Students voice election opinions

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"I don't feel like I'm getting the whole story from any of the candidates."
- Ortega

Students have been a coveted demographic of candidates looking for an edge ever since they proved their influence in the 2008 presidential campaign. Grassroots campaigns and utilization of social media, such as Facebook, were crucial in getting out the young vote in that election. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's student body is quite diverse and considers a range of different issues important in this voting season, but the fact is, not all of them will end up exercising that right to vote come Nov. 2.

Isaac Ortega, a senior and math education major, is one of those students who doesn’t plan on voting Nov. 2. "I don't feel like I'm getting the whole story from any of the candidates," said Ortega, "and if I do vote, some dirt will most likely be dug up on that candidate and I'll feel bad that I voted for them."

Scandals within the government on a state and national level have certainly been on the rise in the past few years, leaving many voters wary of their decisions and nervous about voting. Murphie Mezzano, junior business administration and Spanish major, said, "I'm probably not going to vote because I don't feel like I'm getting enough..."
Vote/Undecided voters critical in election

continued from page 1

truthful information." She did say that while she won't vote, she thinks America needs to focus less on the rest of the world and figure out how to fix itself.

For other students, the economy and available jobs are the biggest issues in this election. DaMara Pryor, sophomore music performance and Biology major, plans to vote for Russ Feingold and said job security for college graduates and small business taxes are important issues to her. "I really don't think any of the other candidates are qualified and I think Feingold has done a good job in the past," said Pryor.

While some student voters are sticking with incumbents, others are hoping to elect new candidates. Dan Rowan, junior sociology major, said he plans to vote for Sean Duffy and Scott Walker, and hopes they will positively influence the economy and greatly reduce government spending.

"I'm not the biggest fan of some of the ideas and policies implemented by those in office and I think a big change is what we need to get the nation back on track," said Rowan.

Other students still, are undecided - the category every candidate, regardless of party, answers the most about. Senior and piano performance major Rory Bolton said that while he plans to vote, he is still undecided as to which candidates he'll end up going with. Bolton may be undecided about candidates, but he cited small town taxes, education and job security as the most important issues to him in this election. In many tight races around the state and nation, undecided voters such as Bolton will be the most critical voters for candidates to secure come Nov. 2.

The Student Government Association is providing free vans to drive students to off-campus polling stations. The vans will be running from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will pick students up at the Noel Fine Arts Center, Prey-Simms and Burnett halls.

Referendum/Vote changes how student segregated fees will be allocated

Regardless of how students feel about the process, there will be some serious changes in how student fees are allocated.

Prior to the Student Health Advisory Committee's decision to become a part of SGA, there were five shared governance organizations. The three that deal with segregated fees are SGA, UCAPB and SHAC. The other two, the Residence Hall Association, a group that deals with student housing and programming in the residence halls, and the Dining Advisory Board, a group that makes decisions on how student dining is run or the options provided to students on dining.

Students in various organizations have criticized this model over the past several years as being divisive and taking power away from students. Michael Wilson is among those, along with some of the SGA executive staff.

In a discussion after the SGA executive meeting, Seth Hoffmeister, the Student Life Issues Director, spoke about his take on the referendum. When asked about the wording, he spoke of the legality of it.

"We can't ask students to keep breaking the law," he said.

One of the main arguments by SGA is that the way student shared governance was running on campus was against system policy and against the law.

This is outlined on their website by citing case law and different Wisconsin Board of Regents policies. However, the university administration has brought into question SGA's claim that laws have been broken. In a memo drafted by Bob Tomlinson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, he refers to the UW System Policy as well as case law as opinions rather than law.

Tomlinson had some merit in his memo. UW System Policy is only an interpretation of the Wisconsin statute 36.09(3) and the interpretation can be either followed or handled differently depending on the school. SGA disagreed.

Until then, the referendum complet ed and the student body's opinions in, all that remains is the final idea of how the structure of the newly merged groups will look.

SHAC will be a subcommittee under the Student Life Issues Committee, a permanent committee under SGA. UCAPB is on its way to becoming a permanent committee under SGA as well, although their structure and their membership will be organized differently.

Gould has strong opposition to this idea.

"They plan on dropping people's positions from the board and adding new ones. I don't agree with this because if we are supposed to become a subcommittee of SGA, I feel that we should keep our current structure because the students voted for us to become a subcommittee and not have our responsibilities taken over by SGA. If SGA feels they can restructure the board to the way they want, it is wrong," she stated.

Most likely this board will become much like a regular SGA committee. It will be composed of students and a paid executive member. When asked if she was offered a position as the executive on this board, Gould had reservations.

Voter Information:

Students can register to vote on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 2 by taking their driver's license or state-issued I.D. card to their polling place along with a proof of residency. Proof could be a utility bill or a housing contract. Housing contracts can be obtained by going to Residential Living Office, 601 Division Street.

To find your polling place log onto: www.stevenspoint.com/vote.
Please remember that even if you live on campus you may not vote at the Dreyfus University Center.

The Student Government Association is providing free vans to drive students to off-campus polling stations. The vans will be running from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will pick students up at the Noel Fine Arts Center, Prey-Simms and Burnett halls.

Referendum Results:

Respondents: 936
Option 1
Response Total: 353
Response Percent: 38%
Option 2
Response Total: 583
Response Percent: 62%

* By choosing option 2, student fees would go to UCAPB and make it a subcommittee.

"I'm not sure what is going to happen about the chairperson. It depends on if they make the chairperson a paid position and how many hours a week the chair must put in. I already have a job on campus that I work 15+ hours a week. The chairperson is currently a non-paid position," Gould said.

These decisions are all yet to be made and SGA and the administration on campus are currently deliberating them. The verdicts are not final in any case.

However, students in different organizations across campus await the final process that will be laid out by SGA and how the changes will affect them.

After this, the board is set for SGA to make their final moves and heavily favors them after the results of the referendum.

UCAPB is not sure what they will do and have not discussed the matter since the results of the referendum.

Gould could not speak for UCAPB on how they would take the referendum.

"I'm not sure how UCAPB will deal with the results," she said.

Editorial Policies

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.

The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 2,500 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is $10 per academic year.

Letters to the Editor

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 inappropriateness length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.
Candidates on the issues
Where candidates stand on the issues that matter to students most

**HIGHER ED**

**TOM BARRETT (D)**
Supports a commitment to higher education and raising or keeping funding levels the same for higher education to lessen the burden on families and students paying for college, tech school or other post-secondary education.

**SCOTT WALKER (R)**
Walker, on his website, does not mention higher education, but rather focuses on k-12 reform in regards to merit pay and charter schools.

**JULIE LASSA (D)**
"Make college and technical college more affordable so that any student can work and live right here in Wisconsin."

**RUSS FEINGOLD (D)**
Feingold has been considered a leader on the issue of higher education but focuses on local school districts. He does not believe in federal mandates for local areas such as the No Child Left Behind Act.

**SCOTT WALKER (R)**
"Ron will vote to repeal the Health Care Bill and replace it with market-based solutions that will include: portability, malpractice reform, mandate reduction, insurance purchases across state lines, lower costs, and a safety net for those with pre-existing conditions."

**SEAN DUFFY (R)**
Scovill supports massive tax cuts and deregulation towards businesses, families and corporations across the state.

**LOUIS MOLEPSKE (D)**
Molepske supports the idea of higher education, especially in Stevens Point with creating the nursing program at UWSP and the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology.

**BOB SCOVILL (R)**
Scovill's website does not outline anything on higher education.

**HEALTHCARE**

**TOM BARRETT (D)**
"Tom will continue other post-secondary education. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act works for Wisconsin working and middle class families."

**RUSS FEINGOLD (D)**
Feingold voted for the health care bill reluctantly because it did not offer a public option. He has often referred to it as a skeleton to fill in with muscle and a good start towards something better.

**SEAN DUFFY (R)**
Duffy, much like most Republicans, supports lowering taxes to stimulate job growth in the private sector. He believes that it is not government's role to create jobs but rather the private corporations.

**HIGHER ED**

**JULIE LASSA (D)**
Lassa supports the health care bill that was passed but believes it needs improvement. She supports opening more of a public market for health care in order to provide for competition and open health care for people who cannot normally afford coverage.

**HEALTHCARE**

**JULIE LASSA (D)**
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**HEALTHCARE**

**SEAN DUFFY (R)**
Duffy supports efforts to get rid of the mandated health insurance law through a statewide effort to sue nationwide leaders on the healthcare law.

**CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES**

**ECONOMY/JOBS**

**TOM BARRETT (D)**
Barrett believes that targeted tax cuts plan outlining where he feels these cuts should be made.

**HEALTHCARE**

**TOM BARRETT (D)**
"We must make quality, affordable healthcare available to hardworking families through market-based solutions like competition, transparency, and tax incentives, not Canadian style programs that put bureaucrats in charge of personal health care decisions. You should be able to choose your doctor, not have government make that decision for you."

**HEALTHCARE**

**RUSS FEINGOLD (D)**
He has laid out a 60 page plan outlining where he feels these cuts should be made.

**HEALTHCARE**

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**HEALTHCARE**

**RUSS FEINGOLD (D)**
Feingold has been a strong advocate for curbing corporate handouts. He supports Congress working together to reform the tax structure on large corporations and taxing middle class and small business loss in order to stimulate job growth from the bottom up.

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**ECONOMY/JOBS**

**JULIE LASSA (D)**
Lassa supports the BadgerCare initiative. He also believes that getting rid of things like BadgerCare and Medicaid would be a serious blow to the people in his district as well as the state.

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**SPONSORS**

**Homegrown: The ultimate team in frisbee**

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Running like the game of soccer, catching passes like football and throwing like Frisbee, "I have played most all other sports at some point in my life and nothing compares to ultimate," said Mike Murphy, one of the team captains for Homegrown, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's ultimate team.

Ultimate is the actual name of what the public knows as Ultimate Frisbee. While some students may think Ultimate is just a group of people throwing a Frisbee back and forth, it's actually an incredibly grueling sport.

"It takes large amounts of determination and effort to play Ultimate," said Murphy. "It is an extremely fast paced game."

Just a couple basic rules for those of you who don't know what Ultimate is:

- The field is the same length as a football field, with the end zones included and is played by teams of seven.
- Play starts with a coin flip or rock, paper, scissors, and the losing team "pulls," similar to a kickoff in football, to the opposing team.
- A player cannot run with the Frisbee after catching it.
- Points are scored when a team catches the disc from a teammate in the end zone.
- After each point, the team scored upon goes to the other end zone ("loser walks") and receives the pull.
- Games go to 15, win by two, or first to 17.
- There are no referees, so "Spirit of the Game" is extremely important.

Homegrown is coming off a third place finish at the Real Eau C Chillout in Eau Claire on Oct. 23 and 24 and are getting ready for the Hallowinona in Winona, MN Oct. 30 and 31.

The team is looking to improve from last year's strong finish. Homegrown advanced through sectionals and regionals, just coming up short of going to nationals. This year, the team has its sights set high. "Last year we took 13th in the central region," said Murphy. "Our biggest goal is to make it to college nationals, which only the top 20 teams in the nation are invited to. We are too big for DII, so we are up against schools such as UW-Madison, Ohio State Michigan State, and Florida."

Ultimate is a fun and exciting sport, with a large following of dedicated players and fans. "Ultimate is a community in itself, with some of the best people I have ever met," said Murphy. "We commit a lot of time to Ultimate, with two hour practices twice a week. In the fall, we have six tournaments, one or two during the winter, with at least three in the spring."

Homegrown is always looking for more people to join. "I would encourage anyone that's interested to come to a practice and check it out," said Murphy. "All you need is the desire to be competitive and have fun at all times. We can teach the rest."

For more information about Ultimate, go to www.whatisultimate.com. For more information about Homegrown and how to join, check them out at http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/ultimatefrisbee/ or friend them on Facebook.

**Purple and gold swim meet kicks off season**

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's and women's varsity swim teams recently kicked off their season with the UWSP hosted Purple and Gold Meet. The Purple and Gold Meet is an annual meet for the swim program. Both the men's and women's swim teams are getting ready for the Hallowinona in Winona, MN Oct. 30 and 31.

The team is looking to improve from last year's strong finish. Homegrown advanced through sectionals and regionals, just coming up short of going to nationals. This year, the team has its sights set high. "Last year we took 13th in the central region," said Murphy. "Our biggest goal is to make it to college nationals, which only the top 20 teams in the nation are invited to. We are too big for DII, so we are up against schools such as UW-Madison, Ohio State Michigan State, and Florida."

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Tough start for hockey

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's hockey team opened the 2010 season last Saturday, Oct. 23. The Pointers were looking sharp in their new uniforms and were ready to match up against the Lawrence University Vikings.

As always, K.B. Willett Ice Arena was full of eager UWSP hockey supporters. There were 1,327 hockey fans in attendance for the 2010 season opener.

The first period was full of first game jitters and both teams were a bit sloppy. Both teams skated back and forth on the ice, managing to score a goal apiece. With a power play and 12:24 left on the clock, Lawrence's Brad Scurfield got the assist from Josh DeSmit to score the first goal of the game.

After Scurfield's first goal of the season, the Pointers received a power play and scored with just over a minute left in the first period when junior Chad Boeckman assisted sophomore Alex Handy with a goal.

With the game tied 1-1 in the first period, both teams were looking to settle down. In the second period, the Vikings settled in first scoring just 1:30 into the period, but the Pointers would not let up.

Five minutes into the period the Pointers were moving the puck well and sophomore Brandon Busse scored a goal to tie things up at 2-2. With only 1:15 left in the period, Vikings' John Orrico received the assist from Reijo Wahlin to put Lawrence up 3-2.

The Pointers continued to play strong defense and moved the puck tight with about 12 minutes left in the period. The Pointers would not be able to hold off the Vikings though, as more goals were scored by John Orrico and Brad Scurfield. Scurfield scored with 1:39 left in the game while being down a player, to shatter the Pointers hopes of winning.

The Pointers head coach Will Nickle weighed in at the end of the game, saying “we knew that coming in they’re good and they played hard and we knew they were going to until the end and obviously we didn’t want to lose, but that’s why we scheduled them because it’s going to be like that all the way through the NCHA. Hopefully our guys understand now, and it didn’t cost us any points so that’s the good news, but obviously we wanted to win, so we’re disappointed with the outcome.”

The Pointers are heading to St. Scholastica to take on one of the most elite programs in the nation Friday and Saturday Oct. 29 and 30. “It’s the work ethic that Lawrence had, multiplied by ten and that’ll be St. Scholastica next weekend. So I think it’s going to be a wakeup call for our guys, we’ll see how we respond, we’re in the storm, that’s what I told the boys. We’re in the storm right now so we either point fingers and we abandon each other or we embrace this storm and get better and that’s the interesting and fun part about team sports,” said Coach Nichel in regard to last weekends game.

Pointer women's hockey preview for season

RAMONE SANDERS
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With the alumni and purple and gold game behind them, the University of Wisconsin-Steven Point women's hockey team has set their sights on their first game of the season. The Pointers will travel to Northfield, Minnesota to face St. Olaf College Oct. 29 and 30 for their first game.

The Pointers are energized to play an unfamiliar opponent this weekend, since it will be their first non-conference game of the season. Although the ladies have only played non-sanctioned games amongst themselves and alumni, those games were very competitive for them.

Dana Carothers, a senior, and communication major, said, “It's fun to play with the alumni, cause we played with a lot of them. It's really fun to see some of them and it's good competition. We play hard and they play hard.” The women's hockey program is excited for the seasons challenges.

There are three senior Pointers amongst a fairly young roster with about 15 returning players. Junior Samantha Scheving added, “We have a lot of hard workers this year eager to learn and play their role.” Scheving, a communication major and native of Minnesota, is confident and optimistic about the play and determination of the new talent.

Carothers, one of the only three seniors on the team, agrees with her teammate and is excited to witness their new teammate's transition to the faster-pace college game. Carothers and Scheving aren't the only members of the women's hockey program that feel this way.

Head Coach Ann Ninnemann also feels the incoming freshman will play a large role in the program's success this season, especially for a young team facing a lot of adversity. “We are excited; we have nine new faces and thirteen returners. We have quite a bit of experience coming back, and we're looking to finish top of the conference,” said Coach Ninnemann.

The program is looking forward to an epic season, there seems to be a subtle buzz in the air due to the addition of two new hockey programs added to the conference. The Pointers open up conference play against St. Norbert Nov. 19, one of the newly added programs to the Pointers conference.

Although the ladies don't start conference play until the face-off against St. Norberts, their non-conference match-ups are no cake walk. Coach Ninnemann explained, “the non-conference teams we schedule are all competitive teams, so this weekend and next week should be good challenges for us to prepare for conference play.

The Pointers receive great support from the community, but encourage students to come out and support your UWSP women's hockey team. The ladies are ready to kick-off the 2010 season this weekend at St. Olaf this Oct. 29 and 30; their first home game will be against the University of St. Thomas Friday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Ice Hawks Arena.
SPORTS

Pointers ground Eagles

By Gus Marcellino-Merwin

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. After a quick field goal, the Eagles wouldn't contribute to the scoreboard again until the fourth quarter. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Pointers, however, found it frequently and would go on to defeat UW-L 31-17.

The Eagles wasted little time as they received the opening kick and proceeded to drive downfield. The UWSP defense would manage to hold UW-L to a 42-yard field goal, which put them in the hole early.

The Pointer offense would take over after the UW-L kickoff, but not for long. UWSP would control the ball for less than a minute before being forced to punt it away. However, the defense would again hold, forcing the Eagles to punt as well. The Point offense would get another crack at a touchdown in the first quarter, and this time they would capitalize.

After senior quarterback Jake Swank’s first completed pass went for a 1-yard loss to sophomore running back Mike Griffin, Point decided to get back to the ground game. Two plays and 32 yards later, Griffin was in the end zone for the Pointer’s first touchdown of the day.

Both defenses would showcase solid performances later in the first quarter as UW-L forced and recovered two fumbles. UWSP was able to stop them from converting the turnovers into points, and the first frame would end with Point on top 7-3.

In the second quarter the Pointers were able to add points to the scoreboard yet again when senior running back Kyle Furhman knifed into the end zone from one yard out. Furhman’s physical running would be an important key in helping UWSP wear down the Eagles. After junior kicker Jared Fohrman tacked on the extra point, the Pointers would head into the locker room with a 14-3 lead and their minds set on increasing it.

Point added 10 more points in the second quarter thanks to a 22-yard Furhman field goal that capped off a 12-play, 83-yard drive for the Pointers. Then, Jake Swank connected with senior receiver Jared Jenkins on a 23-yard strike to widen the lead to 21 points. Swank would again find Jenkins in the fourth quarter for the Pointers’ final score of the game, making the score 31-3.

The Eagles would make a late run in the fourth when sophomore running back Bakary Dao would punch in a 7-yard score to bring the score to 31-10. The Eagles would score once more when the backup quarterback, freshman Mike Butterfield, found fellow freshman Tony Bilderback in the end zone for a touchdown with 11 seconds left in the game. It would prove to be too little, too late, as the Pointers would walk away with a convincing 31-17 victory.

Swank completed 10 of 22 passes for 194 yards with two touchdowns and one interception. Jared Jenkins led the Pointers with 7 receptions for 177 yards and caught both of Swank’s touchdown passes.

Kyle Furhman led the Pointer ground attack against the Eagles. Furhman pounded his way for 121 yards off 23 carries, both career bests.

The Point defenders recorded three sacks on the day, one each by seniors Matt Lunder and Brandon Bruger and another by sophomore linebacker Andy Roloff. The Pointer defense also caused two turnovers in Saturday’s game; a fumble recovered by senior defensive back Peter Peterson and an interception by junior defensive back Collin Johnson.

The battle begins this Saturday, Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. at Perkins Stadium in Whitewater.

Photos by Mark Kinslow
In the spirit of Halloween, students carved pumpkins in the Dreyfus University Center Encore.

The winners for the ‘Best Effort’ category were Kim Kiesner who took first, Cai Dickman took second, and Devin Wobschall scored third.

“I think this is a great idea, with Halloween coming up so soon and for a weekend event they had a really good turnout, and everyone loves to carve pumpkins,” said Carrie Javenkoski, a contestant in the carving contest.

“I’m surprised, there’s actually a lot of creativity going on here,” said Tate Cameron, the administrative budget coordinator for Centertainment Productions, who was assisting Truskowski with the contest.

Cameron also said that although this was the first Pumpkin carving contest here on campus, students may be able to look forward to similar contest next year because of the great turn out of interested people.

Truskowski’s future Centertainment plans include presenting the Illusionist Reza from Las Vegas, which is set for Nov.13 at 8 p.m. in the Encore.

Day of the Dead, or Dia de los Muertos, is a time-honored Mexican tradition that is still a very important cultural holiday.

Carlsten Art Gallery, located in Noel Fine Arts Center at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, is showcasing an exhibit dedicated to honoring the Mexican holiday.

Carlsten Art Gallery Director Caren Heft was excited to see an exhibit like this come to the gallery.

“We have Student Alliance for Latino Studies and Advancement (SALSA), Spanish club, International Club and Carlsten Gallery Student Advisory Committee (CGSAC) all participating,” said Heft. “Of that group, we have two Mexican nationals who are art students and one arts management student.”

Day of the Dead is one of the biggest holidays celebrated in Latino culture. Lisa Hawkos, who is an art instructor at UWSF, really took an interest in this exhibit and the idea behind the holiday.

“In Mexican culture, it’s a time when they celebrate and prepare for the visits of their departed loved ones,” said Hawkos. “It’s not a spooky or scary time; it’s really a festive and happy time.”

One of the most important aspects of the holiday is creating an altar for the loved one.

See Day of the Dead, page 12
Michael Waak is president of the Gender and Sexuality Alliance, a student organization that has become increasingly active over the past two weeks. Waak, senior water resources major, was born in Green Bay. He tutors, and works at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point water research lab.

"My interest is in the sciences but this is my passion, this is what I love to do," said Waak, of his position as president of GSA. He has always held an interest in progressive activism, and began as treasurer of the club his sophomore year and has been president for the past two years. One of his goals as president was to turn the GSA from strictly a social group into a political force.

There are many reasons to study abroad and Ariyal Wagner, senior, was able to find enough reasons to spark her interest in travels. "I adore Greek cuisine, making the Food and Wine trip to Greece my best choice," said Wagner. "I also wanted to see lives being lived outside of the United States, and to lose that sense of being sheltered and explore what else was out there."

There are reasons to study abroad, but many students have heard about studying abroad, but now the question is, what's keeping so many from experiencing it? Doing research may seem like the last thing you want to do, but this time the pay off isn't just a letter grade, but could be the experience of a lifetime. The first step is finding the best place for you to travel. There is a large list of places that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point can take you. There are 10 semester long programs, and more than 20 short term study tours over the winter interim and both the spring and the summer break. There are countries offered in all areas of the globe.

With money sometimes being tight for many students, finding financial support can be a relief during the process. "With an average of about 500 students per year taking advantage of the study abroad programs, the vast majority are eligible and do get financial aid," said Mark Koepke, assistant director of study abroad programs.

Study abroad is more than willing to help out all students to make sure that each payment is made on the deadline. Workstudy, financial aid, and scholarships are available for those who need extra financial support. There are many reasons to study abroad and Ariyal Wagner, senior, was able to find enough reasons to spark her interest in travels. "I adore Greek cuisine, making the Food and Wine trip to Greece my best choice," said Wagner. "I also wanted to see lives being lived outside of the United States, and to lose that sense of being sheltered and explore what else was out there."

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The Greek trip takes you to ancient sites important to Greek culinary history. Wineries, cheese shops, restaurants, and olive groves are just a few stops that are on the list of places to visit. Cooking classes from a professional chef on a remote, beautiful island is just one of the highlights. Writers, film-makers, photographers, and anyone who knows how to enjoy a good plate of food are encouraged to take this trip.

Some students take advantage of the traveling as freshman and others wait until they have a solid view of their field of interest and their professional goals. "Taking courses in the classroom is only one part of learning, but going on my Biology trip to Alaska gave me the best hands on practice and showed me what I could really be doing after I graduated," said Mandi Reininger, senior at UW-Stevens Point.

Roughing the Alaskan terrain can be seen as a challenge, but with a good group of classmates and a fun professor leading the way, this experience can turn out to be life changing. Tagging native birds to the area is one of the adventures these students will encounter. The second of the two protests, which took place on purple day, saw Waak featured on Newsline 9 out of Wausau.

Purple day was to show support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, and Queer community in light of the recent suicides that took place as a result of cyber-bullying. The recent years have seen a steady improvement in the number of students involved in the GSA. 70 people attended the welcome back picnic at the beginning of the year while last year there were only 30 attendees. Last year there were 30. The improved turnout was something that Waak was noticeably excited about. "By being president I have learned a lot of skills, and I hope that my future employers will see value in those skills," said Waak. He hopes that he can help blaze a trail for other LGBT students that want to make a career out of the sciences. "Science is not a field that you usually think of when you think LGBT."

There are several events that the GSA is planning, but the biggest is a screening of "Before Stonewall", a documentary about the beginning of the LGBTQ rights movement. The director of the documentary, Greta Schiller, will also be in attendance for the screening of the film. Waak is proud to be a part of the changing role of the GSA and encourages any and all students to get involved.

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Becca Brossard, junior, philosophy major, is currently studying abroad in Liverpool, England. While studying in Liverpool, England, this current semester, Becca Brossard photographs the Edinburgh sunset.
Pointlife

Viva! Gourmet
Have your spaghetti and eat it too

Martín Smith
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Take a deep breath: it’s just about over. Midterm, I mean. This past week has made me realize, more than ever, just how much work it truly is to be a full-time student. Class, work, study and repeat. That’s been a pretty good description of my week.

So, for all you students out there who’ve spent more than your fair share of hours going to class, studying and attempting to pay off your bills, I salute you. This recipe is for you.

Spaghetti with tomato sauce. Not the most gourmet concept I suppose, though given the circumstances I can’t think of a better way to end a week of utter misery. More than a bit of old fashioned comfort food – this recipe is homage to a simpler time, the most gourmet concept I suppose, when you could have your cake and eat it too. Yes, I remember some of my first encounters with old fashioned comfort food- this recipe is homage to a simpler time, the most gourmet concept I suppose, when you could have your cake and eat it too.

More than that, I hope that when you make this recipe, you’ll remember the good old times when food was just pure fun. Now go on; slurp it. Makes a very generous four to five servings.

Ingredients:

- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 cloves medium cloves garlic, finely chopped
- Dried red pepper flakes
- 1 28 oz. can organic whole peeled tomatoes
- 1/2 cups water
- 1/3 tsp. dried basil
- 1/4 tsp. dried oregano
- Black pepper
- Salt
- Fresh basil, chopped (optional)

In a large pot, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion, garlic plus a pinch or two of dried red pepper flakes. Saute for 3-5 minutes until the onion becomes translucent. Add in all of the tomato paste and saute for another minute. Wash your hands, here comes the fun part.

One at a time squeeze the tomatoes through your fingers and into the pot, so all of the juices are incorporated. You’ll want to wear an apron while doing this, because you’re likely to get hit with a few stray bursts of tomato juice.

Break up any overly large chunks of tomato with the back of a spoon once in the pot. Add in the reserved tomato juice from the can, water, basil, oregano and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

Turn the heat down to medium and simmer for 40 minutes to an hour, until sauce reaches desired consistency. Season to taste with salt.

While the sauce is simmering, bring a generous amount of water to a boil in a large stockpot. Add in the dried spaghetti and cook just shy of al dente, as indicated on the back of the box. Strain the pasta and finish cooking in the sauce.

As most any Italian will tell you, this is very important. Finishing the pasta in the sauce will help them to fully absorb the rich flavor of the tomato sauce (as opposed to just ladling the sauce on each plate).

Dress It Up:
Garnish with chopped fresh basil and grated Parmesan cheese. Serve with your favorite red wine- Shiraz and pinot noir work nicely.

Dress It Down:
You don’t have to use organic tomato products, but it will taste better if you do.

Other Healthful/Sustainable Options:
Substitute whole wheat pasta in place of the regular variety. Once again, you can get each and every ingredient from the local Co-Op. You can substitute fresh tomatoes for all of the canned products, but for this time of the year when tomatoes are scarce and relatively flavorless, I find organic canned tomatoes to be a very suitable option.

Percussionist Neeraj Mehta visits UW-Stevens Point

Martín Smith
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Renowned percussionist Neeraj Mehta visited the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point last Sunday, Oct. 24 to give an informational lecture/workshop and a concert later that evening.

Both events focused primarily on Danish percussion music as an art form and the contributions such music has made to the world of composition. Famous Danish composer Per Norgard, in particular, was alluded to throughout each event.

Mehta said, “For me, Per Norgard is a true visionary, philosopher, and composer. I find human nature and compassion in his music, as well as a distinct take on modernism.”

The lecture/workshop that Mehta gave was on Norgard’s works and compositional techniques in particular. Per Norgard, as it was explained by Mehta, was born in 1932 and currently lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. A renowned teacher and composer, Norgard has taught at the Danish Academy of music and has had a number of renowned proteges, including Mehta himself for a brief period.

Mehta went on to reveal some unique insights into the compositional style of Norgard: A system that he calls the “infinity series”. “Norgard discovered the infinity series”, said Mehta, “but Danes are modest. He’d never tell you that himself.”

Students attending the event seemed to go from a state of utter confusion to a relatively decent understanding of the concept, as Mehta went through his presentation. At the end, students were allowed to test out their understanding of the infinity series on a variety of percussion instruments. Within ten minutes, the room was filled with the musical styles and improvisational techniques explained by Mehta.

The concert then, which began roughly three hours later in Michelsen Hall, was equally unique and exciting. Students and faculty members alike gathered in Michelsen to hear Mehta perform. At 7:30 p.m. the hall went pitch black. Then suddenly, in an act that seemed to make everyone jump out of his or her seats, Mehta struck a deafening first note on his drum, suddenly lighting up the stage in a red hue. The man who stood on stage was not so much the man that students had worked with earlier that day, but rather a masked spirit, a theatrical representation of the music written by Poul Ruders.

Attendees we’re equally stunned by the rest of the concert, including Danish music by Per Norgard, Wayne Siegel, and Ole Buck. Mehta used many elaborate set-ups throughout each of these pieces, sometimes including more than five or six percussion instruments per piece.

One such piece titled “Rejang” by Ole Buck included wooden wind chimes strung up in the far corners of the hall. Long lines of rope tethered these chimes to Mehta’s set-up on stage; As Mehta pulled on them the chimes would create an eerie off stage effect.

Adrienne Ledvina, a senior music major here at UWSP attended both events. “I think it’s great that UWSP can get people like [Mehta] to visit. I feel like I really got something out of his presentation, and the concert was amazing”, Ledvina said.
We often hear the phrase "guns don't kill people, people kill people." There's still a problem with that argument: guns certainly make it easier. It also doesn't rule out the accidents that happen with them.

In the fall semester of 2009 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, I took a class called the Milwaukee Community Planning thing. One of the things that we were studying at the time was the different cultural communities in the city. So we headed to the United Community Center on 6th and Wells. It's a Latino community center in the heart of the south side. At the time we went there was a display that had been put up for the Day of the Dead celebration. One part of this exhibit was a section of flags made by kids in the community for family members that had died from gun violence: none of them were over 18. All were casualties of accidental shootings; they just got shot because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time.

It's always been interesting to me how people blame this on the black market. They say if guns aren't going to be purchased legally, then they will be purchased illegally. True, but guns, at least most guns that end up being used illegally, were originally purchased through legal means.

We can look to Columbine or Kip Kinkel, two school shootings in Colorado. In both cases guns were used that were purchased legally.

Imagine being a parent for a brief spell: You come home to turn on the news when you see there was a shooting and a child died. Your son or daughter isn’t home and you start to worry. Eventually, the phone rings...
Often, they will adorn the alters with photographs, religious statues, and personal things that the deceased would have appreciated.

They also put out food and drink for the loved ones so that they are well cared for when they return on that day.

Dia de los Muertos is traditionally celebrated Nov. 1-2, honoring children and adults.

"They will congregate at the cemeteries and have picnics, because it is about the idea of death not being the end," Hawkos said.

In the exhibit, there will be three alters showcased. There will be a traditional altar, a contemporary altar, and one that shows that an altar can be made in any fashion.

Along with the alters, there will be a slideshow of images depicting how it actually looks in Mexico, along with a few adornments from local schools.

"One school made paper flowers, another school made masks and another one made drawings for the exhibit," Hawkos said.

The closing reception for this exhibit will be 4-7 p.m. on Nov. 1 and will include many traditional aspects of Day of the Dead.

At 4 p.m. there will be coloring and paper assembling activities for children for the school groups that go to see the exhibit.

At 5 p.m. a traditional mariachi band from Madison will be coming to perform, and there will be traditional Mexican food available.

"The people of Latino or Hispanic descent are a really underserved population on campus," Heft said. "I wanted to do something for years that involved that particular group of students."

The exhibit will open Oct. 29, and will be closing Nov. 2. It is open to the public and free of charge.

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28TH:
Dancers of Shahrazad: DUC Encore 8PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29TH:
Scaryoke Karaoke: DUC Encore 8PM

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW:
Jenkins Theatre 9 PM

STEVENS POINT ZOMBIE SHAMBLE:
The Garage- 7 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30TH:
Seal Clubber (Rock/Metal): DUC Encore- 8PM

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