarming to say the least. The problem of a greater infestation has yet to be manifested, and as a result, one must consider the lag time between trees that will be lost and the amount of time needed to replace them.

A campaign began in Wisconsin in response to the increasing outbreaks of infested trees that encourages residents to refrain from transporting firewood. One of the more presumptuous and clever slogans reads, "If you move firewood, your ash is mine." Efforts like these



The Emerald ash borer

Photo by Iowa State University

have surely raised some awareness of the issue, but the greater question remains; will the strictly volunteer army in this battle against the emerald ash borer be strong enough to save what's left of ash trees in Wisconsin?

For Werner, "to say 'we've got a handle on this' doesn't cut it." Not only is there a deficiency of funds, but no force exists to regulate the actions that could potentially save what's left of ash trees in Wisconsin. "It's not a matter of if it gets to Stevens Point, but when," said Werner.

Wisconsin has lost tens of thousands of ash trees to the emerald ash borer. At this point, early detection acts as the only remaining coping mechanism. It doesn't take a forestry major to become actively involved

with the search. By familiarizing oneself with the symptoms of an ash tree that's been infected by the wood-boring beetle, future damage may be minimized.

Two major ways to identify an infected ash tree include canopy dieback, where the tree begins to die at the top one-third of the canopy until the tree is bare, and epicormic shoots or sprouts that grow from the roots and trunk and are characterized by larger than normal leaves.

The crisis caused by the emerald ash borer is on the verge of becoming unmanageable, but for the time being, all of Wisconsin is on the forefront of an aggressive search that could save the native ash trees.

Ikes and Wisconsin make for a promising hunting season

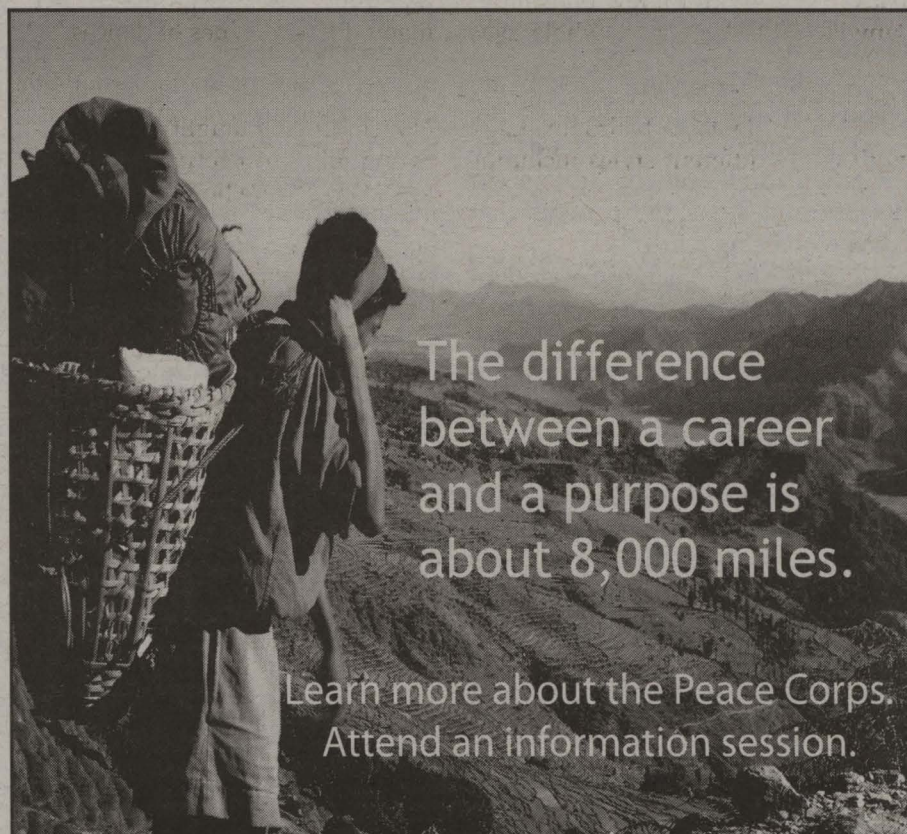
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With archery season upon us, hunters are antsy, deer are wary and the weather and mosquitoes indicate the middle of July. The offset of the seasons may deter some from venturing to their stands, but for avid hunters, christening the bow during opening weekend is an obligation that will be met come hellish temperatures or high water.

The harsh winter and delayed spring in 2007-2008, had a devastating impact on deer survival and greatly reduced the fawn population. Consequently, the prolonged effects which include a "missing or reduced age class of deer" will be evident for years to come, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In 2009, the DNR aimed to rebuild deer herds in areas indicative of significant declining populations.

See Hunt pg. 6



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Science & Outdoors

From **Hunt** pg. 5

One way in which these intentions will carry over into hunting season this year includes the elimination of herd control hunts in such areas.

Though the upcoming gun season will give way to stricter regulations, the benefits of restoring the deer population once more will ultimately allow for a more successful season statewide. For instance, in 2008, hunters harvested 453,480 deer, a figure that ranks as the tenth largest in state history. While the DNR is required to develop strategies for the sake of controlling deer populations, the strategy of a hunter continues to be the art with which he or she makes a clean kill.

In anticipation of current and upcoming hunting seasons, hunters across Wisconsin are sighting in their bows and cleaning their guns. Many students may not realize the home field advantage they have by simply attending the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

UWSP is privileged to be part of a nationally recognized organization whose mission is "to conserve, maintain, protect and restore the soil, forest, water and other natural resources of the United States and other lands..." The Stevens Point chapter of the Izaak Walton League prepares students to preserve outdoor America for future generations, and grants members "access to the rifle, trap and bow ranges on club grounds" according to Izaak Walton League Stevens Point chapter president, Tim Neuman.

As the "defenders of soil, air, woods, water and wildlife," the Stevens Point chapter extends an invitation to all students to join the defense and enjoy the benefits that come with being a member.

"There's only a handful of student chapters across the nation, so that's pretty neat", said Neuman who has been involved with the organization since 2005.

Additionally, students have access to a Bill Cook chapter membership. While a student chapter membership costs \$3 a semester or \$5 for the academic year and grants admission to club grounds facilities, the Bill Cook chapter owns 180 acres and a brand new clubhouse, all of which become readily available upon becoming a

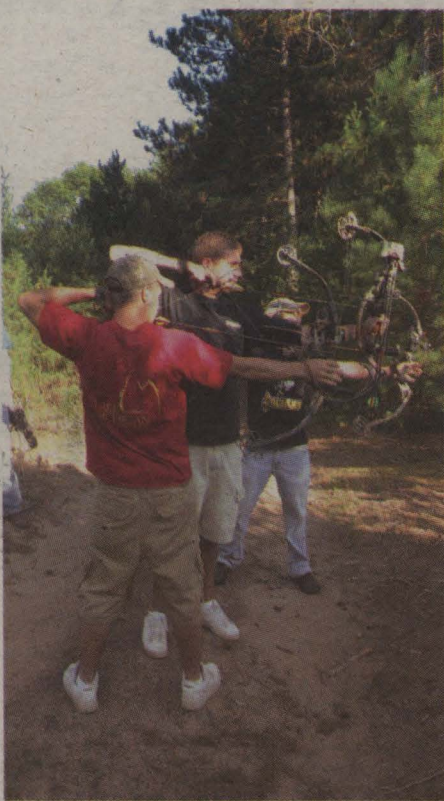


Photo by Jessi Towle

Members of the Izaak Walton League Stevens Point chapter at a 3-D bow shoot.

member. UWSP students benefit from drastically reduced membership fees, paying only \$21 per year as opposed to the \$63 fee for non-students.

More commonly referred to as Ikes, the members of the Izaak Walton League on campus gather for meetings every other Wednesday. During off weeks, special outings are planned such as trap shoots, or in the case of this week, 3-D bow shoots. In addition to weekly gatherings, the organization also hosts a wide range of events that promote conservation and camaraderie.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday Sept. 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Trainer Natural Resources building 372. For more information or if interested, contact president Tim Neuman at tneum374@uwsp.edu or faculty advisor Diane Lueck.

Hunting is about more than just killing that trophy buck. To be a hunter is to exist in and love every aspect of nature, an idea perfectly captured by life-long sportsman and host of hunting television show "Spirit of the Wild," Ted Nugent, who says of the outdoors, "take it all in, there's no bag limit on happiness."

Now accepting donations of the gift of life

Jackie Lutze
THE POINTER
jlutz715@uwsp.edu

Giving blood can save up to three lives per donation, this is just one reason to feel good about donating at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point blood drive. Donations will go directly to a patient at St. Michael's Hospital in Stevens Point.

Remember to eat a good breakfast and drink plenty of fluids if you plan on donating. Also, it is best to donate when you are well-rested.

Most people are able to donate. However, people who are taking

certain antibiotics, have a heart condition, an infection or are pregnant should not donate. Additionally, if you have traveled to a country in the past year in which malaria exists, you will not be able to donate.

Bloodbook.com reveals that people with AB positive and AB negative blood types are great candidates to donate plasma, because recipients with any blood type may receive the donations.

Individuals with O positive

The Big Dawgs on campus reel in some recognition

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If your friends are more likely to find you out on the lake than hanging around campus, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Big Dawgs Fishing Club is right up your alley. The organization is drawing in students from Stevens Point and beyond.

"Believe it or not there are actually students who are coming to Point just because we have a fishing team here," said Big Dawgs president Logan Bliss. "We have grown to nearly thirty members since last fall when we only had seven."

The organization, founded by a handful of avid fishermen in 2007, sends students to bass fishing tournaments around the country. These tournaments are packed full of

for the Midwest College Shootout. In October, they'll set out again, this time to Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. The club sends up to ten pairs of students to each tournament.

The Big Dawgs don't just travel to fishing competitions; they host them as well. On October 18 the UWSP club will be inviting other

"Believe it or not, there are actually students who are coming to Point just because we have a fishing team here."

-Bliss

college teams to the Point Invitational on Buffalo Lake. The Big Dawgs are also scheduled to host another



Photo by Joe Marty

Joe Marty and Cody Salzmann at the Boat U.S. Collegiate Bass Fishing Championship

big fish, big fun and big money.

In August, two members of the Big Dawgs, Joe Marty and Casey Kmiecik, won \$5000 at the Forrest L. Wood National Guard College Regional Qualifier in Fort Madison, Iowa. The money will be split between UWSP and the fishing club. The pair will head to Kentucky Lake at the end of October for the FLW Regional Tournament with the chance to win an even bigger prize - \$50,000 and a boat.

This weekend, members of the organization are headed to Madison

tournament on a local lake yet to be determined.

Once the lakes freeze over you can find these fishing fanatics holding fundraisers.

Students interested in joining the Big Dawgs Fishing Club can attend meetings on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Trainer Natural Resource building 320, visit the organization's website at www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/bigdawgfishing or contact Logan Bliss at lblis366@uwsp.edu.

blood are the most common donors, and because of the abundance of O positive patients, the need for their donations is great. O negative is usually used for red blood cell transfusions because people with this blood type are universal donors. As the rarest blood type, the need for type O negative donors is crucial. It is the preferred blood type for babies and accident victims.

In addition to giving blood, many people, especially students, donate plasma. Plasma can be donated at many hospitals and donors get paid for each sample given. For more information talk to any of the staff at the blood drive or contact the nearest hospital or donation center.

According to the American Red Cross web site, "Less than 5% of the general population donates blood and yet the majority of people will have at least one family member who will require at least one blood transfusion in their lifetime."

The blood drive will take place on Monday, September 28 and Tuesday, September 29 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the Laird Room of the DUC.

Students must be sure to bring a photo ID and budget an hour for the drive. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments can be made by calling 1-888-310-7555. Also, feel free to call this toll free number for any questions or concerns about giving blood.

Sports

After loss, football confident for week 2

Dan Neckar

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Following a one-point loss against Central Iowa College last weekend, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team is preparing for their second non-conference game of the season.

This Saturday, the team heads to the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, Missouri to play against the Miners in what head coach John Miech calls "the toughest team we'll play all year."

Last weekend's game was mostly in the Pointers' favor as they went into the fourth quarter with a lead of 21-10. Wide receiver Jared Jenkins caught eight passes for 120 yards and quarterback Jared Beckwith threw for 254 yards and three touchdowns. On special teams, wide receiver Marc Young excelled by blocking one punt, tipping another and successfully faking two punts as the punter.

It was not until the end of the fourth quarter that the Pointers began to slip. Central Iowa quarterback Matt Snead ran for a total of 90 yards and scored all three of the team's touchdowns, including the game winner.

"This was really outstanding football between two high-ranked teams," said Miech. "I think

what it really came down to was conditioning."

"Our players practiced in mild weather all summer and played their first game at 95 degrees," said Miech. "As a coach, all you can ask for is your players to give it their all, and they surely did."

But Jared Beckwith is sure that the Pointers have moved on to next week.

"Coach Miech says you've got 24 hours to celebrate a win or to mourn a loss. We're a tight-knit team and our attitudes are up," said Beckwith.

Miech said that adjustments for the next game would include stepping up in conditioning, along with increased attention on special teams, which he called "average" after last week. He also added that he expects a better performance from the Pointers' running game.

"We're getting ready for a lot of blitzes next week," said Beckwith.

"Their corners and safeties are very athletic, and great tacklers. After watching some of the films, I think this will be one of the best teams we play all year," he said.

Missouri S&T is a Division II team. Playing them will put the Pointers on a long road trip.

"The reason we're playing teams from Missouri and California for the non-conference games is because the Division III teams we normally play

know we'll beat them," said Miech.

"Losing close games really tells you who the leaders are on your team," said Beckwith. "The biggest improvements come between games one and two, and I think we're going to see that this weekend," he said.

Beckwith added that the Pointer's defense looked strong in the last game, and that the offensive line gave him a lot of time to pass.

After facing the Miners on Sept. 19, the Pointers will travel across the country to Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, Calif. on September 26. Their first home game is against UW-Eau Claire on Oct. 3.



Photo by Dan Neckar

Quarterback Jared Beckwith practices for week two.

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Sports

The stages of an NFL Sunday

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Normally, Sunday afternoons consist of me doing as close to nothing as possible. I probably get out of bed only once or twice during the day, with the rest of my time devoted to hours of Arrested Development on DVD. During the NFL season however, Sundays become vastly more important. My mind must be sharp, or at least coherent, so I can follow multiple games and fantasy teams. I have broken down this past NFL Sunday, which ended with the memorable Packers-Bears game, with the series of stages that I went through.

Stage 1: Wake Up.

This can be the hardest stage at times. I woke up about an hour before the noon games started, which is probably a little too early. The perfect time to wake up is about fifteen minutes before the noon games kick off, it gives me just enough time to shake the cobwebs off, without having to sit through hours of pregame shows that feature anywhere from six to 65 guys yelling at each other in ridiculous looking suits. For a Sunday morning, it was just too much Keyshawn Johnson and Cris Carter.

Stage 2: Food and Location.

One of the best parts about NFL Sunday is that it is a weekly event. It gives you the excuse to do things you wouldn't normally do, like go to a bar at noon, or buy huge buckets of chicken or stacks of pizza. Would I order a large stuffed crust pizza just for me on any other day of the week? Probably not. But if the NFL is on, well, that's all the logical reasoning I need. Because of the late Packers start time, my food choice was canned soup and the location was my bed. No need to get too excited for the thrilling Browns-Vikings game. A few hours later however, I made my way to Partner's to watch the game with other Packer fans, and hey, there were free nachos!

Stage 3: Kickoff.

Finally, after what seemed like 45 minutes of pregame commercials, the game started. The few seconds before the opening kickoff will be the last time I act like a regular person for about three hours.

Stage 4: The Game.

Sometimes watching football is not fun. For the most part, this game was a great example of this. It was tense, sloppy, drawn-out (thanks to Lovie Smith challenging about every other play) and full of missed opportunities. In the end of course, after Aaron Rodgers threw that game-winning strike to Greg Jennings, it was rewarding. After all, it is my blood pressure that's being victimized for these games, so I feel as though I've earned it. Now I can say things like "it was a great game," and actually mean it.

Stage 5: Postgame.

After a game like that, it is hard to settle down. I went through about fifteen minutes of texting with my parents and friends, sharing in the excitement and breathing a collective sigh of relief and exhaustion. I stared at my planner for a few minutes, and decided that no homework would be accomplished. Instead I watched a few episodes of Arrested Development, stared at my ceiling because I could still not fall asleep, and eventually dozed off, a few hours short of the recommended eight. When I think about it, the first NFL Sunday of the season wasn't really that different for me than any other Sunday. I did next to nothing, watched the same TV show over and over again, and had about twenty emotional swings from joy to misery and back. Oh yeah, I guess that last part separates the regular season from the offseason. Welcome back, NFL. Now if you'll excuse me, I need a nap.

Tennis smashing adversity

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There is more to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's tennis team than meets the eye. Externally it is clear that the team is improving and in for a good season, having lost none of its players from the year before.

Underneath these facts lies the heart of a team so dedicated to their sport that they stay committed even when they don't have all the resources most competitors would

a good one. The wins outweigh the losses this season right now, and are a clear indication of the potential of the team moving forward.

This potential is especially impressive when the team's biggest piece of adversity is examined. UWSP's tennis facilities are not up to par, which makes it hard for their team to complete their training with the high standards they set.

"We're struggling and looking for student support. We need new courts because it is a liability to play on the courts near the Debot fields and sharing courts with the local

"The wins outweigh the losses in this season so far, and are a clear indication of the potential the team contains."

-Sheila Miech

consider essential.

So far the team has won five games and lost only two. These losses are not due to an "off" day, however. An offseason training regimen replete with weight room instruction was compiled by UWSP's strength and conditioning coach, John Verdegan, to ensure an "off" day was never part of the equation.

Much larger obstacles were in the way. To begin, the matchup against Grinnell College took place without two key players. Freshman Leah Benn was out due to a knee injury and senior Kaitlyn King could only play in a doubles post because she strained a muscle in her rib cage after having bronchitis. King's strain made the cardiovascular demand of a singles match too difficult but she did pull out a win in her doubles match that day with her partner, senior Emily Riordan.

"Grinnell was just good all around competition," said women's head coach Karlyn Jakusz, "It was also 88 degrees and the second match of the day. Grinnell had rest time between their matches and we had none."

But Jakusz, along with her team, believes they are resilient and know that this season will be

high schools is hard to schedule," Jakusz said.

Most schools in the NCAA have the necessary six courts to hold competitions but according to Jakusz, there are barely enough at UWSP to even practice on.

The next game is on September 17 at Lawrence University. Appleton is one of the nearest locations of competition for the girls and they would love for some fans to come out and cheer and to show their support for UWSP tennis!

Women's soccer building on fast start

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's soccer team won their first two conference games this past week, and is ready to build on the momentum of a 4-1 start, one game at a time.

Head coach Sheila Miech sees a confident team that is making fast adjustments.

"We got a whole new group of players, a whole new system, a whole new coaching staff, and there is a lot of excitement in the air," Miech said. "The players are adjusting well to the new system."

Much has been made of the team's youth, and Miech believes it is a major reason for the team's fast start.

"After last year, when we lost ten seniors, I think everyone thought we wouldn't be any good, and it's nice to be proving them wrong," Miech said. "The players know this is their time to step up and they are excited about it."

UWSP began their Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play last Saturday with a 1-0 win at UW-River Falls, with the lone goal scored by freshman Kirsti Nickels. They followed this up with a dominating 5-0 victory over UW-Oshkosh on Tuesday, with goals from junior Vicki Bieschke, senior Jackie Spees, junior Andrea Peiffer,

freshman Sammy Greer, freshman Kirsti Nickels and a second consecutive shutout by junior goalie Liz Hunter.

Miech is happy with what she has seen, but realizes there is more work to do.

"I'm happy about the start, not allowing any goals yet in conference play, but we have a long season to go," Miech said.

The Pointers were ranked 14th in the nation to start the season, but fell out of the rankings following their opening game loss to Wheaton. Miech recognizes that on one hand, rankings don't have

See Soccer pg. 11



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Arts & Culture

Good Grief packs The Encore

Nick Meyer

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The economic downturns of the last few years have changed the lives of many, and such is the case for Jarad Olson. Last summer, he took a job stocking shelves on the 5 a.m. shift at Shopko. The job was simply a survival tactic but it would also introduce Jarad to fellow Shopko employee Colin Bares. This chance meeting would set into motion a chain of events that would culminate with the forming of the band Good Grief. None of the lives involved have been the same since.

Students packed the Encore on Friday, Sept. 11 to see what Good Grief has become since that chance meeting a year ago. Dan Daniels and the Southern Gentlemen opened the show with their 50's style rock getting the crowd dancing and effectively setting the stage for Good Grief.

Good Grief composed of Jesse Nowacz on drums, Jarad Olson on bass, Dirk Gunderson on guitar and Colin Bares on guitar performed a full set of original music. As the band moved through their set, the crowd performed choreographed expressions of joy across the Encore floor. The turnout was rather large for an act not even a year old, and the guys in Good Grief couldn't have been happier.

"It's good. I don't know how it happens; people hear of us," said Gunderson. "It's a pleasant surprise to see all those people and see them dancing and having fun."

The band's sound seems to easily get people out of their seat and dancing. On Friday night, there were even a few of the more bashful fans dancing in their chairs.

Their sound has been described by fans as "surfy," "dancy" and just plain fun. The guys haven't set out to do anything in particular and feel they are simply a rock and roll band.

"We're a rock and roll band that's trying to put forward new ideas,"

said Olson.

Each member brings different influences to the band that gives it a diverse sound. The one thread that ties it all together is their love for pop music and rock and roll according to Gunderson.

"We all have an appreciation for rock and how it's spawned all these different things," said Nowacz. "We usually start out very simply and then draw influences from everything."

The band feels like they are just starting to find a sound they can call their own as they begin to write songs more collaboratively.

"How it used to work, Colin and I would have songs that we had written or wrote for the band, now it's more collaborative," said Gunderson. "It feels more dynamic when people work together."

Good Grief has to be doing something right, as 132 people showed up on Friday according to Centertainment Productions usher reports. The attention they have garnered has put the band in the forefront of a diverse Stevens Point music scene that is continually growing.

"The scene is great; I've seen everything: folk, noise rock," said Gunderson. "Everyone's really supportive of each other, and the community has really helped a lot with this band."

For the members of Good Grief, the band has grown into something more than a hobby or an escape. Talking with them you get the feeling this is something they want to do and have to do to hold on to a sense of

fulfillment.

"You have to do something right," said Bares, "you think, I have this to say, the easiest way for me to get that out there is playing music."

The band has no plans of giving up on pursuing their musical passions. Though Olson, Nowacz, and Gunderson are all pursuing degrees at UWSP, they still see the band as a main priority and arrange their schedules accordingly.

"I'm going to keep pursuing my passions and not really care about what I'm supposed to be doing, because I don't want to waste my time," said Gunderson.

How these guys find time to do anything is truly amazing. All of them have musical projects going on as well as Good Grief, to which they devote two nights a week.

Nowacz and Olson have formed what could be called a sludge metal/math rock band called Blastoise. Gunderson writes songs under the solo moniker Marginal Noises and Bares released a solo e.p. this summer entitled "Abnormal Psychology" under his solo moniker Coral Riffs.

"I know there's stuff that I want to say that's doesn't make sense coming from the mouth of Good Grief so you need another outlet," said Bares.

The band has no plans of slowing down or dissolving once college is over and is slowly but surely turning their life over to their passion.

"Ideally, I would love this band to keep going on and to tour. I think we all want to keep doing this," said Gunderson.

For more on Good Grief, check out myspace.com/reallygoodgrief.

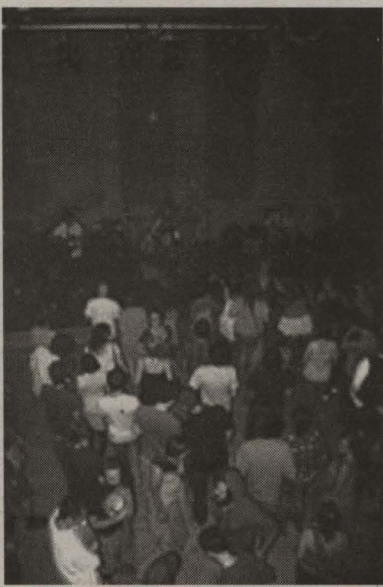


Photo by Lizzy Rae Manel

Good Grief at the Encore

Comedian brings laughs

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus got its first taste of stand-up comedy last Saturday when comedian Mike Merryfield performed in the Dreyfus University Center Encore to a large crowd.

His one-hour set brought many laughs as he covered topics like growing up, college, fashion and sex. He won over the crowd with his combination of an active stage presence with aggressive jokes and funny accents. His active, physically involved set included a large range of impersonations and jokes about American culture. Kate Bakalarski, the Centertainment Productions Club/Variety Coordinator said she was very impressed.

"I thought the show was really great. Mike was very funny and seemed to relate to the crowd really well," she said.

She also commented on his connection with the audience.

"The audience seemed to find him very funny. There were even a few people that he talked with throughout his set. He had a strong stage presence and made everyone laugh with his nonverbal humor mixed in with his stand-up routine," she said.

She added that he was the first comedian of the year and he "definitely set a high precedent."

Merryfield, an Appleton native, has performed around the United States, as well as across the globe, including Japan, Korea and Guam. In 2006 Merryfield was included in HBO's celebrated "Lucky 21," a comedy festival in Las Vegas and is regularly featured on XM Radio's comedy station. Merryfield got interested in comedy when he was 13-years-old.

See Comedian pg 11

English Department promotes reading with book club

Kim Shankland

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An Annual Circle of Campus and Community Book Groups, or ACORN, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point book club, is starting up again this year and looking forward to new recruits, new books, and new points of view.

ACORN, A Chance to Read In Company, is sponsored by the UWSP English department and is intended to promote the value of reading and writing in the community, as well as the university itself.

The club has been a collaborative effort with the English department staff in order for students, as well as people in the community, to come together to read and discuss certain books that are considered "good reads." Lorri Nandrea who runs the group believes in this organization whole-heartedly.

"A special aspect of our program is that it brings people together,

giving everyone a chance to learn from each other's perspectives," Nandrea said. "Reading doesn't have to be an isolating activity: talking about books can be a very satisfying way to connect with others."

The organization has historically had a steady participation rate. Last year there were 14 book groups registered with a total of 100 participants.

"Our membership was very diverse, including UWSP faculty, staff and students as well as community residents from many walks of life," Nandrea said.

According to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the number of American adults who read literature went up between the years of 2002 to 2008. The ACORN program, and others like it, contribute to this reports findings.

"The first ACORN program last year was a great success, and this year's program will be as good or better," said planning staff member, Professor Robert Sirabian.

Last year, ACORN started off the year with the book "Persuasion" by Jane Austen; this year the book will be "The Maltese Falcon" by Dashiell Hammett. While groups set up registration either by forming their own book club groups, or being a

"A special aspect of our program is it brings people together"

-Nandrea

single participant and joining another formed group, the planning staff will be busy setting up workshops for the book clubs. On Oct. 17, 2009, the staff will feature a keynote presentation on The Maltese Falcon by Professor David Arnold, which will be beneficial for all participants according to Nandrea.

"The workshop provides background information, handouts, discussion questions and other resources to enrich the reading

experience," said Nandrea. "We'll also have two rounds of breakout sessions on the novel, and a session for group leaders on facilitating book discussions."

ACORN also provides an annual ACORN Extravaganza in February where all book groups come together to celebrate the book and all it brings to the table. Held in the Dreyfus University Center, the event will provide activities based on The Maltese Falcon and its history.

"Plans are still shaping up, but we hope to have live jazz music, 20s era flapper dancing, and dramatized scenes from the novel, as well as a discussion forum and trivia contest," Nandrea said.

Registration deadline is Sept. 15, but Nandrea accommodates late registration. The forms are available on the ACORN website or by contacting Lorri Nandrea by email or phone at lnandrea@uwsp.edu or 346-2317.

Letters & Opinion

Food Swings

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The World Series is just over a month away, and regular season football has just started. What does this mean for you? Amazing tailgating and game food is a must.

Now, what I like to do is prepare food that is known in the opposing teams city because, let's face it, Green Bay isn't exactly a culinary giant and you can only eat so much cheese before you're bound up tighter than me in skinny jeans. Also, I don't have any food prejudices, so we can eat food from Pittsburgh, just don't cheer for Big Ben and we can stay friends.

The Packers play the Bengals this Sunday. You may or may not know that Cincinnati is known for its chili, with the heavy hitter being Skyline, a city landmark. However, there is one problem with Cincinnati chili. They put it on top of wait for it-spaghetti. Now, I don't know why they do this, but clearly this habit should not be supported or repeated for any reason.

So, in light of the culinary abhorrence that is Cincinnati chili,

we will focus on staple game foods that are delicious and enjoyed by everyone.

First in line is the ultimate game food, weighing in at about five ounces each, your favorite sausage, the bratwurst. A favorite among Wisconsinites, the brat is a monumental food in the world of tailgating and sports in general, except golf, because apparently they don't have tailgaters.

When preparing bratwurst, always buy the raw ones from the butchers, never the prepackaged, pre-cooked crap from Johnsonville.



Photo by Jacob Mathias

This allows you to boil and grill in your own flavor without the salty overtones that come from the prepackaged stuff with a shelf life of Michael Jackson's remains.

First combine one tablespoon

salt, pepper, and thyme, half a slivered onion, two teaspoons hot sauce (preferably Tobasco) and two cans of beer. Bring all of this to a boil.

Then, add the bratwurst to the beer and seasoning mixture and simmer until the brats are cooked through; this takes about 10 minutes. This step can be done the day before the game if time is a factor.

When ready to grill, remove brats from their boil and let set to preserve juices. While this is happening, heat your grill. The one rule with grilling is this. Always use charcoal. If you use gas, I will find you and bad things will happen to your food.

Anyway, make sure your charcoal is glowing, not smoldering. Preheat your grill for at least ten minutes so it is very hot. After preheating, place the brats on the grill, and for Pete's sake, do not move them. Sear the brats for 4-5 minutes, or until golden brown, flip and repeat.

Serve on brat buns with any combination of ketchup, hot horseradish mustard, sauerkraut, jalapenos and pickle relish. I

like mine with all of them, but I won't judge you ketchup soloists out there. Actually, I will, but I won't say anything out loud. Remember, live to eat.

THE POINTER

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

A bastion of sanity

M.A. Hinkle

"Pathetic Isn't Just for Internet Sex Anymore"

There are some things that are just sad: that commercial featuring abused animals and the Sarah McLachlan song, for example, or that person you talked to out of pity one day who texts you twelve times an hour with such deep questions as "wat r u doin" (with a question mark only if you're really lucky). Then, of course, there's the contraction that, by no fault of its own, is missing its apostrophe.

Perhaps you think that surely people know this most basic rule of apostrophe usage. Tell that to the sign in my hall's bathroom: "Remember to turn lights off when youre done." I suppose it could be worse: whoever wrote the sign could have confused your (the possessive form of you) and you're (the contraction of "you are").

However, to me, that is a mistake more easily understood. Many otherwise intelligent people don't know the difference between its (the possessive form of it, which never has an apostrophe) and it's (the contraction of "it is," which always does). It's beyond me, though, how you could realize that you are squishing you and are together and not remember that an apostrophe belongs at the site of the collision. I mean, I can understand getting confused about "will not" becoming won't. Where the o came from, I'll never know. I try not to think

about it.

Anyway, the rule for apostrophes in contractions is very simple, and even in this era of chatspeak (OMGWTFBQB?) and texting (y do we think it is OK 2 type lyke this?), there's really no reason not to know it and use it. Basically, whenever you are combining two words into one, remember that an apostrophe goes in place of the missing letters.

Therefore:

"she is" becomes she's, "do not" becomes don't and, yes, "you are" becomes you're.

I know that some of you out there are rolling your eyes out. Don't deny it—it's not like you'll be chastised. In today's society, ignorance is quickly becoming the eighth heavenly virtue. "Why should I care?" you ask me.

Let me put this bluntly: because you look like an idiot when you mess it up. Sixth graders can get this right. And you, my friend, are smarter than a sixth grader, since you have either earned your way here or conned your parents out of enough money to make the professors put up with your presence. Why would you want to sell yourself short when you don't have to?



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From Comedian pg 9

"The 1980s had a big comedic boom," he said. "There were a lot of comedians on television and there were all these comedy clubs. I always wanted to do it."

He started performing after he had worked at his friend's comedy club as a doorman and people started telling him he should try out the stage.

"My first gig was really bad," he said. "There were few jokes and fewer laughs. It all just came from the top of my head. The room was silent and I could hear the piece of paper I was holding coming through the microphone," he recalled. "I didn't get many laughs until the end of the set, and I think it was only one. But if it wasn't for that one, I would've probably never done it again." Merryfield says his act is about things he's grown up with, and "real-life stuff." He likens himself to a storyteller more than a comedian.

"The thing that makes my act good is that rather than using a setup-punch line approach, I am telling stories. People laugh while almost forgetting that I'm telling jokes," he said.

Performing for a college audience is slightly different than his normal audience, which forces him to adjust to slightly more modern material.

"I have to always remember that my jokes can't refer to things from more than ten years ago," he says. "When I perform to older people or younger people I have to adjust to that. But I must say that penis and poop jokes work across any age."

He added that for his first time in Stevens Point, he thought that the crowd responded very well.

Merryfield said that he thinks stand up comedy as a whole is currently enjoying a lot of success and that it will never completely go away.

"I think that right now, success by newer comedians like Mitch Hedburg, Dane Cook and Larry the Cable Guy show that there is a lot of talent out there," he said. "It's very good for comedy to have a set of fresh acts doing well."

From Soccer pg 8

much bearing on the field, but on the other, they can serve as motivation.

"Starting the season ranked doesn't really matter because it's a reflection of what you did last year," Miech said. "I think not being ranked now and trying to climb back makes us hungry."

As of this past Monday, the Pointers were just out of the top 25 rankings according to the Web site www.D3soccer.com, but received 58 votes, second only to Springfield, in teams outside the top 25.

Miech knows there are a lot of games left to play, and the rankings do not matter yet.

"The most important ranking is what happens in the end," Miech said. "We have a really good group; we just need to continue to learn to play together."

The Pointers continue WIAC play on Friday, Sept. 18 at UW-Stout. They play at the University of Chicago next Wednesday, Sept. 23.

Horace P. Wrinklebottom, Attorney at Law



'AS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY ATTORNEY, I PLEDGE TO ALWAYS LOOK OUT FOR THE LITTLE GUY..'

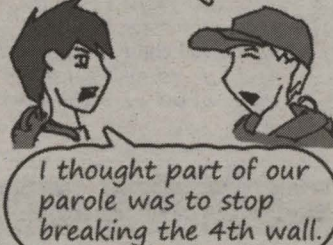
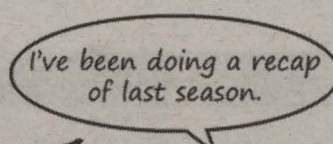
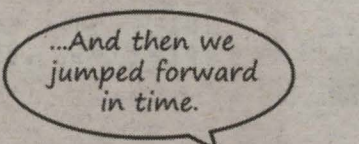


by Dustin Hauge

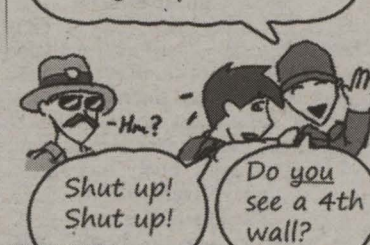
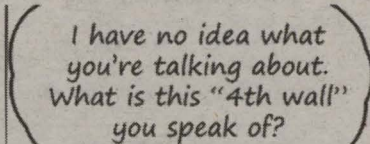
'...MMK-STARTING NOW'



Where I Come From

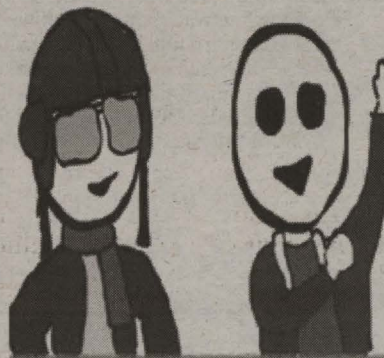
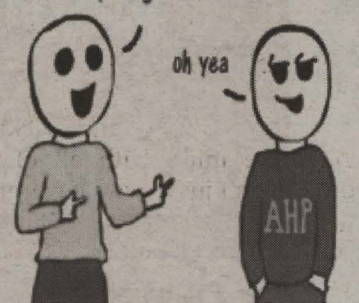


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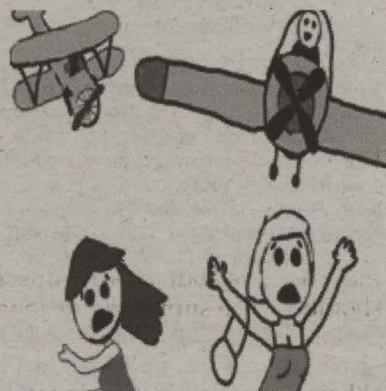


'Wingman'

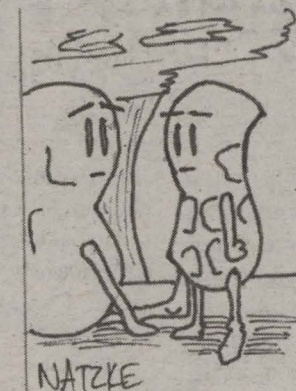
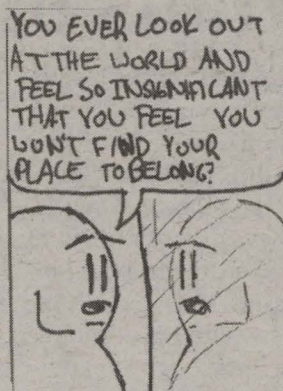
yo dude! I'm goin' cruizin' for some ladies. Wanna be my wing man?



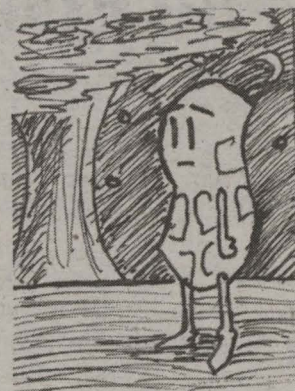
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Roach

'AYE WILLIE, YOU THINKIN' WHAT I'M THINKIN'?



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The Economic Pitfalls of Obamacare

John Lee
UWSP STUDENT

When President Bill Clinton's healthcare reform initiative failed in 1994, (with the exception of a small handful of individuals), any mention of healthcare reform was unheard of from either the Democratic or Republican parties since then, until now. Some of the actors in this healthcare debate may have changed but the script certainly hasn't. Familiar battle lines have been drawn and both sides have fired numerous volleys at each other. The need to reform healthcare is undeniable. However, needless to say, neither the Democrats nor the Republicans, even with President Obama's address to Congress, have risen to anything above the basest of rhetoric in this debate. Considering the sheer complexity that is healthcare reform, it is a crying shame that instead of civilized and acumenical discussions that the people need, and deserve, to make an informed choice about this topic, all we have gotten are exaggerations, obfuscations, demagoguery and more often than not, downright lies from both sides of the aisle.

To paraphrase President Obama's own words, he is likeable enough and considering the fact that he has not been in office for very long yet, I feel that he still deserves the benefit of the doubt. So he may be sincere when he says that the only way for people to

enroll in his proposed public healthcare option is by paying premiums into the program like they would for any private health insurance plan. He may indeed be sincere when he says that he believes that only 5% of Americans would enroll into the program. I will not, however, extend the same kind of leeway to his economic advisers because they ought to know better and if they honestly do not, they have no business whatsoever in referring to themselves as economists. By remaining silent on the true cost of publicly funded healthcare and the fact that this is indeed a government attempt at taking over healthcare insurance, they are lying to the American people, or, at worst they truly believe what they are saying and are just about as credible as astrologers.

President Obama was certainly not lacking in passion when he gave his speech to Congress regarding healthcare reform. Only the most amoral comic book villains would have been unmoved by his admonition that no American should ever go broke for getting sick. Judging from the approximately hour-long speech that the president gave, it quickly becomes apparent that the deadliest of weapons in his arsenal is economic justice and has proven himself in this regard. By economic justice of course, what he means to say is the need for the redistribution of economic risks via the creation of the public health-

care option.

It is true that the economic landscape for the American middleclass has been anything but "fair" over the past few decades. Between 1979 and 2003, the average income of the richest Americans more than doubled after adjusting for inflation whereas for middleclass Americans, their income rose by only 15%. This glaring income inequality is highlighted by the fact that in that time, healthcare costs have risen far more than wages.

Most Democrats have attempted to steer clear of the word "redistribution" as it conjures up images of rabid Bolsheviks, but what is President Obama's healthcare proposal, if not a thinly veiled attempt to chip away at the very foundations of capitalism? President Obama made a point to announce clearly that the public option is not going to be funded by taxpayers but instead by the people who opt to choose the public option themselves, much like only paying customers of insurance companies pay their premiums. Assuming that this is even possible, what was most incredible about that speech was that as soon as President Obama made that clear, almost with the same breath, he made the bold claim this is not the government's attempt to takeover healthcare.

President Obama was partially right when he said that the introduction of a public healthcare option

would make private health insurers more competitive. What President Obama did not mention, however, is that not long after the introduction of a public healthcare option, many smaller health insurers will surely go out of business. In order for a private health insurer to stay in business, it must stay profitable because like any other kind of private enterprise, private health insurers have fixed, variable, internal and external overhead costs such as infrastructure costs, utility costs, subcontracting costs, wages, employee benefits and innumerable taxes just to name a few. To top it all off, they also have to answer to shareholders who are looking for a return on their investments. The government, on the other hand, does not have to worry about those costs to stay operational. In fact, if the deficit is anything to go by, the government, which will have monopolistic powers, does not have to worry about staying operational even while trillions of dollars in debt. This will force smaller health insurers that are already facing difficulties competing with their larger competitors out of business. Therefore, in the long run, the public option will kill competition and be a detriment to private enterprise.