Republicans nearly sweep midterm elections

Gathered around the television, members of the Republican party, come together at the Republican Victory Center and watch election results.

On Nov. 2, members of the Democratic Party came together to support their candidates at the Portage County Democrat Headquarters.

Democrats proud of efforts despite losses

Hopes and tensions were high on Tuesday night at the Democratic Headquarters while people waited for the election results, which didn’t come in until after 11 p.m.

More than 65 people attended the event to show their support for Senator Julie Lassa and 71st District Representative Louis Molepske Jr. Even though attendees at the Democratic Headquarters were disappointed when their political champions were bested at the polls by a predominantly Republican victory, their faces still held smiles, and laughs could be heard all around.

The supporters knew that they had done all they could to further their cause and were proud of the work the two candidates put into the campaign.

Julie Lassa also attended to speak to her supporters who came out for the election, giving them her thanks for their hard and tireless work on her campaign.

Opinions on CCC bathroom construction flush with displeasure

If you have had class in or have been around the Collins Classroom Center (CCC), chances are you’ve heard some combination of pounding, drilling, jack-hammering or buzzing sounds coming from the restrooms on each floor.

Construction on campus bathrooms has been underway since last year. Construction was completed in March on bathrooms in the Communication Arts building and the Learning Resource Center. The CCC isn’t scheduled for completion until the start of next semester, and the Health Enhancement Center’s bathroom construction is supposed to be completed in July of 2011.

“The construction noises have been very distracting during class time,” said Riley Zeka, senior communicative disorders major. “I don’t understand why they couldn’t have finished all the construction over the summer or if they couldn’t at least don’t do it during classes.”

Tobby Lindsay, junior psychology major said, “It’s frustrating that only certain bathrooms on certain floors are open and it’s hard to concentrate in class with all the noise.”

Greg Diemer, vice chancellor of business affairs at UWSP said, “Some of the reasons for the long period of time has to do with construction and design issues and keeping restrooms available in each of the buildings for use by students, staff and visitors, sports schedules and other such events.”

According to Diemer, the bathroom projects are a long awaited upgrade to adopt standards from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), making bathrooms more accessible to those with disabilities. He also said that this project would

See Bathrooms, page 2

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See Democrats, page 3
**NEWS**

**CAMPUS**

A chance for undergraduates to present research

KAITLYN LUCKOW

kluck79@uwsp.edu

Since 2000, the College of Letters and Science has hosted an Undergraduate Research Symposium every year. The program is an opportunity for undergraduate students to showcase their research in their fields of study.

Dr. Charles Clark, associate dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, said that the symposium is a chance for them [students] to feel they’re having a professional experience. Well over 130 students participated in the Research Symposium last year on April 30. Every department in the university was represented in the event. The topics ranged from “The Myth of the Gypsy Fortune-teller in Reality and Literature” to “Synthesis of Conjugated Bidentate Ligands.” Each group or individual had a faculty mentor in his or her discipline to help with the research.

Rebecca Levine, a current graduate of psychology, presented her research on the psychology of dance at last year’s symposium. “It was nice to show people something you’ve worked so hard on...it’s as if it becomes your baby. Like a parent, you want to show off your pride and joy...what you’ve built from scratch and watch grow.”

Sarah Fogell, associate professor of English, said that the symposium gives students the opportunity to “participate in a body of knowledge.” The research symposium will take place on April 29 this school year in the Science Building on campus for three hours in the afternoon. The symposium is made to replicate a professional conference.

One way that undergraduate students can present their research is through an oral presentation. The students get a chance to present their information with another student who did research related to theirs. After they present their information, the audience gets to ask questions about their study, that the students can answer.

Most research in the sciences, however, are presented in poster displays, which cover the science building walls on the night of the symposium. Most science research is not done solo but rather with a group of students.

“It’s a public example of teamwork.” said Fogell. After the event, the students can donate their posters, and you can see some examples of them hanging up in the Collins Classroom Center. Some students also get the opportunity to publish their research.

Levine said, “If everyone would pursue their research, then the world would definitely feel a dent! After all, it all starts an individual,” Levine said.

All undergraduate students enrolled in the 2010/11 academic year are eligible to participate in the spring symposium, including students that graduate in December.

For more information on the upcoming symposium and how you can participate go to http://www.uwsp.edu/clsc/subpages/ResearchSymposium/index.aspx.

**NEWSBRIEFS**

China’s growing military

On Tuesday, China’s Maritime Corps held major naval exercises in the South China Sea. 1,800 troops and more than 100 ships (submarines and aircrafts) held a live-fire display of the growing military power of the country.

Tensions have grown this year between China and its neighbors about claiming islands and seabed mineral rights. An officer said the demonstration was to showcase the marines and gain support for military expansion.

Marijuana legalization proposal fails in California

On Tuesday, a controversial marijuana legalization measure called Prop 19 failed to gain the approval of California voters. The proposition would have legalized recreational marijuana in a state that already allows the use of medical marijuana.

Groups such as the Latino Voters League and the California Conference of the NAACP have long decried the criminalization of marijuana as a racial justice issue, as most of those convicted of marijuana use are non-white. Many retired police officers and judges also shown their support for Prop 19.

Public safety officials were the main opponents of the Prop 19 measure, the proponents of which led a campaign that was marked by low-key with few large financial backers and no door-to-door initiatives.

Prop 19 had the unswerving support of young voters, and a recent Newsweek poll found that 70 percent of likely voters would be willing to support a similar proposition in their own state.

Bathrooms/Remodeled bathrooms will accommodate disabled

Kaitlyn Luckow

kluck79@uwsp.edu

Construction of campus bathrooms has been underway since last year, and the completion of the Collins Classroom Center bathrooms isn’t scheduled to be completed until the start of next semester.

The ADA (American with Disabilities Act) provides standards for accessibility of public facilities. Therefore, some individuals with disabilities may require facilities that are not present and need to be built.

Including facilities for people with disabilities can be costly, so it is important to include these facilities in the design of buildings.

The ADA requires that bathroom facilities be accessible to people with disabilities. To meet this requirement, facilities must be designed and constructed to the standards set by the ADA.

To ensure that facilities are accessible to people with disabilities, it is important to consult with professionals who have expertise in accessibility design.

The Pointer

The Pointer is a student-run newspaper published weekly for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The Pointer staff is solely responsible for content and editorial policy.

No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin-Sugar Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by email to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assembly District 71 (100% reporting)</th>
<th>Congressional District 7 (99% reporting)</th>
<th>US Senate (99% reporting)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louis Molepske Jr. (D)*</td>
<td>Julie Lassa (D)</td>
<td>Russ Feingold (D)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Scoville (R)</td>
<td>Sean Duffy (R)</td>
<td>Ron Johnson (R)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gary Kauther (I)</td>
<td>Rob Taylor (L)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Governor (99% reporting)

| Tom Barrett (D)                      | Tom Nelson (D)                            |
| Scott Walker (R)                     | Rebecca Kleefisch (R)                     |
| James James (I)                      | Terry Virgil (L)                          |

Secretary of State (97% reporting)

| Doug La Follette (D)*                | State Treasurer (97% reporting)           |
| David D. King (R)                    | Dawn Marie Sass (D)*                      |

1. Louis Molepske Jr. (D)* 11,367 57%  
2. Bob Scoville (R) 8,517 43%  
3. James James (I) 8,221 0%  
4. Tom Barrett (D) 998,933 47%  
5. Scott Walker (R) 1,200,069 52%  
6. James James (I) 8,221 0%  
7. Doug La Follette (D)* 1,061,279 52%  
8. David D. King (R) 979,368 48%  
9. Kurt Schuller (R) 1,073,600 53%  
10. Tom Nelson (D) 111,594 44%  
11. Sean Duffy (R) 130,411 52%  
12. Gary Kauther (I) 8,847 4%  
13. Tom Nelson (D) 939,075 47%  
14. Dawn Marie Sass (D)* 939,075 47%  
15. Kurt Schuller (R) 1,073,600 53%  

**Democrats/Molepske was one of few Democratic victories**

"Thank you for all your efforts, for the thousands of telephone calls you all made, the thousands of doors you all did, and just getting out with all of your support," Lassa said. "You've all been tremendous."

June Lassa's volunteer campaign staff spent the previous weeks going door-to-door and making phone calls to remind people to show their support for the Democratic Party by being sure to vote on Nov. 2.

Six months ago, when Congressmen David Obey announced his retirement, the seven-year senator Julie Lassa decided to run for his seat and pursued the goal, earning her the respect of her staff and constituency.

"She hit the ground running and she was able to build an amazing grassroots campaign across the district, and I think that speaks to her strength as a candidate," said Lassa's campaign Communications Coordinator Haley Morris.

Also in attendance at the event was State Representative Louis Molepske Jr. who, after conducting a door-to-door campaign himself, spent his time shaking hands and talking with his supporters about the campaign they had undertaken together. Molepske was able to save his seat in the 71st District.

"Unfortunately, this was a negative campaign cycle, with all the negative stuff you see on T.V., and I don'tlike it," Molepske said. "That's why we tried to be as positive as possible at the door, ask people some questions, and then get out of their hair."

Molepske also said that he was very happy with the volunteer efforts and dedication during the election, as well as the fact that some of them even took off from work to help out.

The excitement of the people at the Democratic Headquarters on election night was unhindered, despite the electoral loss in the polls.

**Republicans/Party gains majority in House of Representatives**

coming in from all walks of life who just want to see a difference in this country and this state," said Dejong. "We know we're fighting for a way of life here."

Their optimism seems to have been warranted, as Wisconsin ended up being the only state to have a Republican sweep. Republican candidates won the governor's race (Scott Walker over Russ Feingold), gained two congressional seats (including Sean Duffy's win over Julie Lassa) and have taken control of state legislature. One negative for area Republicans was Bob Scoville's loss to John Lassa, who helped at the center. "Coming in here almost everyday and just seeing people giving it..." Lassa said. "Thank you for all your efforts, and just getting out with all of your support," Lassa said. "You've all been tremendous."

"It's been inspirational, and it's been educational, it's been inspirational, and it's been absolutely an emotional roller coaster ride."

Nationally, Republicans have taken back the House of Representatives by gaining over 50 spots back from Democratic candidates and taking numerous vacant positions. The Democrats will retain control of the Senate, though their majority is now significantly reduced. Additionally, in national governor's races (including Wisconsin's), Democrats have been replaced with Republicans in at least 10 races.
Women's Soccer:

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's soccer team tallied six assists during the 2010 season. Goalie Liz Hunter and the defense were both important factors for the team's success as well. The Pointers outscored opponents 40-7 in goals by period this season, due to the fact that the Pointers shut out their opponents 13 games out of 17 total regular season games. Women's soccer is gearing up for their first game of the 2010 WIAC tournament Thursday Nov. 4 at 200 p.m. The WIAC championship tournament kick-off was on Tuesday, Nov. 2. The Pointers received a bye for the first round and face-off against the University of Wisconsin-Platteville today at home.

Women's Volleyball:

Women's volleyball falls early at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's volleyball team fell to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater 3-0.

Women's Basketball:

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's basketball team will enter the 2010-11 season ranked No. 6 in both the D3hoops.com and USA Today ESPN Division III Top-25 Coaches' Poll.

Points football kenneled by Warhawks

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team powered through their conference and non-conference schedule, ending the regular season with a winning record. The Pointers tallied a 14-2-1 overall record for the 2010 season; their Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference record was 7-1 this season. Their stellar conference record earned them a portion of the 2010 WIAC title.

Although the women's team worked together like a well-oiled machine, the Pointers were edged out by a small lead at the end of the season by a couple of strong opponents. Current scoring leaders for the Pointers were Kristi Nickels with eight goals and Mary Jean Cornelius with six goals. Other prominent goal scorers were: Vicki Bieschke, Angela Gallow and Sam Greer.

Bieschke is also the team's current assist leader with eight assists in the 2010 season. Vicki is followed by Cornelius and Andrea Peiffer, both move the ball well enough to come away with any points. It was late in the first quarter when the Warhawks' junior running back Levell Coppage would punch in a 9-yard touchdown to put Whitewater on top 7-0. The defense would again prevail for most of the second quarter, but Point would give way once more in the first half. After Jake Swank's fumble was recovered by Whitewater, junior quarterback Matt Blanchard completed a quick strike to sophomore fullback Bernie Tamsett. After the extra point, the Pointers found themselves in a two-touchdown hole going into halftime.

The third quarter held both good and bad news for UWSP. After forcing a Whitewater punt, the Pointer offense saw their promising drive die as senior quarterback Jake Swank had a pass intercepted. The first play following the turnover was punch in a 9-yard touchdown however, on the ensuing drive.

Jered Fohrman would tack on the extra point and the Pointers would close the gap to a two-touchdown deficit once again. After holding Whitewater to a field goal that would increase their lead to 24-7, Point would rally with their second touchdown of the game. Sophomore running back Keith Ingram set up that score with a 67-yard dash down to the Warhawk 16-yard line. Ingram led the Pointers with 80 yards on seven carries.

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's and women's cross country teams recently ran at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship meet. This season's WIAC championship was held in Eau Claire on Oct. 30.

The men's team won the 2010 WIAC title, their first since 2008. With the 2010 title, UWSP now has five conference titles, all since 1981 and all under Head Coach Rick Witt.

"This team doesn't care who gets the credit," said Witt. "We don't have any superstars. They do what they are supposed to do, as long as the job gets done;" Wittowski said.

"Coach Witt has so much experience when it comes to running," Witkowski said. "He has done as solid a job helping everyone realize what they need to do individually to run their best;" Heroux agrees. "He has so much experience. It's amazing to just sit down and listen to the stories he has."

The women's team was the runner-up at the 2010 WIAC championship cross country meet, a real accomplishment for a team with few expectations coming into the season going up against two top 15 teams in the nation and "A lot of teams didn't see us coming, but we are now a threat," Brittany Dantinne said.

Head Coach Megan Craig knows why the team has become a contender this year. "They caught the running bug. They didn't know if I was crazy when I told them that they were great runners, but they are now believing what I say and in themselves." Shaun Krueger echoes Coach Craig's assessment. "Sarah Clunn and I put in the hours and the miles during the summer we might not have in previous years. We were so motivated, we all believed we could be contenders," Krueger said.

The women's team agrees with the men's assessment of their head coach as well. "Coach Craig knows her stuff," Kelly Haen said. "She can relate well to us and push us very hard." "With being a Pointer Alum, she's been through it all and has taken us to the next level. We are so lucky to have her," Dantinne said.

W i t h the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division-III regional race coming up on Nov. 13, both coaches are getting ready to head down to Rock Island, IL. "We have to put ourselves in a chance to win and then have a little luck," Coach Witt says. "We could run today and win, run tomorrow and take last." Coach Craig knows her team is definitely ready for regionals "We have unfinished business," she said.

The newly constructed in Fall 2008, huge townhouse layout (1975 sq/ft), oversized single bedrooms, 2 full baths - 1 half bath, cable & internet in each room, washer & dryer in each unit, 2 refrigerators, free heat, free parking, $1525.00 per semester/person. Free city bus service to and from campus directly from your doorstep.

More Info:
www.pointerplace.com
or Call 252-6169 or 340-0381

Photos courtesy of uwsp.edu

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Pointers hockey hits the ice this season

Photos by Mark Kinslow
Salvation Army provides temporary home for homeless

MARIO KORAN
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November 4, 2010

Dinner at the Stevens Point Salvation Army is served at 5:30 p.m. sharp, but at 5:30 Friday afternoon, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate student and volunteer receptionist, Beth Hanna, was still looking for a volunteer to cook and serve the night’s meal.

Meals are served cafeteria-style, made from donated food and prepared by volunteers. Although the 35-bed shelter is located blocks away from UWSP, daily reality for shelter residents may share little in common with that of a typical college student.

Three daily meals are offered to shelter residents and the general public. Beds are open to men, women, and families. Due to the fact that children sleep at the shelter, those under the influence of alcohol and convicted sex offenders are not allowed.

Volunteer Coordinator Bob Quam said that the shelter could not operate without donations or volunteers like Hanna. Quam said that the number of volunteers has been on the rise, but due to economic trends, so have those in need of services. “In the past few months, the number of people coming in for meals has doubled,” said Quam.

According to a 2009 report published by the Portage County Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership, the poverty rate in Wisconsin has increased every year since 2001 and has done so faster than any other state. Last year, 6,074 Portage County residents lived below the poverty line, including 1,372 children.

“Twenty to thirty years ago, homelessness was the domain of single men,” said Quam. “Today we’re seeing more women than men on the unit and more and more families.” Quam said of those seeking shelter, 50 percent are natives of Portage County and 95 percent are from Wisconsin.

Residents can remain at the shelter for up to 30 days. They meet regularly with Case Manager Kimberly Tesch to discuss their progress. They must actively seek work and submit a work-search form every Monday.

Although Tesch grew up in Stevens Point, she said she was unaware of local issues surrounding homelessness until she was hired at the shelter in 2008.

In addition to connecting residents to local resources, Tesch tries to help some find the motivation and self esteem they need to abstain from alcohol and destructive behaviors, which can contribute to the cycle of homelessness.

“Residents aren’t here because they want to be,” said Hanna. “Despite all the negative connotations that surround poverty, for the most part, these people are trying. And they’re grateful.”

“It beats sleeping in your car,” said shelter resident Dave Smith as he browned venison for Friday’s spaghetti dinner. “And I got a Suburban with a mattress in the back. But it’s getting cold, and if you’re out looking for work, you need a bed and a meal.”

Smith placed trays of pasta, peas and carrots and garlic bread in the steam line. As residents lined up, children first, Smith led the group in prayer. By 5:45 p.m., everyone had eaten.

The Hope Center serves hot meals daily, for those in need.

The Hope Center is located at 1600 Briggs St., adjacent to the YMCA. Contact Bob Quam at 715-341-2437.

Faculty members attend Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear

MARTIN SMITH
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Last weekend thousands of people gathered in our nation’s capital to come together for a little bit of reflection, good times and overall, an abundance of sanity in an otherwise insane time. Two UW-Stevens Point faculty members flew out to Washington to take part in all of the sanity, representing our great state by donning their cheesecake hats.

“The Rally To Restore Sanity And/or Fear,” hosted by Comedy Central’s fake news anchors Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert, was held in Washington D.C. on Oct. 30. Buzz surrounding this event has been widespread and ever generating since Stewart and Colbert announced it back in September. The point of the rally? Simply to come together and reflect on the current state of our nation, while enjoying a bit of music and some comedy.

Two faculty members from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point attended this event, Ron Strege, director of multicultural affairs, and Rob Manzke, executive assistant to the chancellor, were kind of enough to sit down and answer a few questions about the event earlier this week.

"After years of hearing about nothing but doom and gloom [in the media] you begin to feel helpless. That’s why this rally resonated with me, realizing that you can make a difference," said Strege.

When asked whether either of them were regular watchers of the Daily Show they responded that they don’t watch it religiously but they may catch an episode or two every week. Still, they both felt inclined to fly out to Washington for the rally.

The massive turnout for the event made it difficult for attendees to get a good view of the actual stage, though massive screens and speakers were set up on the grounds to give everyone a chance to feel included.

Manzke also expressed that “you don’t have to fly to D.C. to voice your opinions. Everyone has a responsibility to be an active part of their community, their democracy and express their values.”

Both Manzke and Strege seemed to agree that they would normally not go to a political rally. This was more about crossing party lines, getting together and coming up with solutions.

In addition to Jon Stewart, the rally hosted a number of other entertainers such as Yusuf Islam aka Cat Stevens, Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow. Strege and Manzke both said they weren’t really sure what to expect as far as acts and attendance were concerned, but they wanted to be entertained and discuss some reasonable discourse.

Strege expressed a strong concern that “you shouldn’t let the media rule how you think. Get the facts and find out on your own what to believe. It’s not just doom and gloom, you can make a difference.”
Ellie Zuehlsdorf, a super-senior business administration major, is no stranger to Haiti. She has been there three times and plans on going back for more trips in the future. Her latest trip to Haiti, though, was much different than the rest. Zuehlsdorf had been interested in Haiti for quite some time. Her mom has traveled there around two dozen times to help out with medical issues. Another thing that keeps her attached to Haiti is the fact that her little brother, Kenson, was adopted from Haiti nine years ago.

“My mom is a nurse, so the first two times I went was with all doctors and nurses, so it was all very medically-oriented,” Zuehlsdorf said.

This time, she went with a group called Ventures in People Foundation, which focuses all of its relief efforts on helping Haitians becoming more self-sufficient.

She went over to Haiti in the middle of January and planned on staying for a week. On the trip, she helped teach Haitians how to deal with their finances as well as basic needs.

“We went to all of the different clubs and schools and made sure they were using their donation money for their community,” Zuehlsdorf said.

She also taught how to administer bandages, how to clean out water buckets and helped to rebuild bathrooms.

It all changed on Jan. 12 when an earthquake hit Haiti and severely impacted Fort-Au-Prince.

Zuehlsdorf happened to have been in Fort Au Prince that morning but had left for a town about 20 miles away before the earthquake hit.

“We were in a grocery store when it hit,” Zuehlsdorf said. “It wasn’t violent enough where I fell over, but it was definitely strong enough where you knew something wasn’t right.”

Although Zuehlsdorf wanted to help, her group was ordered to evacuate and go home.

“We came home on an Air Force cargo plane into Florida, and from there we were taken to the Air Force base,” Zuehlsdorf said. “We were then taken to Miami International Airport and then flown to Wisconsin.”

After the experience, it put things into perspective for Zuehlsdorf.

“When I got back I felt really guilty, because I was able to leave the country with no problem because I was a United States citizen,” Zuehlsdorf said.

Zuehlsdorf is moving out of state soon, so another trip will have to wait for her, but her mother is already heading back in December. Though she can’t be there in person, she still knows what needs to be done in Haiti.

“I would say that prior to this trip I definitely thought that donating money was what you should do when working with third world countries,” Zuehlsdorf said. “I really think one of the biggest things Haiti needs is they need to learn how to do things themselves.”

To find out more about Haiti, check out Zuehlsdorf’s Facebook group that she created: http://facebook.com/home.php?gid=272567527503&v=wall

Also, to check out the VIP foundation and future trips, go to www.viphaiti.org.

When everything ‘imperfect’ becomes perfect and absolutely fabulous

SAMANTHA FELD
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It is the combination of everything great on Halloween: bad sci-fi, bad horror movies and over-the-top costumes— it’s The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

I was surprised that I had lived until my junior year of high school without being graced with the presence of The Rocky Horror Picture Show in my life. How did I ever live without Riff-Raff’s singing voice, Frank-N-Furter’s speech when introducing Rocky to the world or the time warp? Now, how did I ever live without the time warp?

The Rocky Horror Picture Show was my first cult movie experience, and it is truly one-of-a-kind. The Rocky Horror Picture Show is a true audience participation movie. Audience members come in full costume and often bring props, used at various times throughout the movie. For example, at the beginning of the movie, the audience throws rice along with the on-screen wedding guests and at the dinner table, when Frank-N-Furter puts on a party hat, so does the audience.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show is actually quite terrifying, but all those little bits of insanity keep audiences across the country coming back for more. For example, when Frank-N-Furter invites Brad Majors and Janet Weiss to see his ‘creation’ and says anticip...ation, I always find that to be complete genius. Richard O’Brien, the writer of the original musical, could have had Frank-N-Furter simply say anticipation, but the way he wrote it truly makes you shiver with anticipation.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show is just about every bizarre adjective you can think of, but this is what makes the movie such a classic. I will always look forward to Halloween showings of The Rocky Horror Picture Show, and that “warm-fuzzy” feeling you get, being surrounded by people as excited to do the time warp as you are. This movie preaches acceptance, with a major theme being “Don’t dream it, be it,” and is fun for the whole dysfunctional family.

Audience members celebrate The Rocky Horror Picture Show experience by dressing up as characters such as Riff-Raff and Magenta.
The French aren't like us. They're reared on a completely different level as far as food is concerned. They live it. They breathe it. I envy them. Most of all, I envy their culture. A culture that is so rich in fine food and fine taste, it's hard not to be encapsulated by it. I'm not French and I never will be, no matter how much I want to be. I was born and raised in a small Wisconsin town. The only sensible thing I can do is pretend I'm French. And I do, somewhat. 

I've gone to France, I've taken French here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, I have parents who have been trained in the art of French cooking and of course, when I cook for myself, I always cook French food using French techniques. French food is something to be cherished.

That's why this week I'm not going to give you a recipe so much as a lesson in French technique. A basic, but extremely important technique. A technique that, if you master, will set you on the fast track to becoming a great chef. The French Omelet.

What's so important about omelet technique you ask? Good question. To borrow an idea brought to my attention by celebrity travel host and chef Anthony Bourdain, omelet technique is about knowing what's going on in your pan, and what to do about it. Simple, right? Apparently not.

My number one source of agitation, I watch other people cook, is the fact that most people are glued to their recipe book instead of actually paying attention to what's going on in the pan. The greatest chefs understand that recipes can be useful, but ultimately can't replace ones own intuition.

When I cook for myself, I don't use recipes. When I cook for you, the reader, I write down measurements and I make approximations so the beginners have a place to start. However, if I could teach you all just one thing it would be this: Intuition must always take precedent over the recipe.

Things don't always work at home how they work on paper. Maybe your pans are made out of aluminum instead of 1/4 thick copper. That alone will throw off most of the timing elements. Maybe your garlic is a week old. Maybe you ran out of an ingredient. Use your intuition and come up with a replacement. If things don't turn out well, so what? Better to try and fail than not try at all. That's how I learned to cook and that's how you can too.

Here's what you'll need:

2 Eggs
1 tsp. water or heavy whipping cream
1 T. Butter
Salt
Black Pepper

Crack the eggs into a bowl and whisk in 1 tsp. water with a fork, for roughly 10-15 seconds. Don't over-beat it. This will help incorporate some air into the egg and will ultimately give you a fluffier omelet. Also, you can substitute 1 tsp. heavy whipping cream for a creamier texture. Stir in freshly cracked black pepper and a pinch of salt.

Then, in a small to medium sized skillet, melt 1 T. of butter over high heat. The butter will talk to you so pay attention. The butter will sizzle and then start to foam up. When the foam just begins to subside, right before the butter begins to brown, add your eggs all at once.

Moving in a circle around the edge of the pan, scrape the cooked egg towards the center, allowing the raw egg to flow into its place. You have to work quickly or the whole thing will just solidify. When you're done it should look scrumched or creased in the middle, and less so as you get closer to the edges. With a spatula, quickly fold the right moist side just over the middle and then the other side over that. Plate it up and serve immediately.

Dress It Up:
The recipe you have here is just a plain French omelet; however, you're free to add any other ingredients you desire. I like to use chopped fresh herbs like thyme and basil with sliced tomato.

Other Healtful/Sustainable Options:
Use organic, free-range chicken eggs. I think you'd be very surprised as to how flavorful a plain omelet can be if you go organic.

**America's irrational food culture**

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

As Americans, we are simply obsessed with food. We're obsessed with eating it, advertising it and worrying about how much of it we're eating. However, we have lost our respect for food's true purpose in our lives.

Food is no longer inexpeasibly linked with culture and has been isolated from it ever since the dawn of the post-industrial age following WWII. The family meal has been relegated to a rarity, a nostalgic event that brings people back to a time when food brought people together.

Michael Pollan notes the importance of the family meal in his book, "In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto." In it, he says, "The shared meal elevates eating from a mechanical process of fueling the body to a ritual of family and community, from the mere animal biology to an act of culture."

Part of the reason food has been fragmented from its cultural importance is because eating has become an almost exclusively individual act. Ever since the food culture of TV dinners and fast food dawned upon American society, eating has become a chore; a chore which the American people, like a 6-year-old child, desire to complete as quickly as possible.

The role of food in our culture is to drown feeling rather than to celebrate our connections with those important to us. In countries such as France and Italy, food takes on this meaning, and the existence of a historic and celebrated food culture gives food transcendental qualities beyond just mere sustenance.

As a direct consequence of this individualism in eating, food has lost all of its character and soul. It is no longer a signifier of a deeply storied culinary and cultural past in a society but a necessary substance, an amalgamation of carbohydrates, sugars, proteins, vitamins, minerals and fats. As such, the consumption of food develops a nutritional paranoia amongst Americans who classify food dichotomously as either "healthy" or "unhealthy." And you know what?

See Food, page 12

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**Viva! Gourmet**

Don't shell out for egg-cellent omelets

**MARTIN SMITH**
msmit81@uwsp.edu

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14· HORNED VIPER
15· NOT PROPER
16· SILHOUETTE
18· FAREWELL
19· BUY ALTERNATIVE
20· INCOMPATIBLE
23· CRESCENT-SHAPED FIGURE
24· CHEMICAL ENDING
25· MARKED DOWN
28· MILK SOURCE
30· APPEND
33· MICHELANGELO WORK
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39· CRUCIFIX
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54· GREEN SHADE

DOWN
1· HINDU PRINCESS
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3· ON ___ WITH
4· EXPIATORY
5· BROUGHT TO RUIN
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9· OBIQUE
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11· ANCIENT SEMITIC FOR "LORD"
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18· LAYERS
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20· DRESS STYLE
21· BRUSHES
22· BAND'S SAMPLE TAPES
23· LATIN I WORD
24· DRY RED TABLE WINE
25· GOLF CLUBS
26· CONSTRAIN
27· WASHROOM
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Answers from the Oct. 28th issue.

Sudoku 9x9 - Puzzle 2 of 5 - Very Hard

Sudoku 6x6 - Solution 2 of 5 - Easy

www.sudoku-puzzles.net
Wisconsin, we November 4, 2010

Apathy is really not that sexy in government

DUSTIN KLEIN
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After Tuesday’s election cycle was completed, I found myself on the phone with my mother talking about how Wisconsin lost Russ Feingold. She was telling me that it was going to be okay and that things would get better in two years. I can’t help but think that after all of the work that I had done for the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, we should have won.

Well, there’s a plus side to all of this. At least I live in a Democratic city and all of the wards that voted with students in them were carried by the Democrats.

But that gets me thinking about all of this election business, and really, when we get down to it, does voting matter in the first place?

Well, when I watched the election results come in, I couldn’t help but wonder what happened. The fact that Democrats lost hangs over the head of every person who voted in 2008 and didn’t vote this time. Sadly, I believe it hangs over the heads of students.

When students don’t vote, progressivism dies.

This is the reason why a man was allowed to buy his way into Congress and did, as it is.

Students, I walked this campus left and right and up and down and talked to hundreds, if not thousands, of people over the election cycle. The reason why people who would have represented you in office these upcoming years with your best interest at heart lost, is because we didn’t feel it was important to vote.

Maybe, just maybe, voting becomes part of a bigger picture. Think of the Women’s Suffrage movement, and the Civil Rights movement, the only thing democracy has been missing place on our campus. What would all of those outcomes have been if some brave people hadn’t stood up and said, “Damn it, I’m going to go into that booth and cast my vote for the person who wants a little change in our government!”

Voting is the most important thing a person can do in this country other than staying involved.

Now is the time that we all have to take a step back and reflect upon our actions in this election. If you didn’t vote, you didn’t say anything or do anything for a candidates, don’t come to me and complain, because you didn’t use your right as a citizen of the United States to voice your opinion and support a person that might have similar ideals to you. I’m tired of apathy, it’s really unsexy.

We don’t deserve the government we have

JOHN LEE
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Despite the fact that I was raised a conservative, I am still a big fan of the television show The West Wing. Towards the end of the first season, the fictional and liberal President Jed Bartlett tells his audience in one of those faux town hall meetings that in order to ensure political changes, they have to show up to vote. It was a moving and honest line, which I’ve repeated several times in the past.

But overtime, I have reexamined my own ideas of politics, political philosophy and government and found that I am tired of it all. And after having taken a long hard look at the demos, I think it is safe for me to tell everyone, albeit a little too late seeing that the election was on Tuesday, not to vote.

The fact is that we as a people no longer seem to know what the proper role of a government in a free society is. When the Founding Fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the documents that they presented were ones that limited the actions of the government and not those of the people. In modern times, it is true that there are certain things that the people may reasonably demand of the government. Most of the things that we can reasonably demand involve telling the government to quit doing whatever it is that it’s doing. Unfortunately, most of the things that the people are demanding from the government are negative rights – asking for Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid or for the government to prevent gays from marrying, or children or serving in the military.

As a people, we are confusing the government with Santa Claus, and we elect those politicians who promise everything from strict border control to free lawn care and those politicians, who cannot get elected on any other merit besides bribing their constituents, are only too happy to oblige.

We may think that this is a good thing, but the fact of the matter is that politics is all taking, no making. In other words, it’s about legal theft. With all the negative rights that the government is getting involved in, whether it’s the Democrats or the Republicans in charge, government is now the means through which one group of people takes from another and thus, the government acts as a midleman. Truthfully, the people and the government, which is merely a reflection of the people, are scoundrels.

As if that isn’t bad enough, the government that we elect to do our bidding isn’t even efficient at any-thing it does. The government is a goliath but unfortunately, it’s blind as a bat and thinks that every problem can be solved with plastic explosives. It doesn’t matter whether we are talking about Democrats or Republicans. The Democrats think they can legislate poverty out of existence and pat themselves on the back after they spend other people’s money to create those urban concentration camps that we call low-income housing. Hell, the only thing that the Democrats have not done is establish the Department of Hemp. Republicans, on the other hand, think that they can bomb every country that brown people live in and be called liberators, and when they’re not doing that, they are trying to invade your home so that they can take away your bong.

And like an abused wife who keeps returning to her abusive husband, we keep voting for these same bastards each and every time because they swear that things are going to be different. I said this before when I wrote about minimum wage, but the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again each time, expecting a different result. We are all insane!

I am sick of politics because we live in a democratic republic where the Sovereign are us, the people. On a related note, 50 percent of the people are below average intelligence. This explains everything about politics. That being said, however, we don’t want to live in a country that is run by the best and the brightest. That’s been tried before and the results have been steadily going from bad to worse – there was the Reign of Terror, which was followed by Communism, and worst yet, we now have Nancy Pelosi.

However, the biggest problem with our democratic system is not the politicians or even that of the electoral system. It’s us. We always want more, but we just don’t want the responsibility. We, as a people, need a paradigm shift in the way we think about rights.

So long as we keep shrinking off our responsibilities and merely demanding that the government will provide us with education and health care, mow our lawn, make sure the sun rises, make sure that immigrants don’t take our jobs except for picking oranges and find us hot dates for Saturday nights, we will always keep getting what we deserve, which is crap.

So, unless you learn what the proper role of government is, what your proper role is, what is politically feasible and what is not, when the next election rolls around, do every-one and yourself a favor and just stay home.
Food, continued from page 9

We as Americans aren’t any healthier because of this paranoid nutritional consciousness. Perhaps we would be healthier if the idea of “finishing what’s on your plate” wasn’t ingrained in our national psyche. The American epidemic of obesity, though it cannot be attributed to one root cause, is no doubt encouraged by this idea, which is foisted upon us at a very young age.

This has perhaps also given rise to our country’s conception of the meal as a challenge. Not finishing one’s meal is almost a disgrace in America, and it means we have failed at achieving the reward to the challenge: dessert. As we all know, Americans don’t save room for dessert, we make room for it. As we all know, Americans don’t undertake. A daunting task which only the most elite eaters can complete.

We need to put a larger emphasis on enjoying food for food’s sake. The solution to America’s negative and disconnected food obsession lies in a reconnection process. Focus more on reconnection process. Focus more on enjoying food for food’s sake. The solution to America’s negative and disconnected food obsession lies in a reconnection process. Focus more on enjoying food for food’s sake. The solution to America’s negative and disconnected food obsession lies in a reconnection process. Focus more on enjoying food for food’s sake. The solution to America’s negative and disconnected food obsession lies in a reconnection process. Focus more on enjoying food for food’s sake.

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