The Pointer

November 11, 2010

Are you Loko?

12

Percentage of alcohol in a 24 ounce can of Four Loko

5

Number of cans of beer one can of Four Loko is equivalent to

2

Number of cups of coffee one can of Four Loko is equivalent to

9

Number of Central Washington University students hospitalized after drinking Four Loko at a house party Oct. 8

2

Number of states that have banned Four Loko among other alcoholic energy drinks so far

Many universities ban alcoholic energy drink from campuses

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The alcoholic energy drink Four Loko (produced by Phusion Projects, LLC) has been making national headlines lately—after nine Central Washington University students were hospitalized after consuming several cans of the drink (and possibly other hard liquor or drugs). Also it was banned in Michigan and several college campuses such as the University of Rhode Island. Several states, such as New York and Oregon, are following Michigan’s lead and pushing for Four Loko sales bans.

A can of Four Loko, known by many college students as “blackout in a can,” is 23.5 ounces and 12 percent alcohol by volume—that means that one can has the same amount of alcohol as a 6-pack of light beer and as much caffeine as two cups of coffee.

See Loko, page 3

Future grim for U.S. college students?

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For a college student, student loan repayment is that dark and looming storm cloud on the horizon that is slowly advancing. The grim reality is that many students will be up to their eyeballs in debt after graduation, all in the hopes of eventually securing a well-paying job to pay it all back.

FinAid.org reports that the average debt for a college graduate is $23,186. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan recently announced the 2008 student loan default rate at 7 percent, and when the consequences of a default include the withholding of wages, tax refunds and Social Security income, as well as a tainted credit and constant collection calls, defaulting on one’s student loans becomes an almost criminal act.

Pell Grants, which are federal funds that help low-income students meet their tuition costs, accounted for $25 billion of discretionary spending in the last fiscal year, almost double the previous year. However, Rep. John Boehner (R-Ohio) has already called for a decrease in federal discretionary spending to 2008 levels, and federal Pell Grants could be one of the items placed on the chopping block in the near future.

UK Education Faces Cuts

In Britain, the new coalition Conservative-Liberal Democrat administration is going through with a proposed £81 billion ($130 billion) cut in spending which, according to a story on NPR.org, will include the removal of 500,000 public-sector jobs and a 40 percent reduction in higher education spending.

With such a cutback in higher education, tuition is only expected to rise in the near future, and Britain’s Labour Party has predicted that 14,200 teachers would lose their jobs in the Conservatives’ first budget.

See Debt, page 2
Debt/Students protest tuition hikes in London

In late October, roughly 1,000 students from universities in Oxford protested the cuts to higher education, and current protests feature students boisterously storming the London, decrying what they perceive to be a Tory system that "attacks the poor and helps the rich," according to an article by The Guardian from one of the professor's reports.

A College Board study found that average in-state tuition and fees this past fall rose 7.9 percent. This is especially troubling during an economic period in which incomes have not risen for 90 percent of Americans and rampant unemployment continues to plague the country.

Affordable access to a quality higher education, in the eyes of many Americans, is crucial for not only the economic future of the country but also for enriching the civic, cultural and intellectual spheres of our society. How much funding is allocated to public universities and federal grant programs over the coming years is sure to have huge implications for the amount of students that can afford college and eventually obtain skilled and well-paying jobs and, ultimately, become better, more responsible citizens.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

"University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students, along with the rest of the campus community, may find it a bit easier to get to their money." When The Pointer attempted to contact SGA President Mike Wilson on the issue, he was unavailable or chose not to respond.

Former Vice President Nate Schultz was asked about the US Bank survey last year and only responded simply that he could not talk about the results for legal purposes. The legal issue is that a contract was being discussed and therefore was not available to be open for discussion by any one exception who those who were involved in making the decision.

Regardless of the discussions and deliberations between the bank and university officials, it is a decision that is sure to make most students happy as many students on campus do their banking with US Bank. They may even use their student I.D. card as their debit card, one of the services provided.

US Bank will no longer charge ATM fees at its campus ATMs as a result of a campus-wide survey indicating that students want no-fee ATMs.

The bank operates three ATMs on campus. One of the stipulations was that it drop ATM fees, "the release outlined.

The Student Government Association along with The Centers hosted a campus-wide survey last spring to see what students thought of the banking options. The results of the survey were kept secret even until this year.

"That's straight from our students," said UWSP Controller Bo DeDeker. "A campus-wide committee surveyed our students before we took proposals for the latest banking contract, and the request for no-fee ATMs came through loud and clear."

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NEWS

NEWSBRIEFS

Cholera spreads in Haiti

Nearly 100 people are being treated for cholera in the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince. Hundreds of earthquake survivors in camps throughout the city have also begun to show symptoms of the deadly waterborne disease.

With the recent flooding caused by Hurricane Tomas, health experts fear the disease could spread rapidly across other parts of the country. According to the Ministry of Health, cholera has now killed more than 500 people and has struck across 8,000 nationwide.

In the Old Military Airport in Port-au-Prince, roughly 60,000 people are packed onto a derelict airfield where groups such as Doctors Without Borders, the British Red Cross and Partners in Health have been busy constructing a choleras treatment unit.

Cholera risks becoming a national epidemic in Haiti, and with the weakness of the country's infrastructure, the disease could make its way through the river system and infect many sources of water.

NASA to view Mercury

NASA is looking forward to getting an extended view of Mercury in the near future, as its Messenger spacecraft is set to pull into orbit around the planet on March 18.

The craft has gone past the planet three times already, obtaining photographs and collecting data regarding Mercury's magnetic field and the effects of solar radiation on the atmosphere. Messenger will orbit around the planet for at least a year, so scientists will have the opportunity to know more about the geological features of the planet as well as track the atmospheric effects of the Sun's calm phase of its 11-year sunspot cycle.

FREE AT THE POINTER

The Pointer

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Letters to the Editor

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Walker and UW Regents meet, clashes foreseen

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On Nov. 4, just two days after he was elected Governor of Wisconsin, Scott Walker walked into a meeting with the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents and told them that he wasn’t going to raise taxes and that the UW Regents had to help him out in making Wisconsin’s universities innovative without raising spending.

It’s a lofty goal compared to how other states are handling their budgets for their universities but a trend in the Wisconsin system, according to Ed Miller, Political Science professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

When asked about what Walker’s plans will bring to the UW System, Miller said they’re not sure where to start.

“I listened to it, because it’s out there, and he didn’t say anything. I think it’ll be a disaster for the UW System. He has pledged not to raise taxes at any time and this was an issue with Doyle. He had to start borrowing money from these funds to cover costs,” Miller explained.

One of Walker’s main issues in his candidacy was the issue of government spending and taxation in the State of Wisconsin, and he often blamed Governor Jim Doyle’s leadership for the problems the state is now facing. However, Miller doesn’t believe that his explanation for the problem will help fix the situation.

“If you put taxes off the table, you only have 50 percent of the budget to work for.”

Still, Walker is going to continue to assert his claims and push his campaign promise to not raise taxes to go to UW System.

“It’s not always going to be easy. But I know, particularly when I think about higher education, when I think about all the campuses I visited, all the innovation and creativity we see within our campuses and within our system, I’m going to be calling on you to help me out,” Walker outlined in the meeting with the Regents.

This is a particular issue to most students because it means covering costs will have to come from somewhere, and that most likely will come from their tuition.

In the discussion with Miller, he outlined a few different possibilities other than tuition, but none of them likely to cover all of them. Those possibilities included grants and gifts. Grants, however, are very time consuming and cost money through staffing to generate.

Gifts are also unlikely to cover costs. This stems from the problem of the recession when more and more people are giving less to charities across the entire United States; public universities are viewed as the same.

Universities aren’t the only ones that will have a problem on their hands in the future; Walker and the Regents might be butting heads over policy matters as well.

Regent President Charles Pruitt, made mention that most of the Regents on the board were appointed by Governor Doyle. But he did try to remain optimistic for a working relationship.

“But when all of us walk through this door, we cease being Democrats or Republicans. We instead become Regents of what we think is the finest public university system in America,” Pruitt said.

Walker’s agenda has yet to be realized, but for some students and the Regents it could be a rocky road until the common ground between the two organizations is found.

Loko/Manufacturer defends drink in light of recent incidents

continued from page 1

As Dr. Sol Seppenwol of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s Biology department puts it, “Four Loko is 12 percent alcohol in a 24 ounce can—that’s a bottle of 10 percent wine per can. Given that it’s flavored like soda, that caffeine and taurine delay the dizziness and nausea associated with feeling drunk, it’s a perfect combination for an alcohol overdose.”

Phusion Projects, LLC, the makers of the drink, said that they go to great lengths to make sure their product isn’t abused and that flavored alcoholic beverages are nothing new; cit ing drinks like fruit vodkas and Mike’s Hard Lemonade. Phusion Projects said their cans are no brighter or more appealing than labels of established beer brands like Budweiser and Heineken.

In regards to the incident at Central Washington University, Phusion Projects said what happened was unacceptable and appeared to have involved hard liquor and possibly illicit substances which is why they do as much as they can to make sure their products are not abused or sold to underage consumers.

There haven’t been any major incidents, or at least any that have been widely publicized, involving Four Lokos on campus or in Stevens Point, however the product is available at several local stores and it is being consumed by some students.

Jordan Meyer, senior Sociology and Psychology major, said he loves the drink and it shouldn’t be banned; instead, people should just be more responsible.

“If you don’t drink all the time and you’re going out after you drink it [Four Loko], it’s probably not the best idea because you can black out pretty quick, but if you’re a seasoned drinker it’s a good thing to start out the night with,” said Meyer.

A story on National Public Radio (NPR) recently discussed Four Lokos and said that one can has the caffeine content of 12 ounce Cokes. The story touched on Michael Pollan’s book “In Defense of Food,” which says that Americans are visual eaters (we eat until the plate is empty or gone) which is unlike, say, the French or Italians who eat until they are full or have a drink with a meal. College students tend not to drink one can of something, and the students from the Central Washington University case allegedly overdosed on as few as two cans of Four Loko.

ABC News contributed to this story.
**Field Saturday, Nov. 6, against the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Senior receiver Jared Jenkins caught nine passes against Whitewater by having four in the second half of the game. Fohrman would add the extra point as he dashed into the end zone from the one-yard line.

The Pointer defense was able to force three turnovers on the day; an interception by senior linebacker Brandon Stremkowski and recovered fumbles by junior defensive backs Collin Johnson and Ethan Firgins.

Jared Jenkins completed 15 of 20 passes for 304 yards, his second highest total of the season. His four touchdowns were the most he's thrown in a game since Point played at Stout, of the season.

Point had five players rush for double digits against the woeful Falcons. Keith Ingram led the pack with eight carries for 86 yards.

The Pointers wrap up regular season play with a showdown against the University of Wisconsin-Platteville this Saturday. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Goerke Field.

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**Womens’ Lacrosse Club Launches**

**RAMONE SANDERS**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women’s lacrosse club played their first game ever last Saturday, Nov. 6. The club traveled to challenge the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse women’s lacrosse club. Although the Lady Pointers ultimately lost the match, the opportunity to compete against a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) sanctioned team was priceless.

The women’s lacrosse club was founded by Gretchen Gottsacker, Jena Rock and Talia Margarella three years ago. "Originally there were only six members and only three were really dedicated; over the years we’ve gained about twenty members. We also receive funding from the school, which has helped us grow as a club," explained Gottsacker, a human geography & GIS major.

The funding received helped the club make the trip to UW-Lacrosse Nov. 12 for their first match ever. The road trip and game match had multiple benefits for the newly formed club. Gottsacker went on to say, "A lot of these girls have never played before and this was their first time playing against another team, so the game was a huge experience." The road trip gave the club a chance for some team bonding as well.

The Pointers have outscored opponents 22-10 since the start of the 2010 season. The men’s hockey team was ranked 10th in the United States Collegiate Hockey Organization (USCHO.com) poll this week. The Pointers were previously ranked 15th and 11th in the USCHO.com poll this season.

After suffering their first loss of the season, their first game of the season at home, the men’s hockey team has managed to string together a four game road win streak. Men’s hockey has an overall record of 4-1 and has a conference record of 2-0.

The Pointers have scored two goals against the come to the UWSP women’s lacrosse club you can contact Captain Gretchen Gottsacker at Gretchen.M.Gottsacker@uwsp.edu.

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**Men’s and Women’s Hockey Get Off to a Hot Start**

**RAMONE SANDERS**

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Jared Jenkins completed 15 of 20 passes for 304 yards, his second highest total of the season. His four touchdowns were the most he’s thrown in a game since Point played at Stout, where he also tossed four TDs. His 73-yard touchdown hookup with Jenkins was his longest on the year.

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**Men’s Hockey**

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**Women’s Hockey**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women’s hockey team is undefeated since the start of the 2010 season. The fairly young team has managed to tally a 4-0 record so far this season. They have not played any conference matches yet, but have managed to stay undefeated at home and on the road.

Sophomore Staci Pomeroy, the women’s team starting goalie, has made 91 total saves thus far. Pomeroy is the Roscoe, Ill. native who has helped the Pointers outscore opponents 16-6. Pomeroy was named NCHA Athlete of the Week honors this week. Pomeroy has a save percentage of 0.938 and tallied 40 saves last weekend against St. Norbert.

The women’s team jumps back into action Friday, Nov. 19 against St. Norbert at 7:00 p.m. The women’s hockey team games are held at Ice Hawks Arena.
Top 10 best and worst athletic rants of all time

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Recent events have gotten the sports staff thinking about the greatest (or worst depending on how you look at it) rants ever. Following Randy Moss's, "I'll answer my own questions", Mr. Sanders has asked me to come up with my top 10 sports rants ever. After many hours scouring the internet and asking for help from roommates and fellow employees, here's what I've come up with.

#10: June 24, 2000. Mike Tyson, post-fight, after knocking out Lou Savarese in 38 seconds: "I was gonna rip his heart out... I want his heart! I want to eat his children!"

"I was gonna rip his heart out... I want his heart! I want to eat his children!" - Tyson

Savarese in 38 seconds: "I was gonna rip his heart out... I want his heart! I want to eat his children!"

Anytime children get involved, the quotes are pretty good. Anytime eating children becomes involved, the quote becomes top 10 worthy.

#9: September 21, 1998. Ryan Leaf talking to a reporter following a 23-7 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs: "Don't talk to me, all right? Knock it off!"

"You play to win the game. Hello? You play to win the game." Something semi-funny here. Coors Light did it better than I could already.


"How about I just go eat some hay. I can makes thing outta clay, lay by the bay, I just may. Whadda ya say?" - Gilmore

Mentioning practice 20 times in less than 2 minutes, only a character like A.I. can pull it off.

#7: October 11, 2002. Herm Edwards press conference during the bye week after the Jets lost to the Chiefs, 29-25: "LIFE IS SUITE Reserve · Street

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Don't mess with Winslow, he's a soldier. Unless you're Ray Lewis.

#2 September 22, 2007. Mike Gundy after seeing an article about why he benched his starting quarterback: "I'm a man! I'm 40! It makes me wanna puke."

Alright, Gundy, we get it. You're old. Get over it.

#1 April 4, 1983. Lee Elia, Chicago Cubs manager after a poor start of the season by the Cubs. Just go watch it on YouTube. It's definitely #1.
SPORTS

Upcoming Stevens Point athletic events

RAMONE SANDERS
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*Home Game or Meet

*Swimming: Men's and Women's
Vs. Mankato, South Dakota, Milwaukee
Friday, Nov. 12
6:00 p.m.

*Men's Hockey
Vs. St. Norbert
Friday, Nov. 12
7:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer: Division III Tournament
At Macalester College
First Round
Friday, Nov. 12
7:30 p.m.

*Wrestling
Pointer Open
Saturday, Nov. 13
9:00 a.m.

*Swimming: Men's and Women's
Vs. Mankato, South Dakota, Milwaukee
Saturday, Nov. 13
10:00 a.m.

*Football
Vs. UW-Platteville
Saturday, Nov. 13
1:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer: D III Tournament
Vs. Northwestern/Concordia-M'head
2nd Round
Saturday, Nov. 13
6:00 p.m.

*Men's Hockey
Vs. St. Norbert
Saturday, Nov. 13
6:00 p.m.

Cross Country: Men's and Women's
At Augustana College
NCAA Regional Championships
Saturday, Nov. 13

Women's Basketball
At University of St. Thomas
Monday, Nov. 15
7:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball
At Lawrence University
Tuesday, Nov. 16
7:00 p.m.

Wrestling
At Lakeland College
Wednesday, Nov. 17
7:00 p.m.

*Women's Basketball
Vs. Hamline University
Thursday, Nov. 18
7:00 p.m.

*Home Game or Meet

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AIR NATIONAL GUARD
Schmeeckle in candlelight: Tales from the Marsh

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Ever wondered what a hike through Schmeeckle would be like late at night, surrounded by the sounds of wildlife and nothing but a few jack-o-lanterns and tiki torches to light your way? Schmeeckle Reserve played host to their annual candlelight hike and campfire presentation on Friday, Nov. 5 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

This year's theme was "Tales (and Tails) from the Marsh," and featured a campfire circle presentation that focused on the wildlife of Schmeeckle Reserve. This year's turnout seemed to be just as big as it has been in years past, with literally hundreds of cars lining up on Northpoint Dr. just outside the Schmeeckle Reserve Visitor Center. The event was attended by many college students, high school students and families alike, though the campfire presentation was geared toward a younger audience.

Parents and their children gathered around the cracking campfire just before 7 p.m. to wait for the show to start. Students from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Environmental Education and Interpretation class on campus put on the show as their practicum. Dressed in a variety of costumes including a painted turtle, a midge fly and a great blue heron, each student came out on stage at a time to give a little insight into the various mating patterns, migratory patterns and larval stages of Schmeeckle's wetland inhabitants.

Jenn Lempa, senior environmental education major, played an insect in the presentation. She said that the point of the presentation was to provide attendees with some basic information regarding the various wetland animals of Schmeeckle. Another point was to raise awareness of the many benefits that the major project to restore Schmeeckle's "Moses Creek" will have on Schmeeckle's biodiversity and wildlife. The Moses Creek restoration project has been under construction since last summer and will be finished sometime in December, performers noted on stage. "It's a good, fun way to get kids to come outside and learn something instead of just sitting in front of the television. Maybe it will also spark their interest in a career choice someday," Lempa said.

As the presentation wound down, many of the performers exited the stage area and were replaced by a number of other students ready to bend to the bonfire. Most of the audience then left to go on the candlelight hike through Schmeeckle's wetlands, but for those who wished to stay warm in front of the fire there were complimentary fixings for s'mores.

There were also a variety of activities for children to take part in at the visitor center. Kids could make drag-onflies and salamanders out of some colored paper and various coloring utensil employment, and some even had a number of refreshments available for a suggested donation of 50 cents, including swamp sludge (presumably green cool-aid), and ants on a log.

The dramatic senior music education major, came out to Schmeeckle on the cold, breezy night to take the candlelight hike. "I've been to the hike for the past couple years, and I've enjoyed it every time."

Missed out on all of the fun this year and want to join in on the many events and activities that Schmeeckle hosts every year? You can sign up for their events mailing list by sending your name and address to schmeeckle@uwsp.edu. You can also view all of their upcoming events on their website at http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/schmeeckle/

Vets Club gets ready to honor those serving

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has a reputation of being military-friendly, but even with the label, UWSP veterans may draw more strength from each other than from the campus or greater community.

This year, the veteran publication "GI Jobs" voted UWSP a top military-friendly school. Both administrative and individual efforts contribute to the accolade. Students deployed during the semester are given a clear drop and have their academic, demimc losses waived. Their student account is held open, facilitating an easier reentry.

Vet's Club Coordinator Ann Whip advocates for the 378 student-veterans on campus both before and after deployment, explaining benefits and connecting them to resources. "The amount of support a deployed soldier gets from the school is unbelievable," said Keith Techmeier, a Marine who has deployed three times to Afghanistan. "Ann Whip takes great care of us, I can't say enough good about her."

But camaraderie may have been the most significant reason for the meeting between eight members of the UWSP Vets Club Monday night as they gathered in the Brewhaus for a candid discussion about veteran services, gratitude and the meaning of Veterans Day.

Since spring 2008, the Vets Club has offered student-veterans a safe place to be rowdy, to cuss, and to listen to and support one another. As the group covered the agenda's bullet points, they discussed both the appreciation they feel and challenges they face.

"I just really care about these guys and I think that comes across," said Whip, who receives occasional phone calls in her office from soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan or Kuwait.

"I've established a sense of trust with enough guys that they can tell me when they're really upset. And I do what I can to help."

Returning veterans face myriad challenges, financial and otherwise. Whip has helped find shelter for a veteran who returned to find he was homeless, and makes periodic referrals to a veterans' counselor for soldiers that may need emotional support.

The dramatic transition from deployment to school proves difficult for many veterans. As a demographic, vets have one of the highest rates of students on academic probation.

And the adjustment from combat to home can be isolating. "When I first got to my hometown, I felt like nobody knew where I was. And the ones that did, didn't give a shit," said Techmeier.

Vet Club treasurer and National Guard SGT Zach Ruesch said the term "adjustment syndrome" is more accurate than Post Dramatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Ruesch said the latter is a clinical "buzzword" which may add to the stigma that already surrounds mental health in the military.

"I've seen guys carry around dui's, having weapons with the firing-pin taken out, just so they wouldn't feel humiliated by other people knowing they've been deemed mentally unfit to carry a weapon," said Ruesch.

The stigma may keep some veterans from seeking help even after they return. Vietnam Veteran Winton Hootch chapter, a non-profit peer mentoring program that offers services to Vets which may have eschewed VA sanctioned services.

Because many VA clubs support or sake alcohol, Dry Hootch is an alcohol-free organization which may be a more appropriate environment for vets struggling with substance abuse.
Point of the Week: David Barth

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Barth just returned this past January from a year-long tour in Iraq. In the first leg of his latest tour he and his unit provided security or "humanitarian over-watch" for a group of Iranian refugees, the Musabahin-e-Khalq (MEK), that were listed as terrorists by the Iranian government for a military coup they had attempted in the late 70's.

Then E-7 (sergeant first class) David Barth's platoon, of which he was platoon sergeant, was moved from the disarmed MEK quarter­ ters in Ashraf to Baghdad to begin moving. High Value Target detain­ ees of the Baath loyalist party, also listed as terrorists by the Iranian govern­ ment for a military coup they had attempted in the late 70's.

"I met the likes of Tariq Aziz, who was the Deputy Prime Minister for Saddam, Iraq's face-man so to speak," said Barth. "Another one of our detainees was 'Chemical Ali' who was a cousin of Saddam's and in charge of carrying out many of the executions Saddam ordered."

Tariq Aziz was levied his death sentence just last week and Ali Hassan al-Majid, or Chemical Ali, was sentenced four death sentences for genocide of the Kurds amongst other crimes and hung in Jan. of 2010.

But Barth's experiences in Iraq were just some of many.

His military career started in 1989 when he joined the Navy right after high school. He went to boot camp in Orlando, Florida and then went to school for carpentry in Port Hueneme Naval Base, Calif.

He graduated top of his class which gave him the option between 25 different places around the world to pick for his first tour of active duty. He chose Barbers Point, Hawaii.

"Because my father served there, he was a jet mechanic back in the late 60's, and I wanted to go back to where he was to see the area," Barth said.

Midway through that tour, a recruiting team came from Washington D.C. for the presiden­ tial Camp David in Maryland. After being interviewed and having his military history extensively scruti­ nized by Naval Investigators, Barth was accepted into Camp David recruitment.

Barth began his time there in 1993, during the Clinton administration and continued until 1996 doing maintenance and carpentry work.

"In my three years there I got to meet President Clinton about 16 times. Shook his hand, got pictures, and whatnot," Barth said.

Along with work­ ing on Camp David’s buildings he also helped maintain an under­ ground military bunker. It was nicknamed 'The Site' where dignitaries, the president and the president's family would be housed in times of disaster; whether it is natural, chemical, bio­ logical or nuclear.

Barth can talk about his time there today because his 10-year tenure of silence has expired. Previously he was unable to talk about it because the facility he worked on was classified, or "Top Secret."

In 2002-03, his broth­ er, who is a captain in the National Guard, told Barth about the things he was accomplishing in the Guard. Barth, having spent 14 years in the Navy, wanted to try something new so he joined the National Guard.

In 2005, he was deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom for 15 months, 12 of which were spent directly in the Kuwait Naval Base where his unit provided security. The base is used as a military supply hub to be distributed through Afghanistan and Iraq.

He returned in 2006 and had a few years with his family until he was re-deployed in Feb. of 2009 for his latest tour in Iraq. After he returned home in Jan. 2010 he chose to come to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"They take care of their veterans here," Barth said. "My veteran ben­ efits advisor, Anne Whipp, she takes care of me."

Barth said he was a little appre­ hensive about going back to school and if he would be able to blend back in and learn. But the discipline and focus that military life gave him has allowed him to do so with ease.

"If you're going to pursue a job in the military, do something you love," Barth said. "The working conditions are hard and when you deploy it's not fun. The success I've had is because I found something I liked."

Barth said that even though mili­ tary life isn't always an easy one, the tools one can acquire from the experi­ ences are tremendous. Having pride and something to believe in make the world a better place, and a good place to start for those who may be interested is the ROTC program on campus.

"When I walk on campus, I can spot the veterans, sure we stand out with our haircuts, but they walk a little differently and carry themselves well, with pride," Barth said.

Being able to separate work from play has helped Barth adjust to life outside the military. "In the 21 years I've been in the military I've always considered it a job. When I put on the uniform I am military, but at the end of the day I take it off and that is my time, I consider myself a civilian," said Barth.

Being in the military doesn't make him forget that he is human. He is a dedicated soldier but never forgets that he is also a father, a student, a carpenter and an American.

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Certificate program could be done to facil­ itate dialogue between vets and civilian students. Requiring classes which illuminate veteran experiences would be a good way to help the discourse, Miller said.

Army veteran John Matz said, "We want to talk to people, because if we don't people are going to take their preconceived notion of a vet and apply it to me. It doesn't matter if you're for war or against it, just don't misunderstand me."

Vets Club members agreed that a great way to contribute to awareness is sponsoring more events like hosting "Soldier's Circle," a play that the Theatre and Dance Department per­ formed last month that was based on stories of real soldiers.

As the Vets Club meeting adjourned, Tochmier addressed the topic of Veteran's Day. "It's not that I'm not grateful when someone says thank you, but sometimes the gestures seem empty, pseudo-patri­ otic. If you really want to help me, just ask me my story."
There’s a sickness going around. Our campus’ buildings seem to be turning into sick wards rather than learning centers. The CCC is at the height of this horrible turn of events. Indeed, the once peaceful hallways, dominated by sunlight, music, and tired faces, have become a breeding ground for viruses. A cacophony of coughing, sneezing, and hacking. It’s turning into sick wards rather than learning centers. The CCC is at the height of this horrible turn of events.

What You’ll Need
- 1 T. olive oil or vegetable oil
- 3 or 4 medium-large carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium-large onion, chopped
- 2 large stalks celery, chopped
- 1 lb. egg noodles
- 1/2 tsp. dried rosemary
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano
- 1 tsp. dried sage
- 1 tsp. dried thyme
- Black Pepper
- 1/2 cups green peas
- 1/8 lb. egg noodles
- Salt (to taste)

Preheat oven to 375F. Rub the chicken with freshly ground black pepper and coarse salt. Roast the chicken (uncovered) for about an hour and a half, or until a thermometer reads 165F when inserted into the thickest part of the thigh. When the chicken is done, pour off all juices and reserve, including all of those very flavorful browned bits on the bottom of the pan that you can get up by adding a splash of brandy or other high alcohol liquor (this is called deglazing the pan).

Remove the browned, crisp skin from the breast, thigh, and drumstick, roll it up into a tight bundle and chiffonade (thinly slice). In a large pot or stockpot, heat 1 tablespoon of oil over medium-high heat. Add the chopped onion, celery, and carrot and saute for 5-6 minutes. Add in the water, spices (minus the salt), and turn the heat down medium.

While the soup is simmering, remove the chicken meat from the carcass. Tear or chop the meat and add to the pot along with the sliced chicken skin and all reserved juices. Simmer for an hour or until the soup reaches desired consistency.

Fifteen minutes prior to serving, stir in the noodles and salt to taste. Serve with a French baguette. Dress It Down: Most grocery stores offer a fully-cooked rotisserie chicken for a decent price, if you don’t have the time to roast it yourself.

Healthful/Sustainable Options:
Buy organic chicken and vegetables. Use fresh herbs and spices in place of the dried. Dried spices are more potent however, so you will need to modify the measurements. Cut down on the fat content by substituting low sodium chicken broth for the oily chicken drippings and skin.

Professor takes final bow in musical theatre department

MADISON HEID

After 15 years at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Roger Nelson is directing his last show in the coming weeks for the musical theatre department.

Nelson ended up at Stevens Point after a great career in different parts of the country.

"I knew by the time I was five that I was going to New York because I saw the Ed Sullivan Show," said Nelson. "I ended up living there for twenty years."

While in New York, he had many exciting experiences, but the most important one was landing his dream role.

"When I was in high school, we went to New York to sing in the New York World’s Fair," Nelson said. "I saw the Fantasticks and decided I am going to be in that show and I am going to play the boy."

He ended up getting that part and then getting the lead, El Gallo, off-Broadway. He spent 20 years in New York, moved to Chicago, and then ended up in Stevens Point.

The best thing about UWSP is the students," said Nelson. "They have a great work ethic, positive attitude, talent, and a willingness to try new things." After directing seven shows and music directing 23 at UWSP, Nelson was ready to exit stage left.

Though he was ready to go, the students are sad to see him leave.

Nelson’s last musical at UWSP is Johanna Jackson’s, a sophomore musical theatre major, first musical here.

"He’s such a nice spirit, and he doesn’t let the fact that he worked in New York and knowing all these people go to his head," said Jackson. Nelson feels lucky that she got to experience one show with him, but is sad that others will not get to experience his directing.

"He gives so much to us, and I don’t know what it’s going to be like when he goes away," said Jackson.

James Hansen, a senior musical theatre major, will be ‘graduating’ with Nelson at the end of this year. "In science class, they grade a paper you hand in. In musical theatre, they grade you as an individual," Hansen said. "Roger really takes the edge off in lessons."

It is clear Nelson is loved by many at UWSP and will be missed, but he is looking forward to less work in the future.

"Leaving directing will not be hard for me, but working with the students is something I’m really going to miss," Nelson said.

He is not leaving entirely after this musical, though. He will be music directing ‘Sunday in the Park with George’ this coming spring.

The last show he is directing is entitled Drood, and is a unique show. Eric Schneider, a sophomore musical theater major, and is a cast member of DRDOOD.

"Drood is about a theatre troupe of the Music Hall Royale performing a musical called Mystery of Edwin Drood," Schneider said.

An interesting aspect of the musical is that the audience gets to vote on certain outcomes, so it is an extremely intimate show. The show is basically sold out, but it is still worth it to try and get tickets last minute. It will be showing November 12-14 and 17-20.
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The Pointer
Truthiness. Fear. Sanity. What amazing topics for a rally on the National Mall in Washington D.C., our nation’s beloved capital city! Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart, both satirists that star on late night television shows, decided to hold a rally to counter Glenn Beck’s Rally to Restore Honor.

Respectively, both were technically holding different rallies. Stewart’s was the Rally to Restore Sanity and Colbert’s was the March to Keep Fear Alive. Yet, the crowds were the same and the rallies worked with each other to make a great statement about the American political system and the media that comments on that system. Beck’s rally had an approximately 87,000 people attend, while Stewart’s and Colbert’s had an official estimate of 250,000; a crowd nearly tripled by the moderate majority.

You see, that’s just the thing about these two rallies. We hear a lot about the right wing Tea Party movement. We hear that they are the ones that are sweeping this nation with their movement and their candidates. To some degree, they might be right, but what the rally showed us was that their movement still doesn’t draw the majority. It still doesn’t fit the mainstream, everyday American family. That gives me hope.

When Stewart gave his speech at the rally, he talked about the media a lot. He talked about responsibility and how they are failing us because they aren’t calling people out when it’s needed. He’s right; 100 percent completely right. When a video showing Ron Johnson testifying against a bill to provide aid to rape and incest victims was released, the press, except for Keith Olbermann, didn’t touch the issue.

When Scott Walker gave himself a down to size, the news was silent. That’s still dissatisfaction with the status quo. There was a message delivered that people want those like Glenn Beck, Bill O’Reilly, Ann Coulter, Rush Limbaugh and others on the far right, as well as some on the left, to stop being so dramatic and blaming all their troubles on the Obama administration that’s only lasted two years. This rally was a symbol. And it is a time when many Americans, mostly Democrats and independents, who stayed home this election, need symbols.

I know I’m getting real tired of this neo-conservatism taking over the airwaves. I didn’t want to live in Nazi Germany, I wanted to live in America, and right now the Tea Party movement sure does seem to be doing a good job of taking away that wish of mine.

I commend Stewart and Colbert for taking them on.

When John Boehner had a messy affair released just a few weeks before the election, the only people to pick it up was an online newspaper called the Huffington Post. Yet these people get away with it! Because we didn’t stand up and call them out on bad reporting, we must face the consequences of an ill-informed public.

That’s what the Rally to Restore Sanity was all about. It wasn’t just a thing that was comedic, or it wasn’t just a trip for people to take to Washington, get drunk, or high, or whatever. It was a march, a display that there is a large portion of America that is still dissatisfied with the status quo. There was a message delivered that people want those like Glenn Sanctuary and/or Fear: Slacktivism at its Finest

When Facebook was still young, its users did was to “like” various causes such as “Human Rights,” “LGBTQ Rights Now!” or “End World Hunger.” Being a slave to fashion myself, I joined many of these Facebook causes too. But after a while, I had to get rid of them all, but it wasn’t because I no longer believed in human rights or ending world hunger. I did so because of the pointlessness of it all. Yes, I joined the “LGBTQ Rights Now!” Facebook cause but after having joined the “cause,” I was not required to do anything. Much like wearing the United States flag lapel on one’s blazer is an exercise of pointlessness, joining Facebook causes was the same. Truthfully, it was just a way of telling people that I am a nice guy who cares about something. It’s slacktivism.

The Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear was a Facebook cause come to life. Yes, I enjoyed a lot of the musical selections and some of the jokes got a few chuckles out of me. The rally would not have been great had it ended there but it would have at least ended on a high note. Unfortunately, Jon Stewart could not resist the temptation of sermonizing and what a lousy sermon it was.

These are some of the things that Jon Stewart said in his closing remarks:

- We can have animus and not be enemies.
- Americans work together to get things done every damned day.
- Little, reasonable compromises allow us to get things done.

That’s all fine and dandy but those are lessons that I already learned from Sesame Street when I was a kid. I didn’t need an overrated rally to tell me something that I already learned from a kids’ television show. However, that was not the most astigmatic part of the whole speech. That belonged to his last sentences when he said, “Let me tell you my intention. Your presence was what I wanted. The liberals get turned off and will always be in the eye of the beholder. And to see you here today and the kind of people that you are has restored mine.”

I’m so glad that Jon Stewart set up a whole rally in our nation’s capital just so that he could have some peace of mind without having to set anything that even resembles a cause or a goal. And what a way to lower the bar. “At the end of the day, this rally was about one thing - it was for the organizers and the participants to feel good about themselves without actually doing anything. If that isn’t a Facebook cause, then I don’t know what the hell is.

I also have to disagree with Jon Stewart’s attack on the news media and their “amplification of everything.” Unlike Jon Stewart who cannot seem to handle a little bit of noise, I believe that there is not enough yelling going on but more importantly, there isn’t enough yelling at the other side. When I listen to Rush Limbaugh bellow on the radio or read Ann Coulter scream in her books, I sure do get a kick when they say that liberals are “blame-America-first” socialists who want the terrorists to win. But the problem with that kind of yelling is that they aren’t yelling at the liberals. The liberals get turned off and don’t listen. No, they’re yelling at me and for what? I already agree with a lot of the things that they say, especially when I’m drunk at three in the morning. For the exact same reason, Michael Moore and Keith Olbermann who screech that conservatives are greedy fascists are yelling at the liberals. Not at me because I’m not listening.

Jon Stewart might have a point here. Perhaps the blowhards ought to be replaced by people who can participate in civil dialogue. Oh, William F. Buckley Jr., how I miss thee. But tone down the yelling? Hell no! Liberals are wrong on most everything and I am not going to stop yelling at them.
POINTLIFE

Film festival represents emerging and established filmmakers

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At the 5th annual Portage County Arts Alliance, Central Wisconsin Film Festival, professional and student filmmakers exposed their passion for their craft.

The event, which was held at local venues including The Garage at Emy J’s and The Rogers Campus Cinema, showcased short as well as feature-length films from regional and international film makers.

The three formats exhibited at the festival were traditional narrative, animation and documentary.

The Garage at Emy J’s hosted Friday night’s collection of short films, which included, “Shadow of Lies,” a film noir detective story shot entirely in front of a green screen; “Morning Shift” and “Wild Frontier,” two animated shorts created by Green Bay native Steve Dorchester; and “Winnebago Man,” a documentary about Cornelius Cook, an elderly man from Madison who lives out of his 1969 Ford Winnebago.

After the film showings, the audience got a chance to ask questions, and directors got a chance to discuss their films further. This “talk back” session provided much insight into the creation of the films, as well as filmmaking in general.

Rob Thompson, the director of the short film “Shadow of Lies,” said that his favorite thing about filmmaking is “the audience’s reaction.” Thompson’s film was shot in film noir style, using green screen technology and had a classic comic book feel. According to Thompson, film noir style, “presents a framework that you can take in many different directions.”

Steve Dorchester, a Green Bay native, showed two of his animated shorts at the festival. Dorchester’s playful animations are made using both cut paper, as well as animation software.

Another central Wisconsin native, Erik Cieslewicz, exhibited his work, a television pilot entitled, “Hard to Be Me” at the festival. Cieslewicz commented on the film making process, and said, “you don’t spend this long on something without loving it.”

The Central Wisconsin Film Festival celebrates the passions of emerging as well as established filmmakers. The festival’s programming and the spectrum of films provided an enriching cultural experience within central Wisconsin.

KAITLYN LUCKOW
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Homosexuality has always been present in history, just like every other aspect of life, however, this history was never told until “Before Stonewall” a documentary that came out in 1984.

Wednesday night, the producer of the film, two-time Emmy Award winner John Scagliotti, visited the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point through Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) to show and discuss his film.

“Thank you very much for coming out...so to speak,” Scagliotti addressed the audience.

The film exposed homosexual culture between World War II and the Stonewall Riots of 1969. He talks about the evolution of homosexuality in the military, the thousands of arrests under the McCarthy administration, homosexual arts and censorship, and the freedom of the hippie movement.

Making such a documentary was a difficult task for the time that it was made. Scagliotti and the filmmakers “had to create our own research and history...we were making this history.” The initial reaction to the film wasn’t positive. There were no gay films or gay filmmakers during the time that the film was made. Many PBS stations, the station that aired the documentary, didn’t or were afraid to air the film.

It wasn’t until recently that the film was shown at universities.

Scagliotti looks at homosexual history as many “peaks and valleys. We’re moving into a valley again.”

He warned the audience about the future of the homosexual community, especially within state universities. He talked about university taxpayer money, and how groups such as the GSA in Stevens Point and other universities could be affected.

Faculty advisor, Julie Schneider, commented on the film making process, and said “you don’t spend this long on something without loving it.”

A new episode of “In the Life” will premiere on PBS December 17th at 10 p.m.

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Photo by Samantha Feld

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