



Thursday

September 24,
2009

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Facebook: changing the Face of campus communication methods

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Three hundred million users are on Facebook worldwide and it is only getting bigger said an article published by Facebook creators on Sept. 15.

The University of Wisconsin Stevens Point is taking part in this continual growth in its very own way. Departments, student organizations and on-campus offices are developing Facebook fan pages to get their messages to students and even parents of students.

After searching "UWSP" in the Facebook search engine, there are more than 600 fan pages and groups to be found. This does not include the UWSP affiliated groups that do not have the search criteria in their Facebook name.

Bob Tomlinson, the vice chancellor of student affairs, said he is hearing students are not checking their e-mails as frequently as they check their Facebook.

"The majority of students have Facebook, so it is a common ground to get to everybody. Its something that most people look at every day," said Molly Van Hoorn, a UWSP student. She is also a public relations intern in the College of Fine Arts and Communication who uses Facebook to promote events such as the Performing Arts Series. She said this is a good way to keep up with what every group is doing.

Parents are getting on Facebook as well. Brittany Rossman is a recent UWSP graduate who works in University Relations and Communications. She created the Pointer Parents page.

Rossman said the parents of UWSP students are starting to get on Facebook. "How do I get this information to that generation who is just now loving Facebook and wants to be on it just as much as students?"

She plans on acquiring parent e-mails and using another technology, e-vites, to invite them to get on Facebook and join the page.

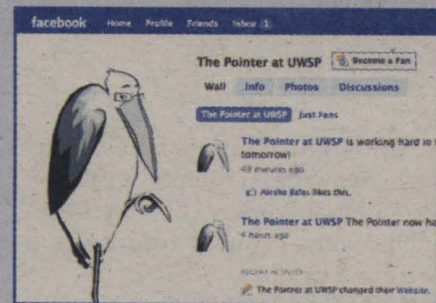


photo courtesy of Facebook.com

Make sure to become a fan of The Pointer Newspaper fan page today!

Rossman said she thinks it's OK that parents join. Students are going to realize that some of the questionable content must come down anyway. Employers are looking at their pages, too. Some students may feel this is invasive, but Rossman asks how different this is from parents calling or texting all the time.

Rossman is also a key part in connecting the tech savvy student body to people of the university who are new to the concepts of social networking.

"We had marketing communication sessions with other departments on campus to teach how Facebook can be utilized," said Rossman. "We are trying to teach everything to everyone."

"I think it's intimidating at first to them. It's new; its scary. It's just like any other kind of technology that is created. It's something new and different," said Rossman.

"But once they get on there, they are going to love it. I think they are going to realize how easy it is. How much better it is as a marketing tool."

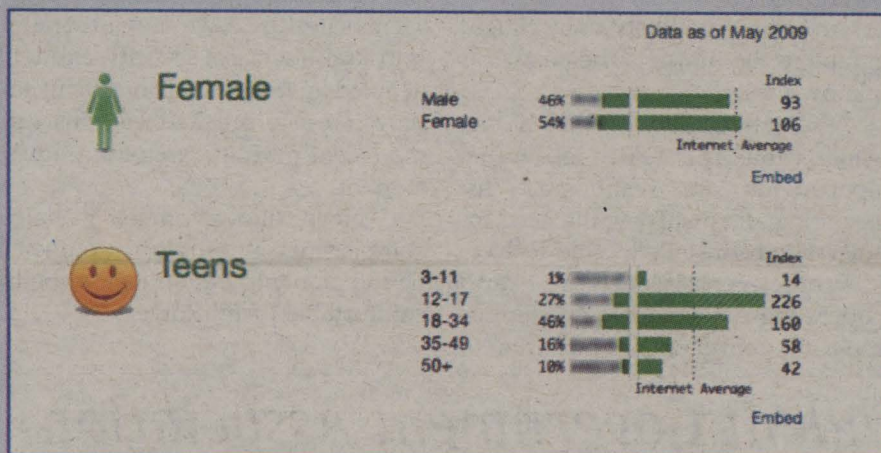


photo courtesy of University Relations and Communications

A slide from a powerpoint presentation presented by University Relations and Communications show the current demographics of Facebook users today.

Blockbuster closes its doors due to Netflix

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Blockbusters are closing their doors and waving the white flag. After a year of struggle in 2008, the company decided to close 282 stores nationwide this year and hopes to beef up their online sales to compete with Netflix, according to an article in the Associated Press.

In that same article was a comment from Andy Cross, senior analyst with The Motley Fool, which advertises itself as the greatest investigating community. "They don't make any money on the online business, which is a smaller part of their current business, and they're not going to make any money on that, definitely not this year," Cross said. "I

personally think they will continue to struggle."

In an article by the Convenience Store News, Blockbuster Inc. said, "Although substantially doubtful, it may close down all 7,400 stores globally."

So the question remains if other video venders, like Family Video and Hollywood Video, are seeing the same effects. Brett Dulmes, manager-in-training at the Stevens Point Family Video, said, "We opened 90 new stores last year alone, so we're definitely not struggling. We haven't seen a drop in customers at all."

How is it that Blockbusters are closing down city by city, but Family Video opens more stores? When asked what they think their number one difference is between Family Video and Blockbuster, Dulmes, along with employees Cassie Johnson and Jessy

Heisig, all said, "customer service."

Heisig also stated, "With Netflix you have to wait to get your movies. Here, you come in and leave with what you want to watch that night." Also with a standard Netflix membership you can only rent one movie at a time. That rules out movie night with the girls and "The Lord of the Rings" marathons.

Ashley Sveom, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student, said she still uses Family Video because, "it's convenient and has great customer service."

Another alternative is Redbox. Julie Driscoll, another UWSP student, said, "I use Redbox as an afterthought. I don't go to a Redbox to rent movies, but if I see it at the County Market I might think about picking up one up."

News

Top-notch security a high priority at UWSP

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Although National Campus Safety Awareness Month is almost over, the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point campus security is a year-round priority.

Walking around campus, one may notice a few obvious signs of security. Code Blue emergency phones are located at strategic points around the university. These phones, which are tested monthly, are used frequently by people looking for directions, said Bill Rowe, director of Protective Services.

Another familiar sight on campus is the Protective Services car. Protective Services, the university's law enforcement authority, employs five state certified police officers that carry weapons and make arrests, along with many other staff members.

Protective Services does much more than patrol the campus and make arrests. The organization cooperates with several other university departments to ensure campus security.

Rowe credits UWSP support staff for the success of student safety on campus. Departments that cooperate with Protective Services include Residential Living, Health Services, the Counseling Center, Safety and Loss and Facility Services.

One example of departmental cooperation is the annual campus walk at night. Individuals from

several departments assemble and survey the campus at night. The group looks for dark spots, trip hazards, overgrown shrubbery and other potential sources of danger.

"We take a real hard look at the campus in a different light, or the absence thereof light, to try and see if there are any vulnerabilities," said Rowe.

Another step toward a more secure campus came when Residential Living changed the procedure for entering residence halls and installed prop alarms on the side doors. Rowe considered this a substantial step to ensuring the safety and integrity of the buildings because "a propped door just invites trouble."

Locking and unlocking buildings on campus is a constant but important task for Protective Services staff.

Several buildings on campus, including the Dreyfus University Center, Health Enhancement Center, DeBot and Allen Center have been equipped with cameras over the last several years. According to Rowe, these cameras are intended for use in "retrospective investigation," not live monitoring.

Are you more likely to be caught on tape in the future? The answer is unknown.

"Protective Services does not install cameras. The individual departments are responsible for presenting and justifying the need for cameras to be installed," said Rowe.

Protective Services and cooperating departments on campus aren't the only ones in charge of

campus safety, the student body is.

Rowe encourages students to be proactive in ensuring their own safety. "I think if people use the resources that are available on campus, they'll have a very safe experience here."

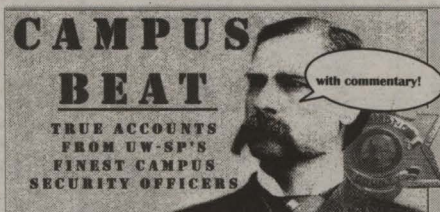
Protective Services offers crime prevention programs that cover alcohol awareness, apartment/room safety, personal safety, sexual assault awareness and several others.

As the university's law enforcement authority, Protective Services collects and publishes crime statistics. A quick glance over the 2008 Activity Report shows the largest number of incidents occur under the areas of theft, underage alcohol violation and vandalism.

"I think if you compare these statistics to a municipality of equal size, you'll find that the statistics at UWSP are substantially lower than what you would find in a municipality. I think that speaks volumes for the people that attend here and also for the people that are entrusted to ensure that students have a successful career here," said Rowe.

Even though Central Wisconsin seems safe, Rowe warns against falling into a false sense of security. Students at Yale University in Connecticut said they felt safe on their campus until the recent murder case of a graduate student.

"Never allow yourself to be too complacent. Never allow yourself to be too alone, to be too lost, to be too comfortable," said Rowe.



September 20, 2009
01:46

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

2 male individuals with dark clothing, one was observed urinating. Citations were issued

EDITOR'S NOTE: it doesn't say they were wearing the dark clothing. Why didn't they get a citation for that?

September 20, 2009
18:37

THEFT

Individual came in to report his vehicle had been broken into over the weekend in Lot Q. Photos were taken. CD player stolen by removal of Plexiglas window in back of the truck. Shotgun untouched.

EDITOR'S NOTE: OK, thank goodness the shotgun was untouched ... shouldn't it be somewhere other than in your vehicle while on campus? Now I know you have a Plexiglas window.

September 22, 2009
08:00

THEFT

Individual had a car stereo stolen in Lot Q out of her 1995 Honda. She noticed it this morning when she got into her car.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Who puts a system into a 1995 Honda?

This week from Student Government Association

Chris Yarie
SGA LEGISLATIVE ISSUES DIRECTOR

Legislation coming up this week in Senate that affects you.

The student survey resolution is proposing the professor evaluation surveys given to students at the end of a semester include an addition of a "comment box" and that the surveys be issued at the beginning of the class period in which they are given out. The posting of past survey results on the SGA Web site is also part of this request.

The foreign language requirement resolution would confirm SGA's support and encouragement of a requirement

of two years of high school foreign language, to take effect no earlier than Fall 2012 as part of the proposed general degree requirements.

The United Council referendum resolution will implement when the student referendum on the decision to maintain its membership and affiliation with UC will take place online. It also proposes that it is ensured SGA will not take part in UC promotion/tabling before or during the voting period.

The Dining Advisory Board statute will establish the DAB as a shared governance body on campus, officially stating its purpose, "Charged with providing student input concerning the University Dining Services, a non-allocable unit

within Student Affairs, to the Director of Dining Services, as detailed in the attached constitution." This will also provide approval of the DAB constitution by SGA as it has to be approved by all current shared governance groups on campus for official approval and recognition by the UW System.

The Finance Bylaw Amendment is an amendment that will package the approval of finance committee meeting minutes before they are approved at Senate meetings. Currently they are not action items on the senate agendas.

If you are interested in SGA senate meetings, they are held on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the DUC Legacy Room.

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Dylan Days takes over campus radio station

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Although 90FM is best known for its self-proclaimed "world's largest trivia contest," Dylan Days is the first event that this station sponsors during the academic year. This event showcases Bob Dylan's works on the weekend of Friday, Sept. 25 through Sunday, Sept. 27. Though some people can't get enough of Dylan, after 56 hours of his songs. Many might see that "the times they are a-changing."

The campus radio station has sponsored this event now for two years. Scott Clark, the 90FM station manager, believes that this event is a great idea because Dylan has inspired so many people and artists during his lifetime.

"90FM has a similar event called Beatlesfest," said Clark. "Two years ago a previous Station Manager, James Priniski, had the idea [that] if we did anything [else] like Beatlesfest, a whole weekend of Bob Dylan would be the best idea. Dylan has so much music, and he is very inspirational to many artists including artists that we play on 90FM. The 90FM executive staff decided to go through the event,

and last year was the first year of our new event."

Like trivia, the station has a lot of participation from the workers of the station, and volunteers outside. For a station like 90FM to function, participation is key. Steven Zahurones, a volunteer at the radio station, states, "I wanted to volunteer at 90FM because I love new music and all the staff are really friendly. I am very excited for Dylan Days. I cannot wait to DJ for four hours and listen to one of the best artists of all time." Many students don't know how to volunteer or get involved in a communication area like this, but Clark shows a welcoming perspective to all students.

"We have 14 four hour DJ slots that play the music that weekend. But we also have people help us with making promos and hanging up posters," said Clark. "I would encourage students to come to the station and talk with the staff, and we can talk about all the opportunities that are available at 90 FM."

Still can't get enough of Dylan? On Friday, Sept. 25 the station is also showing the movie "No Direction Home" in the Dreyfus University Center Theatre at 7 p.m., doors opening at 6:30 p.m., for \$3.

Random rants with Andy: Educational crap videos

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Nothing painfully jabs at my side more than a) appendicitis and b) when I witness an educational rap video. The truth is, educational rap videos have been killing us slowly since kindergarten. Sure, they usually start off with subjects such as "respect," and "have confidence in yourself." Sure, let me soak that in as I sip on my gin and juice.

Are you a bully yet? Good. You're going somewhere in life, but sooner or later, subjects like smoking, drunk driving and beware of semi-truck blind spots start popping up. Then you know you're in for a real disservice to your education.

Here's my two cents on the subject: Every message has its appropriate communication channel. For every appropriate communication channel, there are a hundred more communication channels that are not nearly as appropriate.

If Billy wants to tell the world about drugs and guns, then please, by all means Billy, adjust your pants accordingly and rap until you've gained the recognition to be dissed

by Eminem, and if you're actually noteworthy, Jay-Z. But say your drivers education instructor wants to educate his students about the blind spots around a semi-truck. Please do not show me an educational rap video. Draw me a picture. And I don't mean any picture. I want the run-of-the-mill, status quo, this-is-the-reason-I-teach-drivers-ed, kind of picture.

By now you're probably wondering where you can find a semi-truck blind spot educational rap video. You can go to YouTube and search "OMS: Definition of THUG" (Caution: watching said video may inspire you to watch an episode of Rock of Love: II. Don't give in).

Now keep in mind, I don't go looking for these gems. They've always found me. The first 12 years of my formal education was their prime nesting ground. They attacked me from time to time, usually during a short-lived nap, but I've still managed to come out half-asleep.

Have these educational rap songs and videos actually taught me anything? Why, yes.

Following a semi-truck in its blind spot? Don't mind if I do!

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ELIGIBILITY: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors from all disciplines with academic focus, maturity, motivation, and an international perspective. The application deadline has been extended and there is still room for you.

"To be tired of London is to be tired of life."

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS * UW-STEVENSON POINT

Room 108 Collins Classroom Center
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spotlight on

International Programs



Photo by Jacob Mathias

Students are given a chance to see a totally different part of the world through International Programs. One of the newest trips is a culinary journalism trip to Greece.

Heather Sheets

THE POINTER
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If you've ever jogged through the Trail of Reflections in Schmeekle Reserve you may have stumbled across Enos Mill's quote, "The essence is to travel gracefully rather than to arrive." Students find themselves in the category of traveling more often than not; traveling home, traveling to visit family and friends, road tripping and in transit to the future. It's a big world out there with a lot to discover and even a glance at the study abroad materials inside the International Programs office may turn into an urgent desire to harness a traveling propensity and grace your college experience with another layer.

Eric Yonke, history professor and director of International Programs at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, believes that because of today's global society, studying abroad should not be looked at as a frill but rather a central part of undergraduate study.

"It really doesn't matter what you do after you graduate. There will be an international component with jobs and life in general these days," said Yonke. "It is important to be exposed to other parts of the world. You have to get yourself out there."

Yonke is not alone in his enthusiasm. In fact, there has been so much enthusiasm about International Programs at UWSP that it has been running for 40 years. The interest of students and faculty have molded the options that are now offered attracting approximately 20 percent of the UWSP student body. As impressive as this seems, Yonke feels it should still be higher.

He expressed studying abroad should be both possible and essential. The prices are manageable when noting everything that is included,

and the timing is reasonable if students can evaluate their academic goals and plan ahead.

Different majors across the board should be able to time it right because of the more specific study abroad trips available. They have been tailored for different interests such as the Holocaust and the history of psychology. Professors look to students' needs for experience and knowledge of the world when developing new programs.

The newest program formed when Elizabeth Fakazis, assistant professor of communication, led the "Culinary Journalism: The Food and Wines of the World" trip and travelled to Greece, with overwhelming student popularity, for the first time this past summer. Students have a wide range of possible trips to choose from though and don't have to just stick within their major.

Obstacles are still present though, the biggest being a lack of prioritization. Yonke pointed out that if cost really was the biggest issue, then the London programs would not fill up like they do. According to the International Programs website, a semester in London runs about \$10,400-\$10,900. It is not the most expensive trip or the cheapest by a long shot.

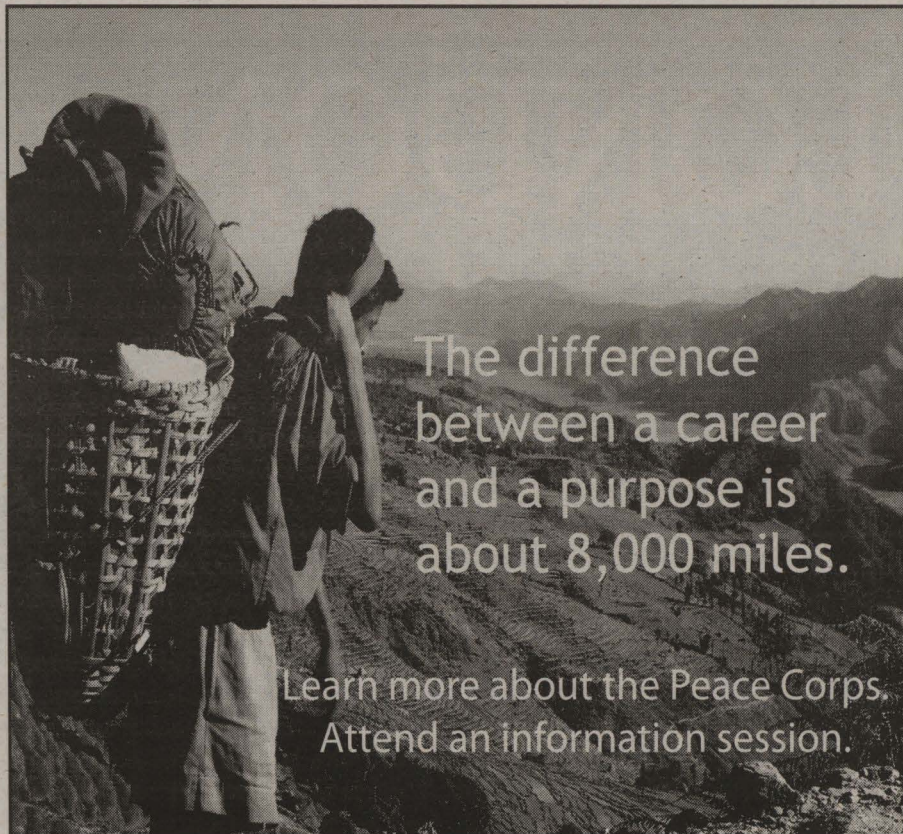
Not realizing the significance in studying abroad proves to be the biggest deterrent. Yonke has a way to cure that. He urges for students to keep two things in mind: 1. Studying abroad will broaden your world perspective greatly. 2. It will help you develop creative problem solving and people skills while living outside the U.S.

After all, Enos Mills would probably argue that graduation really isn't about the date and the title, but rather the journey to it. More information about International Programs can be found at www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad.



ways to drive your roommate insane

10. Set up a volleyball net. Constantly spike the ball at your roommate.
9. Go to the involvement fair and sign your roommate up for everything.
8. Buy a plant. Talk to it more than you talk to your roommate. In fact, talk to your plant about your roommate while he or she's in the room.
7. Set up a video camera aimed at your roommate's bed. If asked what you're doing, just say, "research."
6. Speak to them only with flashcards. Provide them with a set.
5. Move everything to one side of the room. When your roommate enters, pretend to be measuring out the room with great concern. Explain that you're building a shark tank.
4. Wear a cape. Stand in front of a window for about an hour every day. Then, one day, when your roommate is gone, go outside and lie down beneath the window, pretending to be injured, and wait for your roommate to return.
3. Whenever your roommate leaves, put a glass of water right by the door so that they knock it over when they return. Do this every single time.
2. Play Christmas music all year long.
1. Get a tarantula or snake and keep it in a container in the open. Explain that it will only be for a few days. Get rid of the tarantula or snake when your roommate is out but leave the empty container. If your roommate asks anything just say, "I'm sure he'll turn up somewhere."



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Science & Outdoors

Technology faces age discrimination at UWSP

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THE POINTER

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As new students arrived for the school year, old technology was taken out of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point residential halls. That's right, in-room phones are no more.

UWSP pulled the plug on landlines in the residential halls after many years. The decision was made by several departments on campus, including Residential Living, the Resident Hall Association, the Telephone Support Office and the Chancellor's Cabinet.

The choice to remove phones from residential hall rooms was not taken lightly. Phone service in the halls, which carried an annual price tag of \$400,000, constituted a large chunk of the Telephone Support Office's budget. One position in the office was affected because of the change said Kathy Wachowiak, director of the Telephone Support Office.

Declining usage was the driving force behind the decision. "We saw that over the years, the use of the phones had been declining to the point where almost nobody was using them anymore," said Susan

Malnory of Residential Living.

This summer, about 1,500 phones were removed from the halls. These phones were recycled and sold through the University's Surplus Property Store. Students and parents were notified of the change this summer.

Students living in the residential halls aren't completely cut off from the world, however. A total of 300 new "wing phones" were installed for emergencies in the halls said Wachowiak. Courtesy phones in community areas within the halls are also still working. Approximately 200 hall staff members have phones

in their rooms as well.

It is possible for individual students to have their phone reconnected. One month of phone service, including local calls, intercampus calls and voicemail, can be purchased through the Telephone Support Office for \$23.59.

Malnory, who has worked at the University for 25 years, said, "I was here when they put them in the rooms. It's kind of weird to be here long enough to see them come back out again."

WDNR calls in new waterfowl hunting regulations

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The opening day of duck season is right around the corner and for hunters all across the state, "getting back in the swing of things" will mean a slight change in routine this year. Saturday, Sept. 26 marks the joyous or sad day, depending on whether you inhabit land or water on a regular basis.

Traditionally, U.S. 10, which runs through Stevens Point has been the dividing line for the northern and southern waterfowl hunting zones in

or at least partially concealed. While it was understood by some that partial concealment meant at least 50 percent, the new rule establishes it as such, and leaves no room for quacks of the hunting realm.

In addition, the new rule requires that the concealment of the hunter, boat and blind be visible horizontally from at least one direction, according to the DNR.

As before, natural emergent vegetation must be rooted from the bottom; however, waterfowl hunting can now take place within three feet of the specified vegetation. The prevention of open water hunting is favored by hunters of waterfowl because it is the location for staging and resting during the birds' migration.

For many hunters, waterfowl hunting is not just a sport, but a lifestyle change come fall. For Jeremy Durst, a resource management law enforcement major at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, preparation begins months before the season opens. Waking up at 3:30 a.m. on school days is a consolation for the avid waterfowl hunter of eight years.

The scene of a hunter tucked in his blind with a dog at his feet, surrounded by the honks and clucks of landing geese is a familiar one for Durst. "Flagging, calling and working the birds in, is to me, the most exciting part of waterfowl

hunting," said Durst. "Getting the chance to watch hundreds of geese drop and land in your decoys is an indescribable sight, one that everyone should experience."

It's safe to say that waterfowl hunting is well underway, with duck season opening this weekend and regular goose season in its first week. For more information, consult the 2009 Wisconsin Migratory Bird Regulations, which can be found on the DNR Web site. With so many eyes on the sky this weekend, one can only hope for maxed-out bag limits. Happy hunting!

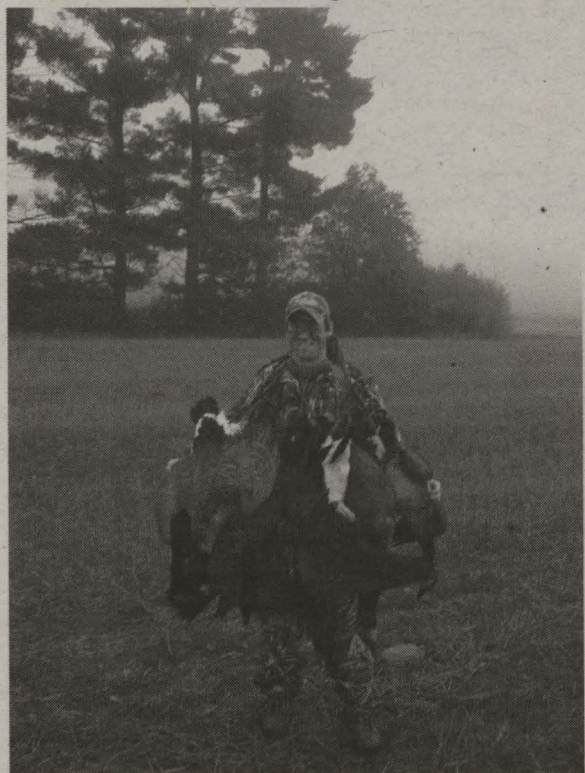


Photo by Jeremy Durst

Jeremy Durst after a morning of goose hunting this year.

Wisconsin. The newly constructed U.S. 10 runs parallel to the familiar boundaries but has been rerouted to the north. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, this change will not affect the northern and southern zones of duck hunting.

Though the zones remain intact, changes to open water hunting regulations will be effective Oct. 1. Open water hunting restrictions previously required a hunter to remain within natural emergent vegetation during which time, boat, blind and hunter were to be wholly

Get in shape with an iPhone

Jackie Lutze

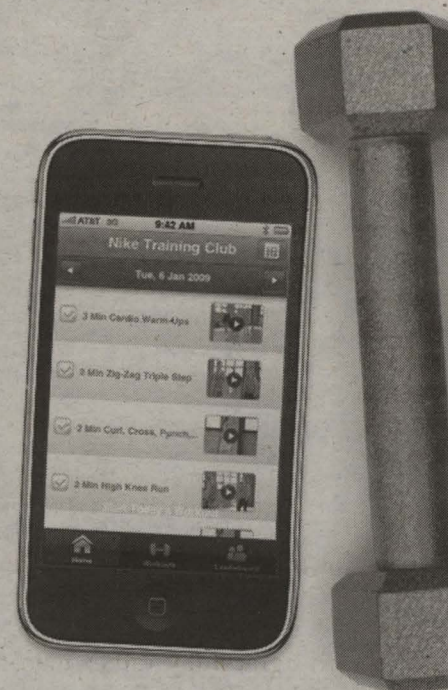
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On a college campus it is common to find students walking to class listening to their favorite songs on their iPod or even secretly playing games in the middle of class. Many people bring their iPod to the gym to listen as they run, but it's not expected that a person would be listening to the same device to learn about shoulder press repetitions. A new application for iPhone does just that, and thanks to the many different types, everyone is sure to find one that fits their gym profile.

According to download.cnet.com, there are seven top fitness applications for iPhone and iPod Touch. The first is LoseIt! This fitness system is free for download and is perfect for those wanting to track their calorie intake and how many calories they burn throughout the day.

GymGoal ABC is an app that provides a complete gym workout. It has 280 different exercises to



www.apple.com/iphone/apps

One of many apps available for iPhone users.

Another great app is Wellness Tip of the Day. The app provides people with a one-a-day tip to help users better their health. Tips range from what food to try that day to how to stay happy.

Lastly, is a day by day meal

"Why pay hundreds of dollars when a whole fitness world is right at your fingertips, even while you're working out?"

-Lutze

tone up any body. It also includes calculators, like body mass index and target heart rate.

iFitness was designed for those who subscribe to every fitness magazine out there. In simple terms, it's a travel size magazine. The app helps spice up routines with new and upcoming exercises.

For those walking around with a step tracker, iTreadmill keeps track of distance and speed from the palm of your hand or even from inside your purse.

tracker, MiMeals. This app helps you keep to a schedule by tracking your meals for the week. Studies show that if you plan your meals ahead of time, you're more likely to stick to them.

The fear is rising for personal trainers. How can they compete with something that is in a person's back pocket for every question they may have? Why pay hundreds of dollars when a whole fitness world is right at your finger tips, even while you're working out?

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Sports

Getting sporty all around campus

Heather Sheets

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Since the great Greek tradition of Olympic athletics, mankind has carried the weight of improvement and the joy of competition in sport. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point carries on these standards in the realm of both team and individual progression. Whether it is varsity, club or intramural, outlets of sport are about as easy to come by in UWSP as mythology was in ancient Greece.

Intramural sports are defined by avid intramural participant Jackson Butler, a junior at UWSP as, "A good way to get your competitive juices flowing and a great way to stay in shape."

The UWSP Web site lists the mission statement of intramurals as "dedicated to providing students, faculty and staff of the university many opportunities for involvement within a healthy, safe and competitive environment. Activities in the

intramural program enhance the college experience promoting responsibility, sportsmanship and fun."

Competition levels range from the most competitive level, Division I, to the laid-back level, Division III. Butler, who has competed in all divisions, says, "You can either have an attitude of just trying to make the most fun out of it, or come to compete." With about 18 sports to choose from, most can find a little fight inside to take up anything from ultimate frisbee, to bean bag toss, to wiffleball.

Club sports are not sanctioned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association but they do increase the level of commitment, strategy and competition. Wendy Treder, a sophomore at UWSP and member of SHOCKWAVE, UWSP's Women's Ultimate Frisbee Club, said, "Club athletics are for those who want a more in-depth experience with their sport. There are practices to understand the strengths and weaknesses of each player,

coaches, scheduled competitions and there is more seriousness to what is being done."

Treder and her team enjoy being recognized as a Point team, replete with UWSP jerseys and also enjoy being around people. Both their team and their opponents have an in depth knowledge and training in what they are doing. Most club sports are formed by people with a competitive drive whose sport is not offered among the varsity listings.

Varsity sports should also be recognized. The competition level of varsity athletics at UWSP is apparent when examining the workload of junior Claire Roberts, a cross country standout for two years. On average, Roberts and her teammates run 60 miles a week. She also lifts weights twice a week and competes every weekend. She gets only four weeks off a year.

These facts show the level of commitment that is required by UWSP's varsity athletes. Unlike intramurals and club, the NCAA supports varsity athletics, with UWSP

being in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Nationals are the highest competition for all divisions within the NCAA, the "Olympics of college," and for Roberts, this is a big incentive.

"The real goal that gets me through the tough workouts is going to nationals as a team. We are all working hard for each other to achieve that goal, and it's going to take every person on the team to make that happen."

Being a part of Division III means no scholarships are granted, so varsity Pointers are fueled solely by competition, passion and the strength they get from their teammates.

As Butler, Treder and Roberts would agree, that's what it's all about. From Athens to Stevens Point, loving the weight of improvement and the joy of competition.

More Sports on pg 12

Fun with numbers through week two

Griffin Gotta

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The biggest reason I went down the Bachelor of Arts route was to ensure that I took the bare minimum of math classes needed to graduate, while remaining under the guise that I can successfully perform a long division problem (very questionable). Despite my deficiencies, I took an interest in advanced sports statistics, mainly in relation to the NBA and MLB. While there is no substitute for actually watching a game to understand the ebbs and flows of a player or team, advanced statistics can provide insight as to why certain things are happening in the sports world. I had never looked for these types of statistics in relation to the NFL, but starting this season I have decided to confuse myself even more by attempting to decipher the work of the Web site www.footballoutsiders.com, which features some in-depth stats based on the early results of the NFL season.

All of the information I'm talking about regarding these statistics comes from the Football Outsiders Web site. I'm going to try to stick with a basic overview of the main parts of their work, because an in-depth tutorial would probably make my head explode.

The two main features of Football Outsiders (FO) are the DYAR and DVOA rankings. DYAR stands for Defense-Adjusted Yards Above Replacement, which for regular people means a player's value, in yards, compared to a replacement or back-up player at the same position, in the same situations. Typically

this stat is used to determine value throughout an entire season's body of work.

On the other hand, DVOA, which stands for Defense-adjusted Value Over Average, deals with players' performances on every play in every situation, when compared to the league average, with positions compared against one another. As FO puts it, "Football has one objective, to get to the end zone and two ways to achieve that, by gaining yards and getting first downs. These two goals need to be balanced to determine a player's value or a team's performance. All the yards in the world aren't useful if they all come in eight-yard chunks on 3rd-and-ten." Basically, they weigh a player's true value to his team based on how he performs at gaining yards in meaningful situations.

Alright. I only have a minor migraine at the moment. Here are some statistics that stuck out to me:

I will begin with Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme. He followed up his catastrophic postseason game last year by turning the ball over five times in week one against the Eagles. In week two, he threw only one interception, but it came late in the fourth quarter with the Panthers driving. I wanted to see if the stats at FO backed up what everyone else saw: A really bad quarterback.

Not-so-surprisingly, they did. Through week two, he is ranked 34 out of 35 quarterbacks who have attempted a minimum of 15 passes. Delhomme's DVOA was 42 percent worse than the league average. So on a given play, the average quarterback is 42 percent more likely to hang onto the ball, complete a first down pass or be generally productive. To put this in some perspective, Kyle

Orton, who doesn't necessarily strike fear into his opponents, performs 24.7 percent better on a given play than the average quarterback so far this season.

Delhomme's DYAR, or value in yards for the season, is negative 121 when compared to a replacement quarterback. Yes, negative. Granted, this is a stat measuring a season's worth of work, and it is undoubtedly skewed with the horrendous week one performance, but for now, Jake Delhomme's value to the Panthers rests at negative 121 yards. If the "replacement quarterback" FO talks about existed, he would be 121 yards more valuable than Delhomme. Orton's DYAR by the way, is 153 yards better than a replacement. Is it easier to simply say Jake Delhomme is not a very good quarterback right now? Probably. But with these stats, one can truly see the magnitude of his current play. Impressive!

Next, I looked at Ryan Grant, expecting to find stats not worth writing about. I guess they weren't that bad, but I was basically accurate in my assumption. Sporting a DVOA of 2.4 percent makes him slightly better than the average running back on any play. A DYAR of 13 yards goes further in showing the lack of separation from Grant and a backup running back.

The underwhelming running game cannot solely be blamed on Ryan Grant; however, we have to mention the worst unit for the Packers these first two weeks: the offensive line. Yes, FO also features advanced offensive line statistics. The most striking numbers came in FO's power success and 10+ yards stats. Power success is the percentage of short yardage runs on third or fourth down that end in a first down

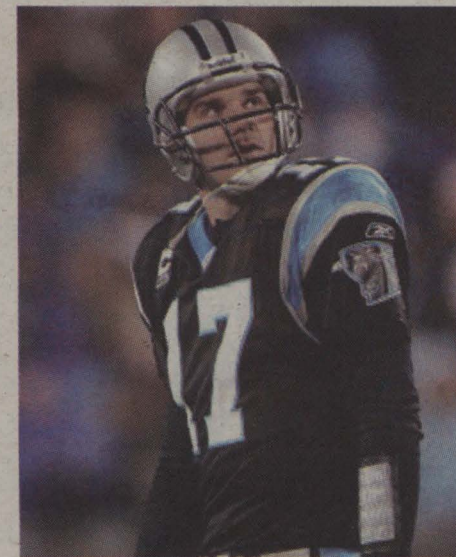


Photo courtesy of Streeter Lecka/Getty Images

Even Jake Delhomme is surprised by his horrible stats.

or touchdown. The Packers power success is 50 percent, good for 23rd in the league. The 10+ yards stat shows the percentage of running plays that go ten yards or over. Green Bay's chances of breaking a big run: 10 percent, this is 21st in the league. Throw this in with the 11.1 percent chance of a sack on every play, according to FO's Adjusted Sack Rate, and you start to see why the weapons on the Packer offense cannot seem to get going this season.

It is important to mention again that this is two weeks worth of data. Bad performances loom large with such few numbers to crunch, but these stats still provide a gauge for which to measure what you watch on Sundays. These statistics are not the be-all and end-all when it comes to a player's performance, although they can be very telling. As far as math goes though, it is pretty interesting material. Can I get college credits for this?

Arts & Culture

Invisible Children provides a voice for Uganda

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During her sophomore year of high school, something changed for University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point freshman Liz Colianni. A group of representatives for the group Invisible Children came to her high school discussing a war in Uganda that forces children to fight. After this, she would go on to meet a nun from Northern Uganda who had witnessed the atrocities first hand. From there, she knew she had to do more.

"She told me to keep pressing on, even if I was the last one to keep fighting," said Colianni, "I knew I had to get really involved."

Colianni has since joined with the UWSP chapter of Invisible Children, which held its first event of the year on Tuesday evening at the Encore, in the Dreyfus University Center. The group, with the help of some of the national organizations roadies, screened a film entitled "Together We are Free," a film documenting some of the action Invisible Children has taken as an organization, specifically an event called the "The Rescue."

The Rescue was an attempt by the organization in April 2009 to bring people together in a big way

and get big names involved with their cause. People gathered in 100 cities across the globe and declared themselves "abducted" and waited outside for someone of influence to "save" them. Some waited for days for what they called a "mogul," meaning a celebrity or politician to recognize the cause. Club President Doug Peterson attended the event.

"In Chicago I spent three or four days on the streets freezing not able to shower," Peterson said, "I would do it again in a heart beat."

For 23 years, Northern Uganda has been in the depths of civil war. Since the beginning of the war in 1987 the Lord's Resistance Army and the Government of Uganda have failed in finding a way for peace to resume. The leader of the LRA, Joseph Kony, resorted to stealing children from villages and training them to be a part of his army, keeping his cause alive. Its estimated that 90% of the LRA is now made up of abducted children according to the Invisible Children web site.

These children and this war went



Photo by Nick Meyer

Students signing up for Invisible Children programs.

unnoticed for almost 20 years until Invisible Children was started by a group of film school graduates in 2003. Now with Invisible Children chapters starting all over America, the lost children of Uganda have a voice.

"We just want to let people know the story and help Uganda get back to having a stable economy and not living in fear," said Peterson.

The national organization has many ways people can help, and the UWSP chapter hopes that their ambition will bring other people to the cause.

"We're just looking to grow

because we have huge expectations for our group. We're trying to get Taylor Swift for a benefit concert in the spring," said Peterson.

Invisible Children has many programs to provide aid to Uganda. A teacher exchange, Visible Children Scholarship, Tri campaign, Schools for Schools campaign and a bracelet campaign bring in money for a variety of needs for people in the middle of war.

The UWSP chapter will be involved with at least one of those campaigns this year, Schools for Schools.

The program partners the group with a school in Uganda for which they raise money. All of the money they raise goes directly to improving the school in Uganda.

The main goal of the UWSP chapter is simply to get more people involved in programs like this, even if they don't decide to join the group and help every week.

"It's not about joining the organization. It's about stopping a war and arresting Joseph Kony," said Colianni.

The UWSP chapter meets every Tuesday in room 378 of the DUC at 7 p.m. For more information visit www.invisiblechildren.com.



UWSP HEALTH SERVICE FLU SHOT CLINICS

LOCATION: UWSP HEALTH SERVICE, DELZELL HALL, 1ST FLOOR

YOU MUST BE A CURRENTLY REGISTERED UWSP STUDENT

(Sorry - staff, spouses, grads and children do not qualify)

Thursday, September 24th 9-10:30am & 1-3pm

Monday, September 28th 9-11:30am & 1-3pm

Tuesday, September 29th 9-11:30am & 1-3pm

Wednesday September 30th 8-10:30am & 1-3pm

The vaccine will be given at these clinics until our supply is exhausted.

More clinics may be announced if any vaccine is remaining.

Other clinics are charging \$25 for this vaccine. You may be referred to go somewhere else to receive the vaccine once our supply is gone. We *highly* encourage you to attend one of these clinics and take advantage of the savings.

Watch for more information to be posted in October about the recommended H1N1 vaccine.



Arts & Culture

Lincoln Hills Poetry Project provides outlet for youth

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Poetry isn't at the forefront of today's art culture but University of Wisconsin Stevens Point students are using the art form to do something unique. Through the Lincoln Hills Poetry Project, students and others are inspiring incarcerated boys to release their emotions through the medium of poetry, prose or stories.

The project was created in 1996 by a student, Erika Hall, who was incarcerated as a juvenile at Lincoln Hills School. While incarcerated, she wrote down all of her feelings and thoughts to get her through the tough time. What she didn't realize was how essential those creative thoughts were and how they would transform her future for the better. With these thoughts in mind, Erika attended UWSP where she began to get involved with students interested in publishing and performers at coffee shops reciting their work. With many people interested in this area of literature, Erika knew that a poetry

club would be beneficial on campus. She hoped that with all of these contacts, UWSP would encourage other Lincoln Hill students to put their emotions into creative writing and turn their lives into something positive.

Elaine Miller, the former cooperating teacher from Lincoln Hills, states that Erika's work was not only beneficial, but also lasting. This project is going on its thirteenth year, helping mainly male students at Lincoln Hills.

"Erika's 1996 UWSP poetry workshop concept has paid off in lasting ways. Our youths' creative efforts have blossomed with the encouragement from the university students that come up to work with them. The youths learn important lessons about how to express themselves in appropriate ways for an appreciative audience. The talent generated in these groups has been inspiring," said Miller.

Five times a semester, a group of students travel to Irma, Wis to hold workshops. Both the Lincoln Hills students and the UWSP students create their work to share with others.

"I appreciate the lessons the UWSP students [taught us], [it] helped not just me, but showed everyone what they are able to do if they try. Now, I'm writing poetry in my spare time. I never thought I would be doing that. Please keep the program going to help kids here learn that there is another way to express their feelings through writing," said one Lincoln Hills participant.

"The UWSP students provide a sounding board and an attentive audience which helps develop their work and their self-confidence. At the end of the semester, the LHS students submit their work on a voluntary basis and the organization publishes it in an anthology. These anthologies are sent to the organization's members, the LHS students, and to the LHS students families," said project President Katlynn Paape.

This club, backed by the Student Involvement and Employment Office and supported by the English Department, is always looking for new members.

"I find it extremely important to help students

find their own voice and was naturally drawn to this project. The members of the Lincoln Hills Writing Project are, in essence, teachers, and I enjoy working with them as they help the students at Lincoln Hills find a voice, develop their writing skills and publish their pieces for an authentic and real audience," said group advisor David Roloff.

This group shows that not only are you doing something for other people, you are doing something for yourself. Paape believes in this project whole-heartedly.

"I am helping someone to develop the tools and self-confidence to have a positive self-release and emotional purging rather than hopefully recommitting another crime. I can't think of anything beyond the medical profession that can have such a profound effect on the human life, especially with so little given," said Paape.

Grammy nominated artist plays at the Afterdark

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International reggae artist Pato Banton and his Now Generation Band performed at the Afterdark coffee shop in Stevens Point last Sunday to perform with the Madison-based band Taki Allstars.

The multi-Grammy nominated singer played an energetic 90-minute set with an eight-piece band. His songs covered political, social and spiritual topics. The bands delivered a dynamic show of original music for a small but enthusiastic audience.

"I think the crowd's reaction was perfect," said Banton. "Everybody in the room was into it and dancing and the energy was there."

Greg Hartman, a University of Wisconsin Stevens Point student who attended, said that he thought the audience enjoyed the show.

"Everyone loved it, and I think it was great that the band came back to Stevens Point," he said.

Banton says performing in the Midwest can be a challenge due to the fans' limited exposure to reggae.

"It's a challenge because reggae music isn't as strong as it is on the coastal areas or in the bigger cities," he said. The audience at the show seemed to receive his music very well.

"In the Midwest, the reggae fans that come out are always very appreciative when an artist goes out of their way to come to a place where there isn't enough of this music," he said.

Born as Patrick Murray, Banton

began performing as a youth in Birmingham, England, under the wing of his stepfather, a DJ from Jamaica. His nickname, which means heavyweight MC, was given to him when he began winning competitions around England.

He began to break-through in the 1980s, collaborating with Ranking Roger and the English Beat, and later went on to release "Never Give In," his most popular album. His single "Baby Come Back," with fellow British reggae band UB40 reached number one on the UK Singles Chart in 1994.

Banton has continued to collaborate with other artists throughout the last decade: working with Sting, Steel Pulse, Mad Professor and Tippa Irie, who he said was one of his favorite artists to work with.

Banton said that what makes him stand out among other reggae acts are his live performances, along with his background.

"First of all, I am not from Jamaica, like the majority of reggae acts," he said. "I am also more of an MC than a singer, unlike most reggae bands from the UK. A lot of what they sing about is Rastafari, where as that is not necessarily my religious focus. When you combine all of those things, those attributes,

you start to get a picture of what makes me different."

The singer says his plans for the future include more touring, adding that his current tour has reached 46 states, and will be covering all 50 by its completion. He also confirmed the possibility of recording new material. He will continue touring in support of his latest release, "Positive Vibrations."



Pato Banton at the Afterdark

Photo by Dan Neckar



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Letters & Opinion

Food Swings: Beer is dear

Jacob Mathias
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"So, what food is on tap for you this week," asked Steve?

"Probably something with beer as an ingredient since we play St. Louis this week," answered Jake.

"Well everyone loves beer dip. There's got to be something new to do with that old standby."

"For sure; Or maybe toasted ravioli, big in St. Louis," agreed Jake.

"Don't let your party suck like the Rams."

"Ha-ha, I'm trying not to bash too much."

"It's not like you'd offend anyone. The Rams have no fans."

Whether or not the aforementioned statements are all true is not for me to decide; however, it did lead me to this week's game

day recipe.

Beer dip is a delicious, simple appetizer with many benefits. For one, it is open to suggestion, many things can be added to spice it up or make it more interesting. Also, it is an excuse to buy more beer.

The basic recipe is:

- (2) 8 oz. portions cream cheese
- (1) 1 oz. package ranch dressing mix
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup beer

Mix cheeses and ranch mix together until well blended. Then, whisk in the beer. Let this chill for at least three hours so the cheese can firm up and the flavors can combine. Serve with pretzels.

While the above recipe is delicious, it may be tame for some or, seeing as it is traditional, starting to get boring. I suggest adding jalapenos or onions,

depending on your own personal preference and tough tastebuds. Horseradish is also a great way to add heat without burning off your Norwegian friends' tastebuds.

Adding other vegetables can add bulk and flavor to your dip. Try shredded carrots for crunch and sweetness, pickle relish or olives for saltiness or roasted red peppers for a sweet smokiness and an intriguing flavor that compliments many beers.

Changing the type of beer used can also take a drastic effect on the final flavor of the dip. For the basic recipe, try a light lager such as Miller Lite, Bud Light or Michelob Golden Light. If you want to add bolder flavors try any amber, pale ale, or India pale ale. Experiment with everything; it's cream cheese and beer. It can't possibly taste bad.

Remember, live to eat and don't be afraid to experiment.

The pitfalls of ObamaCare Pt. 2

By John Lee

Considering the incentives and lower costs that the public option will provide, there will certainly be more than 5% of Americans signing up for the public option. This is when President Obama's premium option becomes unattainable due to Moral Hazard. What Moral Hazard is this - protecting people against risks reduces the care people exercise in avoiding those risks. For example, when people have coverage for medical costs, people will inevitably spend more on healthcare.

Unfortunately, healthcare, like any other tradable commodity, is a finite good. As the demand for the public option's healthcare rises, it is inevitable that the cost of meeting those needs will rise, which can only mean that premiums will rise. After a certain point, when the government is no longer able to provide a public healthcare option that is cheaper than the services provided by private health insurers, the government will have to choose one of two options.

The government could continue to keep the program alive while still providing lower costs to the public by subsidizing the program heavily. This would be in direct contradiction to President Obama's promise that he would veto any healthcare initiative that would add "one dime" to the deficit, it also doesn't make any sense in regards to President Obama's mention of Medicare. One thing that the president was right about is the cost of Medicare - Medicare has an unfunded liability worth about \$38 trillion. How does it make any sense to add to this nation-destroying debt by creating a public healthcare option that will surely make the deficit skyrocket even further?

Another option that the government could forge ahead

with is, in order to ensure that the deficit doesn't blow up; the government will have to either raise the premium rates of those who have opted to be part of the public healthcare option or raise taxes on the rest of the populace in order to continue funding the program. This will negate the very reasoning behind the creation of a public healthcare option - the lowering of healthcare costs.

Either fortunately or unfortunately, this is the point where the rules of economics give way to the game of politics. Should a bill that supports the creation of a public healthcare option pass through both in the House of Representatives and the Senate, it will become near impossible to reverse course and undo the program.

Case in point, before the creation of Medicare, it was the Republican Party that opposed it fiercely. In fact, prior to being elected the governor of California in 1967, Ronald Reagan was one of the biggest opponents of Medicare. Although there is no doubt that Medicare has helped countless numbers of seniors a great deal to retain healthcare without becoming

See Obama
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The pitfalls of John Lee

By Jonathan Rivin
CNR

I am disappointed with John Lee's "economic evaluation" of the President's health care reform program (The Economic Pitfalls of Obamacare, 9.17.09) John Lee ignored the 46 million uninsured, 25 million underinsured (2007 statistic in Schoen et al, Health Affairs, 2008) and the preposterous rise in healthcare costs - all under the auspices of private business.

Any discussion of healthcare reform needs to include those who are uninsured/underinsured, as they are integral to reform. The uninsured/underinsured are a cause of lost productivity in the business community. Workers who

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From Obama pg 10

economically displaced, it also cannot be denied that Medicare could potentially ruin this nation's economy.

Many in the Republican base had hoped that after being elected president, Ronald Reagan would begin to dismantle Medicare. Although there is no doubt that President Reagan was philosophically opposed to Medicare, both due to misplaced optimism in the resilience of the US economy and the game of politics, he did no such thing. The same is true of President Obama's public healthcare option. Even when it reaches the point that this president's healthcare option becomes as dangerous as Medicare, after it has passed, it will become near impossible to put this genie back in the lamp.

I desperately want to believe that President Obama will not sign a bill that adds "one dime" to our deficit and I also want to believe that the public option will not be subsidized by taxpayers but the reality of the political and economic situation is that President Obama's promise is sadly a hollow one. The increased taxes that will be required to support this government-run program would be a huge drain on the economy, which would subsequently drastically reduce the incentives of Americans who earn higher incomes to work and invest. Behind the guise of aiding the downtrodden, President Obama and his supporters are threatening to make us all much worse off.

Damn the economy and damn jobs, the news of raising taxes will hardly come as bad news to those who support a larger role for the government, such as Representative Barbara Lee (D. California) who supports a single-payer system much like the Canadian healthcare system. But why is she and the rest of her supporters (and many of those people are solidly behind this president) willing to allow the government to levy even more taxes on the people considering the fact that the current tax system that we already have is unconstitutional? There is only one legitimate reason that the government ought to have to collect taxes – to raise revenue. Any other purpose is the very definition of corruption. And the tax system that we have is the government's attempt at social engineering.

Ridiculous, you say? Then take this into consideration. The government encourages people to get married and become homeowners by handing out tax cuts and it discourages people from drinking alcohol or smoking cigarettes by spiking up taxes on those products. People might say that this is the government's way of encouraging good behavior but the fact of the matter is that it is none of the government's business in telling people how to behave. But it does. By giving the government additional power to tax us behind this guise of a government-run healthcare system, we are allowing the government to run our personal lives even more. And throughout history, whenever people cede power to government, government always uses that

power and it never gives up power. Supporters of the public healthcare option have often responded to this by asking why it would make a difference at all as to whom we take our orders from – the government or private health insurers – when the result is the same. There is a difference, however. If we do not like the fine print that are written in contracts of private health insurers, we can always switch health insurers until we come across one that meets our individual needs. When it comes to the government, however, unless we are willing to leave behind most of our friends and families and have been financially fortuitous enough to start over with a new life somewhere foreign, we don't really have much of an alternative to the United States government. The government has virtually complete monopolistic powers and the government will be intruding into our private lives telling us how to live and how to behave. We

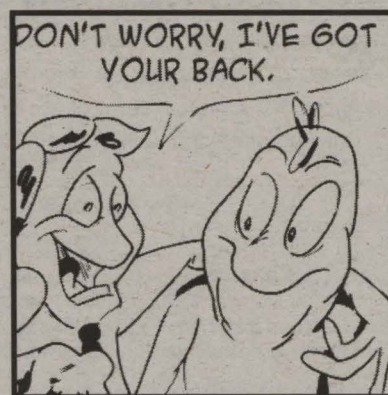
already have laws for that. The government should have no business in controlling the lives of private citizens beyond the enforcement of already existing laws.

However, the conservatives are not without an alternative to President Obama's plans for healthcare reform. One of the alternative plans that the conservatives are offering, an alternative plan which I personally think holds great promise, is Health Savings Accounts, which are basically tax-free individual accounts that people can purchase that will allow people to save money so that they can pay for their routine health care expenses directly without the need for a third-party. Of course, due to the reality of the political situation, neither Medicare nor Medicaid will be gotten rid of (though it needs to be reformed as soon as humanly possible) and therefore, these two government-run programs, along with traditional health insurance will be used for the

truly catastrophic healthcare costs. By utilizing Health Savings Accounts, people will be more directly involved in their healthcare thus being in direct control over their own lives and destinies. Furthermore, due to the fact that the savings in HSAs are tax-free, people will invest their incomes the way they want to which will therefore improve savings and economic prudence, thus bringing about the age of personal responsibility and ending the age of false entitlement.

President Obama's goal of creating a government-run healthcare, in this nation that was founded on the concept of federalism, is wishful thinking at best and at worst, a plan that will be detrimental to the economy. To quote President Ronald Reagan, "In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem."

Horace P. Wrinklebottom, Attorney at Law



by Dustin Hauge



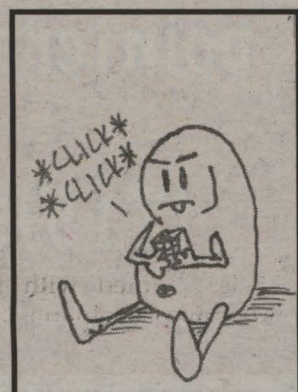
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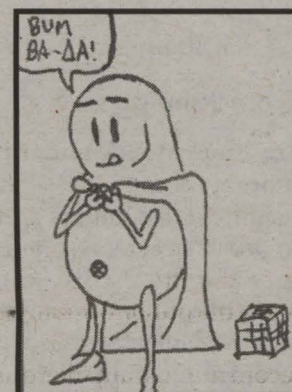
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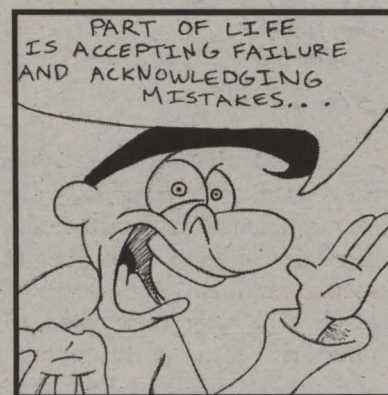
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by Ty Natzke



Roach



by Dustin Hauge



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From John pg 10

are uninsured/underinsured are more prone to miss work due to health-related causes and may come to work sick more often, decreasing productivity. This can lead to higher worker turnover. Worker absenteeism, decreased productivity and training workers all lead to higher costs for employers. Here's another statistic worth pondering: uninsured working-age Americans have a 40 percent higher risk of death than their privately-insured counterparts (Wilper et al., American Journal of Public Health, Dec, 2009).

Over the last 10 years, health care premiums have risen 131% (San Francisco Chronicle, Sept 16, 2009). That's no misprint. If I recollect, a primary reason for privatization of healthcare was to reduce the rising costs.

And who pays the hospital costs of the uninsured/underinsured who go to emergency rooms for their healthcare? You and I.

An overhaul of our decrepit healthcare system is needed and government intervention is necessary because of the mismanagement of our healthcare by private industry. As for

John Lee's notion of "chipping away at capitalism" if the government controls healthcare, I propose John start advocating the abolition of Medicaid, Medicare, WIC and Social Security benefits, as well as numerous other similar socialist programs lest we become a Bolshevik nation like Germany, Norway, England, Canada and Japan, to name just a few.

As for John Lee's concern about the impediment of competition due to government involvement in healthcare, I too am concerned about maintaining a competitive business environment. I suggest John further opine about the pharmaceutical industry's accomplishment in reducing competition by successfully lobbying Congress to prohibit purchases of lower cost Canadian medical drugs. Americans have become a captive audience to the U.S. pharmaceutical industry by being forced to buy the highest cost drugs in the developed world - an integral factor in our high healthcare costs. Allowing purchases of Canadian (and similarly Australian) drugs, would increase competition within the business community - and promote private enterprise.

Happy National Punctuation Day!

September 24, 2009

Ode to the comma

(previously published in Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Daily Tips)

The female body part of punctuation,
So tiny, yet able to arouse such
aggravation.

The comma slips in under the
quotation,

Tells you when to pause for
reflection,

Then plunge ahead to the period's
conclusion.

Neglect it at your peril: accusations,
law suits, wars. Nations
fall. Pretend it doesn't exist at all?

Risk condemnation.

Treat it right for absolution.
That's right, put it there: Yes, oh, yes

... satisfaction.

-- Stacey Harwood

Stacey Harwood is a policy analyst
with the New York State Department
of Public Service. She is a freelance
writer and managing editor of The
Best American Poetry Blog.

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Volleyball "digs for cure"

Dan Neckar

THE POINTER

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The University of Wisconsin Stevens Point women's volleyball team and the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference have begun their second annual "Dig for the Cure" event. The event raises pledges from fans and community members to spread awareness of breast cancer. Donations will be gathered on Oct. 14 when UW-Whitewater visits UWSP.

The process begins with team members and coaches gathering pledges toward "digs," a volleyball term referring to a player preventing the ball from touching the court after a spike or attack. People's pledges will be based on an amount of money for each dig, or they can donate a flat amount if they choose. WIAC teams average about 20 digs per game. Last year, the WIAC raised a total of \$17,347 in donations between all nine teams.

"Dig for the Cure" began in 2003 at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte as a way to raise donations for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. The national organization contributes its donations to breast cancer research. Since then, the fundraiser has caught on with conferences across the country. The WIAC's donations will go to the Madison area's Susan G. Komen foundation.

"I think that breast cancer affects males and females, but since we

are a women's sport it's relevant and I think it's a common ailment," said head coach Stacey White. "By doing this we can help people raise awareness and help benefit the victims." "It's one of those causes where people will be able to promote it best with word of mouth."

"Last year was the first year that the conference did it as a whole," said White. "It was a newer event, but it was successful overall in raising awareness and funding, especially being the inaugural season."

Coach White said that people can get involved by making pledges or donations, or just by attending the games and wearing pink clothing. Attendees can win prizes and get information about testing and self-examinations.

"I think everyone on the team is excited to raise money, and being the second year I think we know more about what it's going to be like and it will be more developed and promoted," said team captain Pamela Nora. "I have close friends who have been affected by breast cancer, and I think it touches base with our players who have had family members affected by it."

People interested in donating and making pledges can contact UWSP volleyball players or coach White to complete the pledge form. Donations will be totaled at The Pointers' home game against UW-Whitewater on Oct. 14.