Citizens voice opinions on budget at public hearing

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Hundreds of citizens turned out to voice their concerns about Governor Walker’s proposed budget Thursday as the Joint Finance Committee held its first public hearing in the Quandt Fieldhouse. Turnout for the hearing was drastically lower than initial estimates, as local police had said they expected up to 30,000 people to show up for the hearing.

Exact numbers were hard to come by as people had been filtering in and out all day. Approximately 217 people had signed up to speak, but there were some no shows. About 200 more submitted written testimonies that were inserted into the official record for lawmakers to review.

“I was very pleased with the amount of individuals who came out and testified,” said State Senator Lena Taylor, although she wished the hearing would have gone on longer to allow those who didn’t get the opportunity to testify the chance to speak to the committee.

The vast majority of those who did get a chance to speak were in opposition to the proposed budget.

“I feel like a mosquito at a nudist colony,” said Dr. Bill Hettler, when referring to this budget. His advice for lawmakers to review.

“This budget rips the heart out of this colony,” said Dr. Bill Hettler, when referring to this budget. His advice for lawmakers to review.

Hettler is the former Director of Health Services at UW-Stevens Point and was a co-founder of the National Wellness Institute.

“This budget rips the heart out of Planned Parenthood funding. The top reason why young people drop out of college is unplanned pregnancy,” Hettler said. He also stressed that this bill was a disaster for low-income citizens.

“This sentiment was echoed by a number of other people, including UWSP student Gregory Hartman, who criticized the proposed repeal of the Wisconsin Contraceptive Equility Law. The law, passed in 2009, provides for equal access to contraceptives and STI testing for both men and women.

“People who rely on these social programs are not burnouts,” said Rachel Hanson, a freshman at UWSP. “They are your friends and next door neighbors.” Hanson said that members of the committee needed to “wake up” to this fact.

See Hearing, page 2

Public Records: Students have right to privacy

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Recently, Head Copy Editor Molly Halgrimson of the Pointer Newspaper acquired a stalker.

Halgrimson has two jobs: one for the Pointer and another at a local department store. One of the store regulars began harassing the female clerks until he was removed from the store after several offenses.

“He was eventually kicked out for doing it to me and some other girls too,” Halgrimson said.

After he was removed, he began hunting her down on Facebook and via her school email address. She was forced to restrict access to her information by the school database.

Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has designated the following categories of information as public: unless a student chooses to have any or all of the information withheld:

- Name
- Home address
- Home telephone number
- Local address
- Local telephone number
- E-mail address
- Place of birth
- Major/minor field of study and college
- Participation in officially recognized university activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletics teams
- Attendance (including beginning, ending, registration and withdrawal dates, credits carried in a term, current classification and graduation dates)
- Degrees and awards received (type of degree and date granted)
- The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended
- Name of parents or guardian
- High school from which the student graduated

“Anybody who calls our office can access that information, as long as it’s easily accessible to us,” said Associate Registrar Ed Lee.

Under Wisconsin’s Open Records law, the university must comply with public record requests made by prospective businesses looking for newly graduated students for potential employment.

But what does that mean for students? Each year, the university sends out an annual notification to all students

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Please Recycle.
Hearing/Citizens voice concerns in front of committee

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One student literally asked Rep. Kleeboer if he had coffee.

"Jole, do you need some coffee? I can not count the number of times you have yawned and sighed and acted like you don't want to be here," said Steve Decker, a Navy veteran who previously attended UW-Platteville.

Decker also had strong words for the committee's Co-Chair Rep. Robin Vos asking him not to start his time until he had stopped texting on his cell phone so Vos could give Decker his full attention while he gave his testimony.

Later, Decker spoke to reporters about the apparent lack of attention reporters. "Joel, do you need some coffee? I think most of its editorial policy.

Letter to the Editor

Behind the scenes at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point lies a well oiled system that aids the University in running as smoothly as it does. One of those systems is the UWSP grounds department. Not only does the grounds department clear snow in the winter, and cut grass in the summer they also collect food scraps from dining services on campus to be used for composting. The grounds department also collects yard waste, and adds this waste, along with the food scraps, to a compost pile. This pile is turned and rotated until the finished product can be used again to aid in campus landscaping. This is a slow process because of the amount of days Wisconsin has that are below freezing.

The UWSP grounds department also has a small vermiculture operation. Vermiculture is composting with the aid of worms to speed up the process. This process is fast but not large enough to handle the amount of food the University produces.

The University is committed to sustainability not only through composting but also through creating a greenhouse gas inventory to help understand the campus carbon footprint. Joining a regional organization to promote ride share options, having existing residence halls that operate under the new union to work with staff and students in the future under the new union to advance the university.

"That's why UW-Stevens Point faculty turned out in overwhelming numbers to vote in favor of a union today. Together, we will continue to use our collective voice to advocate for our profession, our campus, and our students. Today is just the beginning," Felt said.

"Too much is at stake— not just for us, but for Wisconsin and all its working families."

~Felt
New research may create vaccine for HIV and malaria

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Thirty-three million.

That’s how many people in the world are affected by AIDS, according to globalhealthfacts.org. Along with more than 81 million people affected by malaria.

“Almost all of the people I interact with in Kenya have malaria, people are exposed to it from the time they are born since it is so common.”

In Kenya, the Institute of Technology have created Wisconsin Communities Take Action, will meet or exceed LEED Silver standards, and having a roof on the campus library that contains five different types of plants that effectively absorb up to one inch of rainfall.

As students at the University it is important to us to see our college practicing the types of sustainability that our professors teach to us. We are a group of students working to better the current conditions of composting on campus. The current system is in excellent working order but a more efficient system could be in place. We, as the campus composting group, are working with the campus to aid in making the process more efficient.

We also would like to inform not only the students of UWSP but also the public of the wonderful job the campus has been doing in remaining in line with their sustainability goals.

We will also take a closer look at the composting process.

The new nanoparticles, called modified liposomes, can carry versions of proteins that are normally produced by viruses. These proteins create a strong immune response like those of a live virus, but are safer.

There are two parts of the immune system affected: anti-bodies and killer T-cells. Killer T-cells destroy cancer cells or virus-infected cells within our body, but they can only target the abnormal molecules inside them.

“We think when we’re getting vaccinated that we’re getting both [anti-bodies and T-cells]. Almost none of those vaccines have the killer T-cells,” said University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Biology professor Sol Sepsenwol.

The new nanoparticles carry the vaccine’s virus proteins inside of cells where they will be visible to the killer T-cells. If the nanoparticles put a piece of HIV or malaria inside of a normal cell, a killer T-cell will see it, multiply many times, and kill any cells infected with the real virus.

Many studies claim that their research may lead to a cure without real promise. “This article is different,” Sepsenwol said. “It is about creating a vaccine... it could make vaccines much more effective.”

Although the information is promising, it will be a long time before the research could actually be practiced. Many steps have to be taken until these findings can be tested on humans. Sepsenwol stated that researchers should wait at least five years before beginning human testing.

Petriello mentioned that there are small steps that can be taken in the meantime.

“Although malaria is common throughout the regions of Africa where I have worked, it doesn’t mean that it is easier to deal with when someone falls ill or dies from it,” Petriello said.

Petriello said that simple things such as buying mosquito nets and improving access to antiretroviral medication for HIV/AIDS could make a big difference right now in combating the disease’s spread.

“Improving access to these drugs would drastically improve the lives of millions of people while we are waiting for a vaccine to be developed,” Petriello said.

Privacy/Students can restrict access to personal information

continued from page 1

via the campus e-mail system, which alerts students to their rights under FERPA.

Students have the right to view their records that are held on campus, to question or ask for modification if information is incorrect, and to restrict access to personal information to the campus official who engages in student education records.

The first option students have, under FERPA, is to engage a full restriction on their profile.

Although this protects a student who may be having particular social problems, it also restricts campus use of the information such as e-mail listings. If a professor needed to look up a student, he or she would not be able to because the student’s name would be removed from the database.

Or perhaps an employer is looking for records of a student having graduated from the university. Because the student engaged full restriction, the university cannot provide any information to the employer, and is therefore unable to verify graduation.

“We take the request for full restriction very seriously,” Lee said.

Although stalkers and creepers do happen, Molly’s case isn’t exactly something that happens regularly.

Out of the thousands of students here on campus, fewer than 10 of them have either of the two types of restrictions on the accessibility of their information in the student database.

The first option students have, under FERPA, is to engage a full restriction on their profile.

Although this protects a student who may be having particular social problems, it also restricts campus use of the information such as e-mail list-
The Point Men's Baseball team kicked off their 2011 season with a spring trip to Florida. The boys posted a 6-and-3 record against teams from across the nation before returning to Wisconsin. Once they were back home the Pointers swept a double header against Edgewood College, racking up 33 runs in two games.

In the month of April the Pointers have achieved a .500 record at 3-3. They split a double header against Ripon College, highlighted by an 11-7 victory in the first game where senior catcher Jordan Rennicke belted a grand slam over the right field wall.

Point hit a road block when they began WIAC play against UW-Whitewater. Their four game series against the Warhawks ended in a 2-2 tie, as both teams swept a double header each.

Leading the way for Point at the plate is sophomore utility man Dan Douglas. Through sixteen games Douglas is hitting .412 with 28 hits and 10 RBIs. Junior third baseman Justin Jirschele leads the team with 21 RBIs in 65 at-bats and trials Douglas by just three hits.

Senior righty Scott Williams has eaten up 27 innings, posting a 4.94 ERA. Williams has faced 112 batters this season and has accumulated a 4-to-1 strikeout to walk ratio.

The Women’s Softball team shared the success of a triumphant spring trip. In a four game invitational in Marquette, Mich., the girls won 3-of-4 games, including an 8-6 victory over host Finlandia. During their Florida road trip the Pointers went 8-and-2, scoring 68 total runs while allowing only 30.

The regular season began roughly as the girls lost four consecutive games, three of which were one run differentials. However, they were able to right the ship in the second game of a double header versus UW-Superior. The girls stole a 5-4 game against the Yellowjackets, much to the pleasure of the relatives in the crowd for the annual Parent’s Day. The girls followed that game up by splitting another double header with the UW-Stout Blue Devils.

On Tuesday, the Pointers had their best outing of the season as they swept a two gamer against Marian University. The potency of their game was shown once again as the offense pounded out 24 hits, during their 7-5 and 15-5 victories.

The baseball team jumps back into action on the 16th when they take a weekend road trip to UW-La Crosse for a four game series. Softball plays again the 16th as well when they travel to Platteville for two games, followed by a double header against La Crosse.
The Self-Defamation of Manny Ramirez

What was there not to love about Manny Ramirez? The dreadlocks cascading out the back of his helmet. His bat slashing through the zone, driving another homerun up and out of the field of play. The accent sooted interviews filled with his confusing yet genius mannerisms.

All the good memories we have of Man Ram proving to the world why he is one of the greatest right-handed hitters of all time are now tainted by a new memory. Now instead of being remembered as a colorful player with a bat of solid gold, Manny's legacy will be that of many recent "Hall of Fame Sluggers." The fans' adoration for him will be replaced by anger and resentment now that he has taken his once heralded name and tarnished it. Even some knew Manny was different. Fans embraced him when he put on one of his absolute awe-inspiring hitting displays. Then when Ramirez was accused of being a head case the fans wrote it off as "Manny being Manny." But even though he was worshiped throughout Red Sox Nation and beyond, Ramirez had a way about him that was off putting to some. Manny saw him as an immature and flashy Dominican import. But for every one fan who was anti-Ramirez, there were four more who found his talent and personality captivating.

He became the savior of an organization that had floundered for years when he helped the Red Sox break the curse of the Bambino. With Manny the Sox won the World Series in 2004, their first since 1918, then again in 2007. But Manny wanted more. In the midst of an uphill contract dispute Manny turned on his team, forcing management to make a move. Ramirez was soon traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers.

In L.A., Manny put up Manny numbers like usual. He finished his first season as a Dodger with the third best batting average in the League and placed fourth in the National League MVP voting. The Dodgers rode his heards all the way to the N.L. Championship were they lost to the eventual World Series Champion Philadelphia Phillies.

Manny believed his performance warranted a hefty new contract. "Gas is up and so am I," said Manny in regards to his new asking price. He eventually signed a two year, $45 million dollar contract after dragging negotiations into the start of spring training.

But has anyone heard of a team signing a player like Manny to a contract that then sending him down to the minors? Neither have I, but that's where Manny was delegated following a 50 game suspension by Major League Baseball. Ramirez tested positive for performance enhancing drugs and under Bud Selig's new, stricter rules regarding PEDs; a player's first failed drug test results in a 50 game suspension.

Manny fans were shocked. His former Red Sox worshippers were now the proud owners of two possibly tainted championships. Dodger fans were outraged believing they had locked up a superstar to discovering they had inherited a cheater. Ramirez was allowed to play AAA ball during his 50 game Major League suspension but upon his return, the eyes on him had changed. Somehow he had retained his Manny image, but the feelings towards him were mixed.

Now anywhere Ramirez went, his record would follow. Teams now had second thoughts about him, and fans no longer fell at his feet like before. So when the Dodgers decided to waive Ramirez during the 2010 season it didn't come as a huge shock. The Chicago White Sox claimed Ramirez off waivers, utilizing his bat in 24 games towards the end of the season. However when the White Sox didn't extend their hand during the off season, Manny became a free-agent. He was scooped off the pile by the Tampa Bay Rays and got a chance to start anew, with a familiar face. The Rays had signed Ramirez's former Red Sox teammate, Johnny Damon, and the two now had the opportunity to revitalize what seemed to be a dying career. Ramirez had played just six games with the Rays before the Breaking News began to flash on ESPN's ticker. "Manny Ramirez announces retirement." Ramirez was batting below .100 through the first six games, so the first thing that came to mind for many people was, "Manny can't hack it anymore so he's hanging up the spikes."

However the truth was something that was more than depressing, it was just plain dumb. In the coming days fans began to find out that just when Manny was beginning to earn back some trust and gain some forgiveness, he took what he had regained and smashed it. A second positive drug test was made public, and rather than face a 100 game suspension for a second offense, Ramirez chose to call it a career.

Had Ramirez served his 100 game suspension and come back, he may have no longer had a home with the Rays. After missing well over half of the season, his one year contract would have run out very quickly. Nobody would have blamed the Rays if at that point they decided to cut ties with Manny. After being cast out of Tampa Bay, would anyone really have jumped at the chance to salvage the only player ever caught by the MLB steroid police twice? Especially since the punishment for a third positive test is a lifetime suspension.

When you look at the numbers: 2,574 hits, 555 homers, you start to think that they are Hall of Fame type credentials. But when the name is attached to the stats, people immediately have second thoughts. There is widespread skepticism among baseball people whether Manny should be in Cooperstown.
TRIVIA 42

Trivia teams battled questions, along with a lack of sleep, while competing in the 42nd annual world's largest trivia contest.

MERCHANDISE
90FM staff member sells some Trivia merchandise

PARADE
Every year the trivia contest begins with a parade that goes throughout the city, celebrating the beginning of the annual contest.

ANSWERING PHONES
The 90 FM studio was packed Saturday evening with volunteers answering phone calls from trivia teams.

TRIVIA SCORES

In 1st place with 11,155 points is
THE ANTI-SOCIAL NETWORK

In 2nd place with 11,140 points is
DAD'S COMPUTERS

In 3rd place with 10,970 points is
FESTIVUS FOR THE REST OF US

In 4th place with 9,230 points is
TIN MAN

In 5th place with 8,245 points is
GRADUATES OF A LESSER GOD

In 6th place with 8,230 points is
COLLECTIVE FOOLE

In 7th place with 8,125 points is
UGLY UNDULATING UVULAS

In 8th place with 7,610 points is
WHATSAMATT-AU 35% BEEF 65% MEATDRESS

In 9th place with 7,540 points is
THE CAKERS

In 10th place with 7,500 points is
GOOD NIGHT IRENE

THE OZ
Oz featured with trophies for the top teams.
I LOVE TRIVIA

TRIVIA TEAMS
Glued to computer screens, and cell phones, trivia teams search for the answers to questions any way they can.

ANSWERING PHONES
90 FM staff members answer eager phone calls from teams, Saturday evening.

DJS ASKING QUESTIONS
Powered by caffeine, and the seemingly never-ending supply of food, 90 FM DJ’s question trivia teams.

ANSWERING PHONES
State senator Julie Lassa answers phones to collect answers during the "Celebrity Phone Shift"
Secret founder visits UW-Stevens Point

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The "Most Trusted Stranger in the World" visited UW-Stevens Point Wednesday night to talk about his world famous project Post Secret.

Frank Warren, the creator of Post Secret, shared some of his favorite secrets he was unable to publish because his publishers were afraid that large department stores would not carry the Post Secret books. "Not one copy of any of my books have been sold in Wal-Mart, I hope they never do," said Warren. Warren said that people have admitted to him by email that Post Secret has changed and even sometimes saved their lives by being able to either get something off their chest or having read something inspirational that resonated with their soul. Warren has been very active in helping keep suicide help hotlines and programs stay open, virtually all money made is donated to charities to help the global society.

After Post Secret boomed into success, Warren agreed to make a series of books constructed out of some of the post cards sent to him to form a narrative of secrets from all around the world.

Warren said that some of his favorite secrets he was unable to publish because his publishers were afraid that large department stores

Photo by Nate Enwald

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Colleges
The freshmen/sophomore for campuses

GET AHEAD
THIS SUMMER

www.uwc.edu/summer11

Going home for the summer? Pick up college credits at your local UW Colleges campus.

UW-Baraboo/Sauk County
UW-Barron County in Rice Lake
UW-Fond du Lac
UW-Fox Valley in Menasha
UW-Manitowoc
UW-Marathon County in Wausau
UW-Marinette
UW-Marshfield/Wood County
UW-Richland in Richland Center
UW-Rock County in Janesville
UW-Sheboygan
UW-Washington County in West Bend
UW-Waukesha

Summer Housing
Across from Old Main at 1117 Preyorst St. New single bedrooms, each with cable/computer jacks and individually keyed dead bolt locks. Central AC. $980 plus utilities for entire summer. 715-341-2865 or www.pivotrerentals.com to view what's available.

University Lake Apartments
1117

Pointe Place Townhomes
New 6 bedroom townhouse 1/2 block from campus. 2 & 1/2 baths, 1st floor laundry, dishwasher, free heat & parking. available fall 2011. Call Mike @(715)972-1402.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

1,2,3 and 4 bedroom housing available for the 2011 summer and school year. Contact Dave at 715 341 0926 / call 715 202 8902 or www.springerrentals.com to view what's available.

Off-Campus Housing
Groups of 5 or 6
- Newly Constructed in Fall 2008
- Huge Townhouse layout (1975 sq/ft)
- Oversized Single Bedrooms
- 2 Full Baths – 1 Half Bath
- Cable & Internet All Rooms
- Washer & Dryer in each unit
- 2 Refrigerators
- FREE HEAT
- FREE Parking
- $1525.00 per semester/person

Free City Bus Service to and from campus directly from your doorstep

Operational Housing
Hundreds of Listings 50+ different landlords
www.offcampushousing.info
Replace your snowshoes for hiking boots: Places to hike near Stevens Point

Rib Mountain State Park
Rib Mountain, a billion years old and one of the oldest geological formations on earth, is home to 15.1 miles of hiking trails. Rib Mountain is located in Wausau and is 30 miles from Stevens Point. It is also home to the Granite Peak Ski area. There is a fee of $3 to get into the park.

Green Circle Trail
The Green Circle Trail is located right here in Stevens Point and has 30.5 miles of trail good for hiking and biking through a variety of ecosystems: forests, wetlands, rivers, and lakes.

Tomorrow River State Trail
The Tomorrow River Trail is 18 miles long and is open to not only hikers, but also to bicyclists and horseback riders. The trail is developed along an abandoned railroad grade. It is located in Plover and Scandinavia, 17 miles away from Stevens Point. There is an admission fee of $4.

Black River State Forest
This park has over 68,000 acres of land which offers opportunity for hiking and camping. The area's geology has unglaciated bluffs, sandstone hills, and castellated bluffs as a result of glacial activity. Black River State Forest is 72 miles from Stevens Point. There is a fee of $3 to get into the forest.

Standing Rocks County Park
Standing Rock has 10 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails as well as an 18-hole disc golf and archery course. The park provides a mixture of hills and rolling areas. It is 14 miles away from Stevens Point. There is a trail fee of $8 required.
ACROSS
1  INCLINED
6  GRAVE
10  _ SOW, SO SHALL...
14  TOIL
15  CALCULUS CALCULATION
16  LECHEROUS LOOK
17  ACTRESS VERDUGO
18  ENDURE
19  BLUE HUE
20  HAVING A CHAINLIKE FORM
22  MEMO HEADING
23  RACED
24  DERELICT
26  FARTHEST OUT
30  CURE-ALL
34  RENDER WEAPONLESS
35  HOUSE RODENTS
36  CAPP AND CAPONE
37  SLANT
38  AFT
40  GORILLAS, CHIMPANZEE
42  SHORTHAND TAKER
43  VEGETABLE APPLIANCE
44  EGYPTIAN GOD
45  IN AND OF
46  JAUNDICED
48  NINE-DIGIT ID
50  UNLUCKY
52  BRANTA SANDVICENSIS
53  FAIRY QUEEN
54  PLACE
56  COMPLAIN
58  COLORED

DOWN
1  ACTOR BALDWIN
2  CURRENCY UNIT IN WESTERN SAMOA
3  YEAH, RIGHT!
4  SINGLE
5  CROSSPIECE ABOVE A DOOR
6  PLAQUE
7  MOUNTAIN NYMPH
8  CRUX
9  WITHOUT A SADDLE
10  NISSAN MODEL
11  OBSERVED
12  365 DAYS
13  DELLA'S CREATOR
14  FEDEX RIVAL
15  ARTICLE IN LE MONDE
16  BIZARRE
17  CONJUNCTION
18  CLAW
19  MDHAWK-SPORTING ACTOR
20  SNAP
21  ESCAPADE
22  NICHOLAS GAGE BOOK
23  ORG.
24  FAIRY QUEEN
25  FROM SUNDOWN TO SUNUP
26  FUZZY BUZZER
27  BROKE BREAD
28  AIR RIFLE AMMO
29  VEGETABLE APPLIANCE
30  EGG-SHAPED
31  BACK PART OF THE FOOT
32  AUTHOR ZOLA
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47  PC MONITOR
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115  COMPLAIN
116  FASHION MAG
117  YOUNG EEL
118  BULL
119  EGG-SHAPED
120  BRANTA SANDVICENSIS
121  PLACE
122  DO FOLLOWERS
123  COMPLAIN
124  FASHION MAG

www.sudoku-puzzles.net
Not intended to be a factual statement

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Senator John Kyl likes to kick little kittens. That was not intended to be a factual statement.

If you agree with the response that Kyl's office gave after he said on the floor of the United States Senate that "90% of what [Planned Parenthood] does is abortions," while holding the federal government hostage over pap smears and mammograms. In the real world, where those of us who are fortunate enough not to call ourselves Republicans live, only 3% of what Planned Parenthood does involves abortions.

Yet, what gets recorded in the congressional record is Kyl's lie. I guess anything goes now as far as discourse is concerned in our government hostage over pap smears and Gaddafi's government. Gaddafi about an organization that should be arguments against funding Planned Parenthood are totally contradictory.

The congressman who started this whole fiasco about Planned Parenthood, Mike Pence, was sure to get his shots in to, saying on Sunday that he was more than willing to shut down the government over funding for the organization.

This nation is facing serious problems that we must deal with, yet one party is focused on defunding Planned Parenthood to the point they are willing to shut the entire federal government down.

Once again, until the Republicans can demonstrate the ability to act rationally, they must be ignored.

Libya: our obligation

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I've noticed these past few weeks that most people don't understand the whole story of what is happening in Libya. On the news they see that we are in another war, and that automatically has a negative connotation towards it. This is the wrong connotation.

In 1969, Muammar Muhammad al-Gaddafi has become the leader of Libya, making him one of the longest-serving rulers in history and a very oppressive one at that.

Under Gaddafi, Libya became the most censored country. He has employed his diplomats to assassinate at least 25 critics around the world. In 1984, Gaddafi said that killings would be carried out on disagreeing citizens, even if they were going on a pilgrimage to Mecca. In February of this year, rebel protests, inspired by other Middle Eastern revolutions, rose up against Gaddafi's government. Gaddafi began to systematically massacre his own citizens. In March, the United Nations declared a no fly zone in Libya in order to protect the civilians.

Later in the month, the United States joined France and Britain in air strikes, strategically targeting Gaddafi's armored units and air defenses.

The people in Libya are living every day in fear. They are being persecuted, raped, and murdered by their own government. They have no power or voice; this is an atrocity.

This isn't about us getting involved in another war and spending more money. Money shouldn't be an issue if the consequence of not spending is death.

This is not about whether we're in another war or not; this about protecting people. It is about being a part of a global community that we are all a part of. We need to protect each other. We need to take action, because if we don't, then we'll become part of the problem.

The people in Libya are living every day in fear.

-Luckow

Health is not entitlement

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What we had last week was a unique opportunity that we might never find again. The Joint Finance Committee came to Stevens Point to hear the voices of the people on the issues of the budget.

While this is mostly a political stunt or used for publicity, it was certainly interesting to see the people that came out to speak about something that they care deeply about.

I must admit, it wasn't something I was keen on doing, but I spoke. I spoke about BadgerCare and Medicaid; two programs that I hold near and dear to my heart.

You see, I have a disease called Hemophilia. Basically it is a clotting disorder that makes it really hard to heal from major injuries.

There's a common misconception out there that you can die from a paper cut, let me tell you, it's not true.

The main problem with clotting disorders, like mine, is that when you get injured in joints, or on your head, the blood stays there for days, sometimes weeks, at a time. This does serious damage to the joints or brain and most people have to get surgery by the time they're 40 years old to replace or correct the joints.

It's expensive. One dose of medication can cost anywhere from $2,000 to $4,000. And there are kids who have to prophylactic doses of this twice a day, making their medical costs soar to upward amounts of $2,000,000 a year. Most insurance companies won't cover this, and if they do, you cap out in one year.

That's why we rely heavily on these two programs. That's why they're so important, because we can't afford to have the kind of coverage that an every day American needs.

But at the same time, Governor Walker aims to target these programs for cuts. And that's not only hurting me, but hurting the thousands upon thousands of people who rely on those programs every day for basic medical treatment just in order to live a life that is, at best, par with every other person in this country.

I'm not whining, I don't want entitlement, because truth be told, I have yet to use these programs. But I care just that much about the people I meet in my community that the issue is something I can get up in front of a podium for and let my emotions slide out for just a second and tell it like it is.

People aren't pawns for political gain. We have real needs and real issues that we need help on. And Scott Walker wants only to shy away from that.

I think that's wrong. And I hope all of my brothers and sisters across this state dealing with issues like mine will join me in fighting this awful assault on those less fortunate that people like Scott K. Walker.
Pride Week celebrates diversity and differences

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Several students got to test out their Gaydar this week by trying to figure out the identified sexual orientation of a panel of their peers from the Gender and Sexuality Alliance.

"This is kind of our moment to come together despite all of our differences, because we are a very diverse group, and we are proud to be ourselves and to not be in the closet," Waak said.

Throughout the week, GSA has held events that illustrate different issues and explains how to deal with the LGBT community as it is in the urban environment," Waak said.

The show, which is co-sponsored by Centerentainment, is free to students and $5.00 for non-students. It starts at 8:00 p.m., and only people who are 17 years or older are allowed to attend. Alcohol will also be served at the event.

The end of the show, a Drag Queen, Drag King and S&M Spirit Award will be given to the best candidate.

"We're not trying to mock the S&M community," said Waak. "It's entertainment, but it's also a critique on how society views gender norms."

Friday brings a momentous event regarding the politics of the LGBT community. A bus will be leaving from UWSP to head to Madison for an event called Break the Silence. It is a silent march from Library Mall to the state capitol, and ends with a celebration.

The tour leaves UWSP at 1:30 p.m. and is expected to return around midnight. It is also free to UWSP students.

Saturday marks the last event of Pride Week, which is a screening of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at 8 p.m.

"I know a lot of the cult following is kind of twisted gender and it touches on gender expression and sexuality," Waak said.

At the event, GSA will be selling bags of props to be used during the movie, such as newspaper, toilet paper and toast, for $2.00.

With all of the events of Pride Week, GSA hopes to raise awareness and educate people about the LGBT community.

"It's all about recognizing people who have issues with pride, because we should be proud of who we are," Waak said.

For more information about GSA or Pride Week, stop by their table in the Dreyfus University Center between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. all week.

Celebración Hispana celebrates Latino culture

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Many students have experienced a class on foreign culture where a teacher stood in front of the room and spoke about the importance of the United State's relationship with that culture.

On Saturday, students will be able to break free from that model and learn about Latino culture by eating native dishes and listening to music.

On April 16, the Latino Student Alliance (LSA) will be putting on an event raising up Latino culture and educating the public about their customs and traditions: Celebración Hispana.

Tony Fuller, a senior Biology and Philosophy double major, is the president of the Student Alliance for Latino Studies and Advancement (SALSA).

"We're hoping to get our name out there and show people our culture and what we contribute to the community as well as get people excited about some of these issues," Fuller said.

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Celebración Hispana begins at 6:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m., and is $6.00 for students and $8.00 for everyone else.

The event is being held in the Laird Room in the Dreyfus University Center, and the doors open at 5:00 p.m. The ticket is needed for the dinner section of the event, and everything else is free to the public.

Professor Jennifer Collins is going to come in and speak about Barack Obama and his relationship with the Latino culture as well as what she knows about the Latino culture here."

After this presentation, the dinner will start up. LSA members will be cooking the food, which will involve many traditional items such as tostadas, Peruvian meats and tres leches.

Following the traditional dinner, the live band will start up. Sabor Latino is a well-known band in Madison, and they play traditional Latino music. People will be able to try salsa, merengue, and other traditional Latino dances.

"We will be walking around to help people learn how to dance, and it's a great chance to learn while no one is judging you," Fuller said.

Fuller is hoping this event will shed light on the Latino culture in Wisconsin using dance and food. "We're hoping to get our name out there and show people our culture and what we contribute to the community as well as get people excited about some of these issues," Fuller said.

SALSA is a group dedicated to the advancement of the Latino culture, and events like this will help to move their cause forward.

"It's more of a social organization where we're trying to get all of the Latino people on campus or people who want to learn about it together and we do various events and volunteer activities," Fuller said.

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