Tom Barrett speaks with College Democrats

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When Tom Barrett, mayor of Milwaukee, stopped by Stevens Point on his campaign tour for state governor Sunday, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College Democrats were on hand to receive him.

The four student representatives joined with other supporters from Stevens Point at the home of Mike O'Meara, where Barrett shared his views on the upcoming election from 1-3 p.m.

Also in attendance were state senator Julie Lassa, state representative Louis Molepske Jr. and candidate for lieutenant governor, Henry Sanders Jr. Yet Barrett still managed to find time for the UWSP College Democrats, who learned a little more about the man who may be governor.

"He said, and I love this line, nobody cares if a democrat or a republican keeps the water running, or picks up the garbage in a city," said Greg Ubbelohde, president of the College Democrats. "There was a multi-million dollar budget problem, there was a deficit, and the way he fixed it was he found the money from other programs, he didn't borrow the money."

"In the culture we live in, it would be perfectly fine, or nobody would really care if he borrowed the money, and I think it's pretty cool, that the kind of stuff we don't hear unless somebody says it."

Following his speech, Barrett spent a few moments engaged with the UWSP College Democrats, allowing them to voice their concerns, which he listened to with genuine interest.

"You can tell that he really cares when he asks me questions about my personal life in general," said freshman James Stark. "Tom Barrett is very passionate at what he does. I like what he had to say at the party. Barrett told us, "It's time for some supervision in Madison."

Ubbelohde feels that it is important that members of the UWSP community recognize the importance of the electoral race on the university system.

"Obviously the main power affecting the university system is the board of regents, but I mean since the governor is one of the most powerful elected officials in the state, he can make strong suggestions, so of course he can influence tuition through bills and things," said Ubbelohde. "I mean governor Doyle has done that, he's got a proposal that he's trying to get through now that will give some lower income students some money from the state. He's put it into the budget and it needs to pass state legislature."

Stark further noted the importance of how the upcoming elections would impact the biggest issue that Barrett may soon face: The job market for students who are about to graduate.

"He's not afraid to make the tough decisions. Mayor Barrett doesn't want to take out loans. He wants to adequately spend taxpayer money, without putting us in further debt when we'll have our own families to worry about," said James Stark. "He wants to clean up irresponsible spending to create a better future. When we finally get out in the job market, it should be easier for us to find jobs due to the fact he's rewarding businesses for hiring more people with tax credits."

Though Mayor Barrett may hail from Milwaukee, he expressed a fascination with Main Street as he walked through the town mingling with the local business owners. In particular, he mentioned that his打开 search

SGA passes smoking ban resolution

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On Feb. 25 in the Dreyfuus University Center Legacy Room, the Student Government Association discussed a very controversial issue, a smoking ban resolution on campus.

This is a very heated debate because many people believe that being able to smoke is a person's right and having that taken away would be a violation of one's personal freedoms.

I believe that as a campus that has the National Wellness Conference each year we should continue to be a leader in health and wellness and that is why I support the resolution," said SGA senator Sarah Bodine.

The resolution would get the ball rolling toward a smoke-free campus. The bill is not about enforcement or penalization at this stage. It is more about expressing SGA's opinion about eliminating smoking from the campus.

There are many students who are strongly against the smoking ban resolution. Some students believe that if the smoking ban is passed then it will put University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point on a slippery slope.

"I'm all for promoting healthier options, but last I checked, people that are 18 years old have a right to use tobacco products," said SGA senator Patrick Testin.

Most smokers are trying to quit. It is a physical addiction that is difficult to discontinue. "I live in the residence halls and I smoke. It would be a huge inconvenience for students to have to leave campus to smoke. It is turning one group of students against another," said SGA senator Seth Hofmeister.

It is proven that secondhand smoke negatively affects people who don't smoke. A majority of people who smoke know the ill effects associated with smoking and still continue to take the risk because they feel that is their right.

The smoking ban is a very delicate subject because if smoking is banned on campus then people who still continue to smoke may be looked at by some as second-rate citizens.

Most smokers are also entitled to the same personal rights as students who smoke. Should those who don't smoke have to endure and suffer those who do smoke?

People who don't smoke are also entitled to personal freedoms. Students believe that staying healthy is a major one of those liberties. "I want to know, when since is encouraging students not to smoke going down a slippery slope? I feel that smoking violates the 4th amendment, to be"
UWSP to offer gifted and talented teaching certification

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is the first in the state to offer teacher certification in gifted and talented education.

"What is of ultimate importance is the quality of education provided that will meet the needs of all Pre-K through 12 students. Teachers holding the gifted and talented certification will be highly qualified to meet these needs," said Patricia Shaw, UWSP education department head.

The program, approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in January, consists of 12 graduate credits. Those seeking the certification will take courses in gifted and talented fundamentals, curriculum, psychology and a practicum.

According to Shaw, due to the current budget climate in Wisconsin and other states, many gifted and talented programs and teachers have been reduced or cut from school districts.

"Teachers who are knowledgeable about the needs of gifted students and who hold certification in the area of gifted/talented education will be highly valued and much more marketable," said Shaw.

Gifted and talented children are identified through a matrix that measures high ability and achievement measurements. Most schools identify students in the 95th to 97th percentile and up as gifted and talented, according to Christine Gould, associate professor of education at UWSP. A specialist in gifted and talented education, Gould developed the certification program.

"A gifted student might know at least half of what a teacher's going to teach on the first day of school," said Gould.

The students, knowing most of the material being presented, have a lot of downtime and repetition in the classroom, which can become problematic and lead to disaffection with school and behavioral problems, according to Gould.

The certification will help teachers to accommodate the gifted and talented learning along with typically developing students.

"Teachers have basically three strategies they can use," said Gould. "One is acceleration, where the child is placed with older children. Teachers can also use enrichment and differentiation strategies to teach these students. Through enrichment, the gifted student is taught the same material but on a more complex and difficult level.

Teachers using differentiation will change the teaching content, product and process for each student so that everyone is doing something appropriate for them.

"It is a new way of teaching and it requires very effective management skills on the part of the teacher and a really strong knowledge of curriculum," said Gould.

Ginny Carlton, Wisconsin Environmental Education Board administrative program specialist, took an interest in gifted and talented education after her son was determined gifted and talented.

Now in ninth grade, her son is taking an advanced online course and algebra II, a course normally designated for juniors, an example of acceleration and enrichment.

The university also offers two programs for children with high academic ability. Gould runs both the programs, College Days for Kids and Youth in College.
Adventure Tours of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Health Promotion and Human Development office is marking 2010 as its 25th year leading wellness-oriented trips around the world.

“It's a big marker that the university is proud of,” said program manager andtrip leader Cathy Scheder.

Adventure Tours started in 1985 when assistant director of International Programs Mark Koeckpe decided to lead a bicycle tour in Europe. Koeckpe explained that he was an avid cyclist at the time and wanted to combine it with his interest in travelling to learn about history, art and language in other cultures. The tour was called “Europe by Bicycle” and was the first of over 30 trips led by Koeckpe since 1985.

The tours started out as mainly bicycling tours in Europe. Eventually hiking tours were added and, today, Adventure Tours features walking tours, kayaking, horse-assistedbackpacking, skiing, snorkeling and other activities in addition to its traditional hiking and biking tours.

Adventure Tours has covered many of Europe's most historical, natural and cultural destinations in its history and has just in recent years expanded to include domestic tours, as well as trips to Central America and Australia.

Adventure Tours was run through the International Programs at first, but eventually moved to the Department of Health Promotion and Human Development. Professor Emeritus of Health Promotion John Munson, who has led trips throughout the 25 years of Adventure Tours' history, took over the coordinating of the program for the department.

“I didn't have any idea we'd go so many places when it first started,” said Munson.

Munson emphasized the tours' focus on the aspects of wellness and learning. “Sensitivity to wellness is what we focus on, but also learning about other cultures, languages, food, history and seeing wonderful places,” said Munson.

“We provide stimulus and support for fit people who also like to travel,” said Corey Huck, a trip leader and assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Human Development. Another primary goal of Adventure tours is to enhance the image of UWSP and the School of Health Promotion and Human Development.

“It's a great opportunity to meet many wonderful people from many walks of life,” said Ruppel.

Adventure Tours also offers trips at a very competitive price compared to commercial operations said Munson. This is attributed to the fact that Adventure Tours is non-profit and exists purely to promote wellness, continual learning and the university's image.

Adventure Tours is proud of the fact that it has attracted people from all over not as a result of advertising as much as participants enjoying their experience and passing the word to others.

“For participants, the fact that they keep coming back and taking more trips, they like what we have to offer,” said Ruppel.

Ruppel also noted that many participants repeat trips and bring friends along. “Word-of-mouth sells trips,” he said.

One of Adventure Tours' satisfied participants is Stu Nelson, who, along with his wife Meryl Lee, recently took a trip to Costa Rica with Adventure Tours. “They are very well-organized, have a little something for everybody's interests and skill level and the leaders are remarkably well-prepared,” said Nelson.

Nelson also liked the fact that Adventure Tours takes care of all the travel planning and makes it easy for he and his wife to travel to foreign places. “We have gone on a couple trips and we will keep going,” said Nelson.

Anyone wanting to know more about Adventure Tours can go to their Web site, call them at 715-346-4080 or e-mail bikehike@uwsp.edu.

John Munson posing with participants in the Isle of Man.

Photo courtesy of UWSP Adventure Tours.

A gorgeous day for a hike.

Photo courtesy of UWSP Adventure Tours.

A Plodda Falls.

Photo courtesy of UWSP Adventure Tours.

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March 4, 2010 • 3
This week, GamePro Magazine and The Princeton Review included the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's department of Computing and New Media Technologies in their first-ever list of the "Top 50 Undergraduate Game Design Programs" in the United States and Canada. The recognition comes from a joint project between the American video game magazine and The Princeton Review, a test-preparation company that is also known for its annual college rankings including "Best Value College," "Best Professors," "Best Dorms" and more. The list has already gained attention from news outlets such as USA Today and Marketwatch.com.

The review based its list on a survey conducted last semester researching several criteria from 500 schools including the quality of the curriculum, faculty, facilities and infrastructure, as well as scholarships, financial aid and career opportunities presented to students. The UWSP Career Services office conducts their follow-up studies for UWSP graduates every year, offering a look at the number of graduates employed within the field of their major within their first year of graduation.

The two programs offered by the CNMT, Web and Digital Media Development and Computer Information Systems both see over 70 percent of their graduates working in the field within one year of graduating, one of the highest rates across campus. While the CIS major has been at UWSP for over fifteen years, the WDMD program started only seven years ago. This recognition confirms that the young program is already making strides and creating industry buzz.

Assistant professor of multimedia and web development Anthony Ellerton said that he believes the program is garnering attention because it helps students become well-rounded with their skills, excelling in both visual design skills and the technical side of the process as well. "Years ago, digital agencies who were creating games and Web sites would typically divide project staff into two categories: designers and developers. These agencies are now looking for people who can do both: people who are good with visual design, but also skilled with coding and programming and bringing the two principles together," said Ellerton, who calls these dual-wielding developers "hybrids."

Ellerton said that prospective students are interested in the department because it is a creative, fun and challenging industry to work in, with a high demand for employees. He also said that WDMD and CIS graduates have been able to work for some excellent agencies. Our alumni work with some of the most advanced companies on the Web today, including Nickelodeon, Cartoon Network, Target, Disney, Hasbro and more," said Ellerton.

WDMD and CIS double-major Brett Widmann said he thought the major was deserving of the title, and attributed the success of the program to its ability to keep course material relevant and current. "I really enjoy the fact that it's a very progressive, and fittingly aggressive program where in some of the classes the course curriculum changes almost every semester. We're keeping up to date to the best of our abilities, so it's always good to know that we're working with the latest technologies being used in the industry," said Widmann.

Widmann said that the students work together often and have a faculty that comes from many backgrounds and disciplines. "We're actually a very tight-knit group of people because of the facilities available where we can all work. There's a lot of teamwork involved and group interaction with different perspectives and ideas brought to the table, which helps drive the creative process and push the program to its maximum limits," said Widmann.

GamePro magazine will include the list in their March 9 issue.
Women at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point don't have to be enrolled in a natural resources program to experience the benefits of outdoor education.

Outdoors-Woman is a non-profit educational program that gives women exclusive opportunities to bond and develop outdoor skills. A program that's appreciated nationwide and beyond, BOW is rooted in Stevens Point. Christine Thomas, dean of the College of Natural Resources, founded the program in 1991. It's been growing ever since with recognition in 43 states, Canada and New Zealand.

"Women have told us that BOW has changed their life. That's a powerful endorsement that we're proud of," said Peggy Farrell, director of both the Wisconsin and nationwide program that's appreciated 1991. It's been growing ever since and beyond, Women have the opportunity to hunt wild turkeys through BOW.

Women have the opportunity to hunt wild turkeys through BOW. Be safe, have fun and no politics. These three rules are upheld at workshops and are surprisingly effective at creating a comfortable, supportive and educational environment.

While participants must be at least 18 years old, women over the age of 90 continue to benefit from the BOW program. It just goes to show that there are no restrictions to becoming an outdoors-woman. Whether you're interested in attending the events or have the skills required of instructors and volunteers, BOW motivates all women to broaden their horizons. In some cases, students who volunteer are invited to attend workshops free of charge.

"I've been with BOW since 1995 and feel privileged to be involved." - Farrell

International BOW programs. The BOW program breaks down barriers by encouraging female participation in outdoor skills activities. When it comes to enjoying the outdoors, having no one to go with is an overplayed excuse. BOW provides the social network, thus rendering the lone excuse useless. Workshops are offered throughout the year and include activities that are equally divided between shooting and hunting, fishing and non-harvest recreation including canoeing, camping and survival.

Over 80 workshops are held throughout the continent every year with more than 20,000 women in attendance. The workshops are usually weekend-long events held at camps or resorts. Hot showers and clean bathrooms are an added luxury. People say it's kind of like Girls Scouts for grownups, but classier," said Farrell.

At the state level, Farrell plans and hosts programs throughout Wisconsin, designs workshops and finds exceptional candidates and facilities to promote BOW. As the director of International BOW, Farrell works closely with states and provinces and facilitates designs workshops and finds exceptional candidates and facilities to promote BOW.

"The language barrier was a little tough. Aside from the engineers and secretaries, there weren't many people that I could speak English with," said Mess. "I think that hindered my ability to learn from others as well as to do more work there."

"This paper machine has set several world records for speed." - Mess

The TAPS Dual Degree Program is a four-year program that includes German language training and cultural studies in Finland and Germany to help with language barriers and students' transit. "The language barrier was a little tough. Aside from the engineers and secretaries, there weren't many people that I could speak English with," said Mess. "I think that hindered my ability to learn from others as well as to do more work there."

"I worked in the lab of the test liner machine. This paper machine has set several world records for speed. I mostly just ran tests for them and the testing was to determine the sticky content of the sample, which they thought might be influencing the run ability of the machine," said Mess of her two-month internship in Papierfabrik Palm in Woerth, Germany. Mess wanted to learn as much as possible during this last work experience before getting a permanent job.

"We are heading to Munich on March 5 to join them. I really excited to move to Munich on Monday. I think it will be more fun than the small town I'm in now," said Mess.
Men's basketball ready to begin the NCAA tournament at home

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With the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title in hand, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men’s basketball team is looking to take the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III tournament by storm when they play Carleton College in the first round tomorrow at home.

The Pointers won their second consecutive WIAC championship last weekend against UW-Whitewater 67-53, securing a huge road victory and their sixth trip to the NCAA tournament. The game marked the team’s first win against UW-Whitewater this year, after losing when he still played baseball, struck out looking to end a game in 2003. Grieve in the dugout why he didn’t argue the call with the umpire, Grieve responded with something along the lines of “it doesn’t really matter.”

I don’t know why but this line always stuck with me. With most athletes in today’s age of overkill understanding that the watered-down, safe statements are the best statements, you never expect to hear someone say “it doesn’t matter.” It was honest, and because he played for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays at the time, it was funny because it was true.

Well, I think he meant that arguing the call wouldn’t have changed the outcome, but Piniella got on one of his yearly traditions of “it doesn’t really matter.”

Everyone on this team is trying to see how far we can really take this.”

-Moses

The guard said that while UWSP has been successful in his college career, he wants to see the Pointers finish this season with a national title. Since I’ve been here, we’ve been in the NCAA tournament every year, but we haven’t gotten over the hump of getting to Virginia and winning the title, and I know that’s what’s on everyone’s mind,” said Moses.

UWSP head coach Bob Semling said that while this is not Moses’ first time gaining attention, he does think the

How Ben Grieve explains the outlook of the Milwaukee Brewers

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One of my favorite quotes from an athlete came after Ben Grieve, when he still played baseball, struck out looking to end a game in 2003. His manager at the time, Lou Piniella, was upset that Grieve took the third strike looking, and when he asked Grieve in the dugout why he didn’t argue the call with the umpire, Grieve responded with something along the lines of “it doesn’t really matter.”

My feelings for the Brewers are on a Platonic level; I want them to do well and succeed in life; I just don’t have very strong emotions towards them. I hope they understand. The one thing I love about the Brewers however, is my yearly tradition of trying to find the most random, seldom-used utility man or relief pitcher and dub him my “favorite” player. I look for the underdog or someone that fills out the end of the roster, and then annoy everyone around me with made-up stories about him. Ben Grieve was a perfect match for me. He didn’t play regularly, didn’t produce much when he did and had the general look of “yawn” at any given moment. It looked like he was embodying his quote from a year ago. And this was okay at the time; the Brewers didn’t seem to be going anywhere anyway.

Before they finally sold the team, it appeared the Selig family couldn’t be bothered with any on-field happenings like wins and losses. After the sale, coincidentally, the youth movement of Prince, Hardy, Hart and Weeks happened. Then Braun happened. Then C.C.

Remember Ben Grieve? I know I do.
Women's basketball rallies to win WIAC, moves on to NCAAs

Griffin Gotta
The Pointer

Trailing by 13 at halftime, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's basketball team used a second half surge to push past UW-Whitewater and secure their place in the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament with their third consecutive Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Association tournament championship.

After a lackluster first half, allowing the Warhawks to shoot 48.5 percent from the field, head coach Shirley Egner said the team was disappointed with how they played in the first half. But the team battled back in the second half, eventually taking their lead to go, using stifling defense to hold UW-Whitewater to a low shooting percentage from the floor.

“Our players never gave up; they competed until the final horn. It was a great comeback win.”

-Egner

second half, eventually taking their first lead with under three minutes to go, using stifling defense to hold UW-Whitewater to 25 percent shooting from the floor.

“We were able to get some defensive stops which cut into the Whitewater lead to start the second half,” Egner said. “Our players never gave up; they competed until the final horn. It was a great comeback win.”

Egner also noted another key contributing factor for the win, bench scoring.

“Our reserves gave us a huge lift,” Egner said.

The Pointer bench outscored UW-Whitewater’s 27-3 for the game and 15-1 after halftime.

Their third WIAC tournament championship in as many years gave the Pointer women an automatic birth into the NCAA tournament. For the program, this is business as usual.

“Every year our goal is to win the WIAC tournament and get the automatic qualifier for the NCAA Tournament,” Egner said. “We are excited to be playing in the NCAA tournament.”

Engelland in the 185, Joe Mileski in the 125 and Chris Karl at 174. Johnny Johnson, head wrestling coach said.

“Overall it was a long season where we started out pretty well but struggled in the end,” Johnny Johnson, head wrestling coach said. “But being a young team gives us the opportunity to grow for the next year. For nationals, we attend every year and we are taking four members this year.”

“Over the last several weeks, I think he is really stepping up. Matt’s done this before, and what I like is his consistency. He’s always been capable of being aggressive and putting up strong numbers, and being efficient, and he’s been doing that at a consistent basis,” said Semling.

“Overall if the four wrestle well and get all of their things together they can come back with All American awards.”

-Johnson

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Preparations are underway for April 3, when the International Club of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will host its 40th annual dinner and entertainment at 5 p.m. in the Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center.

As with previous years, the university's greatest promise to showcase entertainment, cuisine and artistry from the various cultures represented within the International Club.

“We will have a variety of countries representing the whole world,” said Darina Markozashvili, the publicity chair for the International Club. “Japan, China, Mexico, Thailand, Georgia, Korea, Middle East, Columbia and many, many more!”

As with previous International Dinners, this year will be no different in capturing the essence of the multicultural organization behind it.

“The International Club is one of the largest and most active student organizations on campus made up of both international and American students. The group promotes friendship, understanding and social interests,” said Markozashvili. “This year’s dinner theme is ‘Together Our World is Sweeter,’ which reflects the club’s motto, ‘One World for Peace.’

“But how does the International Club of UWSP intend to turn a peaceful world sweet? ”

“Our idea is that we try to make it less serious and more fun since our life is so stressful with all the bad economy and natural disasters,” Thanakich Chantavat, president of the International Club, explains. “We can make the world a better place to live, a sweeter place, for all of us.

“We will use traditional candies from all over the world to decorate tables, rooms and the stage, so each type of candy will represent people from each part of the world.”

Though the candy-coated dinner and the saccharine entertainment of the evening consisting of music, dance and fashions, will be the International Club’s main focus in showcasing the various cultures, there also will be a silent auction planned so that attendees will be able to bring home another part of the world, albeit sans candy.

“This is voluntary from many people from other countries, and from different groups of people. Yet, nothing has left a greater impression upon me than the consumers item they seem to share in common: clothes drying racks.

Just what are these wired wonders? The stand-alone racks typically made of stainless steel, plastic or a combination of both on which one can hang about one week’s worth of laundry. They are the indoor-version of your mother’s clothesline in Small Town, USA. Even better, they are lightweight and typically fold up for easy closet storage.

They are all over Eastern Europe. I can’t say much for the West as my stay in Germany was on an energy-conscious organic farm where drying racks, even in the cold Bavarian winter, were the norm. But in Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Hungary, it is not uncommon to see makeshift clotheslines strung on high-rise balconies or to find more partitions.

At 7 p.m. on March 10, spoken word artist, Gabriela Garcia Medina, will be coming to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the Dreyfus University Center Encore to perform her poetry in an unique perspective and style. Gabriela is an award-winning poet who has spoken throughout the world, including the expansion of the traditional Western poetry, an emphasis born out of poets’ desire to write from a more democratic, less hierarchical perspective,” said Sarah Pogell, assistant professor of English.

“People listen to poems and study poems because poems are beautiful works of art,” said William Lawlor, professor of English.

Today’s poetry is vastly different from classical poetry. Though it shares many of the same elements, differing and fewer ways of writing has changed the way that people are used to hearing more and more throughout today’s society, not only in poetry, but in novels, politics, and other influential areas of our world. This
90FM Reviews: “Fight Softly” by the Ruby Suns

Jarad Olson
POINTER CONTRIBUTOR

The first time I heard The Ruby Suns, my mind flooded with images of tropical wonderment and kittens, fuzzy kittens. Their last album, Sea Jarad Olson
P O I N T E R C O N T R I B U T O R colored penguins waddled of Hawaiian shaved ice whilst multi­ ago now, and just when I was while still maintaining a cohesive flow throughout the album. While thinking, “I wonder when the infinite layers of synthesized b9oms, imagining that music elitists everywhere will most likely deploy themselves upon simultaneously calling y ou listeners to "Fight Softly": this record sounds a hell of a lot to humidify the room during dry record, hang-drying clothes to keep you wondering what's next. Now I am going to drop the bomb release,大海胤-tions. Basically, this album is 45 minutes of bouncing around the beats keep funky fresh, McPhun executes huge sweeps of melody alma Phil Spector's "Wall of Sound." I want this guy's synthesizer so bad it pains me to think about how expensive it probably is. The synthesis actually sound unique to this record, which means McPhun probably spent the first year of his latest transformation just tweaking and adjusting effects. To top it all off, "Fight Softly" holds it down as far as lyrical topics go. Topics include dreamlike trips to hidden

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Gabriela García is being brought to her view of the world and culture that she has experienced through the use of poetry. Her words are very passionate and direct towards her music meets electro-pop mind and recorded "Fight Softly" entirely alone over the past two years. This kiwi represents a large populace of artists worldwide sitting on their laptops for 12 to 15 hours a day editing bloops and bleeps into perfectly symmetrical polyrhythms. On many tracks I can count up to eight separate dance hooks weaving in and out of each other with perfect clarity. This album probably took just

from "lesson" pg 8

shocked to discover that laundromats are practically nonexistent and very few people own personal dryers. In fact, we were informed that drying clothes on racks indoors was a great way to humidify the room during dry winters. And maybe, just maybe, the Europeans are on to something. Without even calculating the energy savings (it's 93.6-260 kilowatt-hours per year for just one one-hour cycle every week in just case you're wondering), this clothes­drying method does have its merits, especially when it comes to the pocketbook. When I lived in the States, I paid $1.25 for a one-hour drying cycle every week and some weeks required more coinage than others. By not using a dryer all year, I could have saved from $65 - $120. That's easily enough money for a cell phone payment, a couple of utility bills, or a few bags full of organic produce (and that stuff isn't cheap). Conversely, drying racks are just a one-time $10 payment, and for the record, hang-drying clothes inside does humidify dry rooms during the winter quite nicely. That's even less money and energy spent on a

swimming holes, lovable pit bulls named Mingus, and honest accounts of everyday happiness that come off as, well, honest. I apologize if I am straight up blowing this guy right now, but credit is due for the quality of this album. Now I am going to drop the bomb that music elitists everywhere will most likely deploy themselves upon listening to "Fight Softly": this album sounds a hell of a lot like Animal Collective's recent success story "Merriweather Post Pavilion." Upon the very first wave of indiscernible noise heard on "Fight Softly" I had already made the reference in my head. The tones, the beats, the mood, I couldn't help but make the connection. Then, an esteemed colleague, friend and fellow 90FM DJ of mine relayed the same initial response to me before I even said it out loud. You know what I think, I think this album sounds like "Fight Softly" by the Ruby Suns and that's final. Enough remnants of McPhun's past work can be found here to merit the opinion that this is more than some guy trying to ride the Animal Collective train, which seems to be the new direction of many experimental pop musicians these days. In the end, it doesn't matter who is copying whom or what

"Wolfman" lacks real thrills

Ty Natzke
CONTRIBUTOR

We are bogged down by bad monster movies. The sad seems to be to throw attractive people that can't act into the role of vampires or werewolves and make them go to high school forever.

"Wolfman" is more of a classical look at the monster movie when movies were starting to get big. High school is not here and thankfully, that's not the only good thing to be said about the film. As the movie begins, we instantly get a feel for what the movie is about. A lone man is in the woods, lantern in hand, searching for something. He turns to face a silhouetted beast, who slashes at his stomach and face with huge claws. The man stumbles away from the monster to seek refuge in a crypt in the distance, and a shadowy wolfman dominates the screen.

The rest of the story follows the man's brother, Lawrence Talbot, played by Benicio del Toro, as he returns home to help solve his brother's disappearance and murder. Talbot increasingly becomes the focus of the wolfman, Talbot is bitten by the beast and barely survives. After a miraculously short recovery, Talbot discovers that his trials are not over.

Lawrence Talbot is hunted, captured and sent to London after a night of rampaging and murder. After a month of torturous treatment from health professionals, inpatient baths and multiple injections, Talbot is given a large audience to prove he is not afflicted with lycanthropy. After transforming and escaping his constraints, Talbot proceeds to kill his doctors and break out into the streets of London, which is one of the best scenes in the movie. Seeing the wolfman running and jumping from cars and rooftops is pretty thrilling.

The next morning, Talbot wakes up and begins his trek back home to settle the score with the original werewolf, which results in a short­lived werewolf on werewolf fight and the rushed conclusion of the film. This film loves "surprises," which makes it a little predictable. Things pop out all the time and suspense is the bread and butter. This is especially delicious when the plot takes you in between the full moons, where things should be safe. Luckily, Talbot has a lot of frightening hallucinations. However, frights that linger, these are not.

But that leads to the biggest problem with the film, which is that the big events always happen a month apart. Important story elements occur during the months, including a half-baked love story and gruesome transformation, played by Anthony Hopkins, and son. Of course, the film is the human story

see "Wolfman" Pg. 12
**Hello Pointers!**

My name is Matt Muelling, and I hope you have a little time to read about the upcoming Student Government Association elections. I am a senior music education major, a coaching minor and a candidate for the SGA’s vice presidency alongside my good friend Chad Haan. There are many reasons why we want to assume leadership responsibilities in SGA, but one of the biggest ones is SGA itself. Our idea of student leadership is very clear: fighting for every voice. Within SGA lies the opportunity for every voice to be heard. However, that opportunity is seldom one that is embraced by the student body. Our campus is run with input from students, but generally only from a loud few. With the help that Chad and I can offer as leaders, you can change that.

First, we need to involve SGA with the students. As a fine arts student, I spend a lot of my time striving towards perfection in my craft. I understand that it is the same outside of the arts: students work hard at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. If students don’t have time to actively seek out what SGA is doing, they shouldn’t be punished for their hard work and studying by not knowing where their tuition money is going. This is why Chad and I want to involve SGA with the students, and we will do that by working closely with student organizations across campus, to make sure that they have the funds, numbers and power to do what they feel is important for both themselves and the student body as a whole. Student organizations are the voice for the hard working and passionate students here at UWSP, and we will fight for every voice to be heard.

The next step towards making SGA responsive to every voice is to involve the students with SGA. Although we will bring SGA to the students, there is still a need for more students to step up to SGA. In order to become the property of The Pointer, names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given. Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail 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.

Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.
From "Grieve" pg. 6

Sabathia and the Wild Card happened. Thanks in large part to the new ownership that took over in 2005, the Brewers, as an organization, actually gave a damn.

Now, after a few seasons of competitive baseball in Milwaukee, it looks like it might stick around. This means a guy like Ben Grieve doesn't fit into the picture anymore. Not actually gave a damn. Because he simply wasn't that competitive baseball in Milwaukee, it means a guy like Ben Grieve doesn't have a reason for being on the team. There is no more room for the Ben Grieves, the Ruben Quevedos or the Wes Helmses of the world on the Brewer depth chart. They now belong to the memories of true fans who sat through those tumultuous seasons, not because they wanted, but because as fans, they probably felt they had to.

For these fans, this is all good news. The only negative effect on me is that there are less bad players to choose from. Brian Shouse was my most recent favorite and he wasn't really bad, more like unique. It felt like he pitched about once every two weeks and when he did, it was to one left-handed batter at a top speed of about 81 miles per hour. He was awesome.

Anyway, I may or may not find that ill-fated player who fits into the ridiculous profile in my mind, and that really doesn't matter (Grieve-ism!). I didn't struggle with the real Brewer fans through those lean, painful years that occurred not too long ago. They now have an organization with the makings of a foundation, consistently looking forward with a plan of attack, no longer asleep at the wheel for seasons upon seasons. There's a reason for sustainable Brewer pride. That's what matters.

From "Women's" pg. 7

begin for UWSP with a short trip to De Pere and host school St. Norbert College for their first round pairing with the University of Minnesota-Morris. The close proximity is something the team can use as an advantage, according to Egner.

"We like our draw because we are able to come back to Point after Friday's game, staying in a routine is important for us, we will be able to sleep in our own beds and practice in the gym," Egner said.

While they don't have much information on Minnesota-Morris, Egner believes the focus should be on their own play.

"We are concentrating on what we need to do to be successful, which is to defend and rebound," Egner said. "We will approach each game with the mindset of win or go home."

The Pointers begin first round NCAA play this Friday, March 5, at 5:30 p.m. on the St. Norbert College campus. Winners of the Friday matchups will play their second round game on Saturday at 5 p.m.

From "Pointers" pg. 10

for every voice to be heard, we need to find more devoted students to volunteer their precious time for leadership responsibilities. It is very disappointing to me that we are lucky enough at UWSP to have a fully functioning senate but not have enough students to go around. Filling our senate will not only strengthen SGA's ability to reach out to students, it will make our campus more powerful and efficient in all it does.

Involving SGA in that community outside of campus is the next key step in making every voice heard. It needs to be very clear that representation doesn't end at the university level. Chad and I will push for every voice to be heard, not only on the campus level, but also the local community, state, national and global levels. Executives in our administration will be making at least two representational trips each to either Madison or Washington D.C. to make sure our legislators know about the issues close to our students, from lobbying for more student aid to making sure our university and the campus is heard. However, we have a desperate need for SGA to reach out to the students, to reach out to SGA and SGA to interact more with the student government before the upcoming election and remember that your voice needs to be heard. Don't be afraid to approach Chad or mew when we are at tables around campus or simply walking between classes. We look forward to meeting and working with you in the near future. See you around campus! -Matt Muellering, SGA Vice Presidential Candidate

March 4, 2010 · Easy

The Pointer

Sudoku 9x9 - Puzzle 4 of 5 - Medium

www.sudoku-puzzles.net
MREA puts their green where their mouth is

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Now that we’ve taken a look at the renewable energy sphere, let’s take a look at one of the leaders in the industry. The Midwest Renewable Energy Association is a non-profit organization located just nine miles east of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in Custer, Wis. The MREA’s mission is to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable living through education and demonstration. They are considered a national leader in the renewable energy field. In fact, the organization recently received a $3.3 million grant from the Department of Energy to organize a regional renewable energy fair.

The MREA has over 300 members and many volunteers. The organization is open to anyone interested in renewable energy education and job opportunities. The MREA strives to train and educate through the classes, internships and volunteer opportunities they provide. They hold workshops to educate people on the best way to use renewable energy in their homes or businesses and counsel people on how to be more energy-efficient.

MREA property includes a newly built classroom building to conduct more workshops at a time. They also have training roofs for students, in order to practice installing solar panels in their installation workshops.

“A great way to get a basic introduction to renewable energy is to take our workshops. All of our basic workshops are one day. It’s a nine to five class that can teach you about solar electric/solar hot water wind energy – one class for each technology. It’s a great way to see if you’re interested in it before you pursue it,” said Gina Sinisi, communications coordinator for the MREA.

The energy fair is an influential event for the MREA, community members and people involved in the renewable energy field all over the nation. Held each June, this event takes place at the ReNew the Earth institute on the MREA property in Custer.

The fair is held to thousands of people from all over the U.S. who come to the area to learn from each other as they eat, drink, listen to music and camp.

Last year 23,206 people attended the energy fair, with 280 exhibitors and 344 volunteers. This energy fair is unlike any other. Though it contains great food, bands and social connections, it also hosts influential keynote speakers, such as Ralph Nader.

“It’s the Woodstock of renewable energy. Basically throughout the weekend, Friday through Sunday, we have over 250 workshops, which are held in tents that are set up there. There is something going on from 8 a.m. until midnight everyday. On top of that, we have exhibitors from a bunch of different companies and organizations. Then there is a food corral with a bunch of great food,” said Eric Krszczaniek, membership services coordinator of the MREA.

The fair is held the third weekend in June each year. This year it will take place in Custer from June 18-20. The MREA is always looking for volunteers for this event. It’s a great way for students and community members who are interested in renewable energy to volunteer and get to know influential people in the field.

“There are a variety of tasks that people are able to volunteer for varying from working from the information booth to helping move compost. We really appreciate the help for that, and it’s a great networking event, so you get to meet people involved in the industry and they might help further your career,” said Sinisi.

While it’s clear that MREA talks the talk, they also walk the talk. Renew the Earth Institute harnesses renewable energy whenever possible. The building utilizes passive solar design with south-facing windows, a long overhang, metal roof and a sand bed underneath the structure.

Solar photovoltaics are used as a major source of renewable energy for the MREA. Dual arrays are used throughout the property in order to generate the energy for utilities inside the building, such as the refrigerator. Other energy-efficient designs, such as wind turbines, are also utilized to generate more energy.

“We do produce more energy on-site than we use,” said Krszczaniek. In this way, the ReNew the Earth Institute in Custer is a demonstration site for best practices in the renewable energy field. People can tour the facility to get an idea of how best to reduce their impact on the environment.

Since the renewable energy movement is becoming more and more prominent, and people are becoming more aware of energy-efficient practices, the next logical step is to educate yourself and get involved. MREA is a good place to start.

If you’d like to learn more, MREA provides many books, DVDs and other resources for anyone interested. You can check out their Web site at http://www-the.mrea.org.

Volunteer opportunities and internships are always available, and all UWSP students are invited and welcome to attend the energy fair and workshops.