Conservatives speak about national debt, liberals

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On April 21, students and members of the community gathered in the Dreyfus University Center Theatre at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to hear prominent conservative figures speak about the current political climate.

The first speaker, James T. Harris, is a conservative radio host out of Southeastern Wisconsin. Harris grew up in a Democratic household and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"They [the university] challenged my thinking. I was going to vote Democrat because that's what we always did." However, Harris couldn't get past the idea of voting for abortion. "I was thinking with my head and not my heart."

Harris talked about the difficulties of going through life as a conservative African-American and the continual criticism and threats he receives.

"Someone told me once that as an African American you're not supposed to go to tea parties. I answered, 'You're right. I don't consider myself an African-American. I consider myself an American African descent... We're Americans,' Harris said.

Harris used to be a high school history teacher and never understood why students didn't like history until he realized that it was boring. It was boring, he said, because all of the stories were being taken out.

"History is not a timeline. History is a dramatic cycle. History has seasons...our last season of spring was in the 1940s after World War II [...] We are in winter right now and the issue is undeniable [...] the problem is debt," Harris said.

Harris said that the younger generation has yet to realize this. "The reason we have a tea party movement is because people understand this," he said.

Harris used a metaphor from "Lord of the Rings" to describe what students must do to fight the debt. He said that college students are hobbits and that they must throw the ring (the debt) into the fires of Mount Doom and not be tempted by the ring.

"Let's fight the fight as if our lives depended on it, because it does," Harris said.

S.E. Cupp, a conservative political commentator and host of her own television show on Glennbeck.com, spoke next with her presentation entitled "Young and Liberal=Dumb and Liberal."

See Speakers, page 3

SGA, UCAPB and chancellor bring end to fees battle

DUSTIN KLEIN
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will be implementing a new shared governance plan starting this week. The plan brings a close to the battle that SGA President Mike Wilson and his colleagues in the Senate have been working on for the past year. It also shapes much of Wilson's tenure in his current office, which is coming to a close in a matter of weeks.

"Regardless of how we got here, we have to remind ourselves of why we're here, what is on the table, and what we can do for current and future UWSP students by working together," Wilson said.

Chancellor Bernie Patterson has been holding meetings with key people in SGA and the University Centers Advisory and Policy Board as well as the Student Health Advisory Committee on the implementation plan. Both sides had to offer concessions to get the plan to a point where the Chancellor was willing to commit to signing the document.

"We made history," Patterson said.

Patterson has called for a signing ceremony on Friday, April 29.

Hans Schmid, Vice President of SGA, said that the issue has expanded all over the University of Wisconsin system and UWSP has offered help to other campuses on their segregated fees.

"We've been assisting students with similar issues on their campuses. Sometimes you just have to redefine the code that establishes students' legal authority. Sometimes the Legislative Audit Bureau asks you to do it," Schmid said.

Wilson also is taking credit for leading the state on making the process as open as possible, citing his work to make records on their website available for all to see, something that he had campaigned on last year.

"You know, Stevens Point has always had the reputation of being the 'little campus that could' when it comes to Shared Governance," Wilson said.

With the signing of the new document, UCAPB and SHAC will become committees of SGA and will have the final say of their budgets go to SGA, bringing control of all student segregated fees under the umbrella of SGA. The last time this took place was in 1989 prior to the signing of a new implementation plan that had previously violated some system policies.

Sarah Dowidat, a UCAPB representative, stated during open forum at the Student Senate meeting on Thursday night that if the proposed amendments to UCAPB's bylaws were approved, UCAPB would join in signing the implementation plan.
NEWS

NEWSBRIEFS

LOCAL

Kreitlow announces run for Congress

Former Wisconsin State Senator Pat Kreitlow, a Democrat from Chippewa Falls, threw his hat in the ring to challenge Rep. Sean Duffy for the Wisconsin’s 7th Congressional District.

"Just as my former State Senate colleagues took the lead in standing up to challenge Rep. Sean Duffy for the Wisconsin’s 7th Congressional District, I’m ready to fight on the Washington front to turn back this new war on the middle class," Kreitlow said in a statement he released declaring his candidacy on Monday.

The Democrat is a one-term Senator who lost his seat in 2011 to Republican Terry Moulton. For almost a decade before serving in the Senate, he was a journalist at WEAU-TV in Eau Claire. Kreitlow is married with two daughters and one grandchild.

Duffy was elected to Congress last November after beating UW-Stevens Point alumnus and former Sen. Julie Lassa for the seat held for more than 40 years by Dave Obey.

So far, Kreitlow is the only Democrat who has stepped up to challenge Duffy, but former State Sen. and former Secretary of Tourism Kevin Shibilski of Merrill has also hinted at running.

NATIONAL

Storms Rip up South

Within the last month, severe storms and tornadoes have caused destruction and deaths around the United States of America. Earlier this week, severe storms ripped up Southern states from Texas to Tennessee.

Twelve people have been reported dead and 50,000 are without power. The total damage from the storms is still unknown. In Alabama, a tornado struck Cullman Regional Medical Center causing the hospital to declare a “code d” (disaster). The tornado also hit Lake Guntersville, Dove Park, Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport and the Little Rock Air Force Base.

The intense downpour from the storms flooded rivers in Missouri and the Black River has started to pour over levees.

Meteorologists are predicting more tornadoes to hit Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

WORLD

NATO plans on increasing attacks in Libya

On Wednesday, NATO announced that they are planning on increasing their attacks in Libya by carrying out more air strikes on Colonel Muammar Gaddafi’s palaces, headquarters and communication centers. On Monday, NATO bombed Gaddafi’s residential compound that has been described as an assassination attempt.

Last week, the United States made armed Predators available for use in Libya, which are able to hit more ground targets.

"We’ve seen some progress made in Misurata, and it’s very clear that the regime is on the back foot," said British Defense Secretary Liam Fox.

Meanwhile, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has condemned NATO’s attack on Gaddafi’s compound. "Who permitted this? Was there any trial? Who took the right to execute this man, whatever he is?" Putin said.

Reality show host and real estate mogul Donald Trump has also gained recent media attention for calling on Obama to release the certificate, even using the spotlight to get people talking about his potential presidential bid in 2012.

In response to Obama’s releasing of his certificate, Trump said, “I’m very proud of myself. I’ve accomplished something that nobody else has been able to accomplish.”

If you have any questions about commencement on May 21, 2011, visit the commencement website www.uwsp.edu/special/commencement

• RSVP to walk at the ceremony (electronically at the above website)
• Purchase caps, gowns and tassels at the University Store
• May 9-13, Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
• Mail order your cap and gown package to be shipped
• May 9-13 at 715-346-3431 If you are out of the Stevens Point area.

Questions? Contact University Relations and Communications 715-346-3548 or commencement@uwsp.edu

Are you Graduating in May? www.uwsp.edu/special/commencement

Obamas release birth certificate

At the behest of many of his political opponents, President Obama on Wednesday finally released his long-form birth certificate to the public. The document proves that the president was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on August 4, 1961, at Kapiolani Hospital.

Ever since his election to the presidency, Obama has been under pressure from the self-proclaimed “Birthers” who believe that he is not a native-born citizen of the United States. Famous television hosts Lou Dobbs and Rush Limbaugh have been two prominent figures over the past few years to demand Obama present his birth certificate.

Obama had long refused to release the document, claiming that the issue of his birth was not in contention and that other more important issues should be addressed.

Referring to the Birther movement, Obama said he had been “puzzled at the degree to which this thing just kept on going.” He then stepped aside from the issue and noted that “we’ve got some enormous challenges out there” and that we will be unable to solve them if we are distracted by “sideshow and carnival barking.”

THE POINTER

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Letters to the Editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.

Univere of Wisconsin
Stevens Point
CAMPUS

Speakers/Say national debt should be #1 priority

continued from page 1

Cupp, who speaks at many college campuses around the United States, said, “Every time I try to think of why colleges are so fundamentally liberal, I get stuck.”

Cupp continued to say that college is supposed to be a time of self-exploration but “there’s nothing self-exploratory about copying other people. Oh you don’t like Bush? How original [...] You can’t actually find actual rebellion on college campuses anymore. What would be rebellious is a protest for fiscal responsibilities.”

“We are all naturally born conservatives,” Cupp said. “We are born wanting to survive and thrive.” Cupp said that she doesn’t know why “instead of thinking for themselves, you let other people think for them.”

The biggest issue that Cupp addressed was the same as Harris: the debt.

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“Our kids are going to be broke,” Cupp said.

She also talked about changing the standards society places on kids, especially when it comes to higher education.

“We don’t know how to make anything anymore. Not everyone should go to college […] I don’t think you have to be a Harvard graduate to know the meaning of life or have values […] I think we’re making a dumber society,” Cupp said.

When asked about liberals, Cupp stressed the need to sit down and talk scientifically about the issues. “We agree more than we discuss,” Cupp said. “We agree on the same fundamentals.”

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Cupp expressed her worries on the future of the GOP (Republican Party) in the upcoming 2012 election.

"I'm not excited," Cupp said. "President Obama has already won unless we change our game plan."

NEWS COMMENTARY

Tennessee “Don’t Say Gay” Bill Advances

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A bill prohibiting teachers from discussing homosexuality in classrooms before ninth grade, nicknamed the ‘Don’t Say Gay Bill,’ has advanced to the full Senate after being approved by the Tennessee State Senate Committee.

The bill states that, "No public elementary or middle school shall provide any instruction or material that discusses sexual orientation other than heterosexuality.

Bill sponsor Sen. Stacey Campfield, a Republican from Knoxville, told the Knoxville News Sentinel that his bill is neutral and added that, "We should leave it to families to decide when it is appropriate to talk to children about sexuality."

According to the bill, “Human sexuality is a complex subject with societal, scientific, psychological, and historical implications; those implications are best understood by children with sufficient maturity to grasp their complexity.”

This bill hosts more of a one-sided agenda than Campfield says it does, especially because the bill bans teachers from talking about sexuality and gay issues even with students who identify as gay or have gay parents. This means that if a student comes to a teacher, and says they are gay, it would be illegal for the teacher to respond and have a discussion with the student about their sexuality.

For many young gay students, teachers and guidance counselors act as sources of great support, and with the implementation of this bill, students have lost this necessary support system during a critical time in their adolescence.

According to the UCLA School of Law, in the state of Tennessee 42,000 children are living in households headed by same-sex couples. Yet, at the same time, there is a Tennessee law that bans same-sex marriage. What is the message being sent to the students being raised in these households?

I fear for the young student who identifies as gay or lives in a same-sex couple household, living with no support from their school or their community.

State Senator Campfield seems to truly believe that if you just don’t talk about gay people, they will just go away. Sorry, but you cannot just wish away an issue.

It is my hope that the people of Stacey Campfield’s district wake up, and realize that he is making their entire state into an embarrassment.
Hey Packers, you should pick these guys

ANDREW WINDSOR
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Commentary •

As you read this, you probably have your TV tuned to the NFL draft. This year the Packers have an excellent chance to reload their roster to defend their title. This year's class boasts of raw potential at all positions that could fill some roster needs.

According to Packers College Scouting Director John Dorsey, they have adopted the policy of drafting the best player available. “Best player available. We live it,” Dorsey said. “Our job is to find the best player we can possibly find to improve our roster. I think that’s what we do. If we can make our roster as competitive as we possibly can, that’s all you can do.” However, if one of the best players available is at a position of need, don’t be surprised if they scooped him off the draft board.

The Green Bay Packers ask five questions about a player before they draft him, said Dorsey. “One, are they a good guy? Two, do they work at their craft? Three, do they love football? Four, are they going to be good in the locker room? And five, would you like to have them as your neighbor?” he said. If drafted, I think these players will make an immediate impact for the Packers.

Derek Sherrod
Derek Sherrod, OT, Mississippi State. At 6’5”, 321 pounds, this giant could be the future tackle opposite of Bulaga during the Aaron Rodgers era. Rodgers sustained two concussions last year and the Packers know they must protect him better. Sherrod shows extreme potential and excels in pass blocking. He also has an impressive track record when answering the Packers’ five questions. By being a team captain, earning a 3.5 GPA and working in a community organization for four years, he possesses admirable character. Another reason the Packers may consider nabbing Sherrod is that Chad Clifton and Mark Tauscher are almost 40. They’re literally knocking on the door to retirement.

Cameron Heyward
Cameron Heyward, DE, Ohio State. A year ago he was regarded as the top defensive end in college football. I wouldn’t be surprised if I saw Ted Thompson drooling at this prospect if he’s still on the table for the 32nd pick. Heyward is a perfect fit for the Packers’ locker room. He has an undeniable potential, extreme talent and an outstanding work ethic. Watching him on tape, you can tell this guy just loves to play the game and goes all out every play. His pure strength is shown on tape when he’s battling college offensive linemen around like a rag doll. Extremely explosive speed helps him create havoc in opposing team’s running game. Once he polishes up his pass rushing moves and quickness, he should be an elite player. Even if Cullen Jenkins re-signs, Heyward would fight for the starter at defensive end as a rookie.

Brooks Reed
Brooks Reed, OLB, Arizona. Adding a pass rusher like Reed to the roster would give opposing quarterbacks pregame nightmares. This frightening dream would place quarterbacks in a prehistoric setting with two saber-tooth tigers charging towards them: Clay Matthews and Brooks Reed. With his long blonde hair and merciless desire to engulf any opponent, Reed would make a great compliment to Matthews. In fact, this diamond in the ruff, and is even being called the next Clay Matthews. With the motor of a mustang he will make a lot of noise on the field with his energetic play. Unfortunately, he has a few areas to improve in. Reed must gain strength, size and develop pass coverage skills.
In a season where a major storyline for the Brewers has been their off-season signings there has been one player who came in under the radar. Milwaukee picked up Nyjer Morgan early in the season to help address their right field problems before the return of Corey Hart and the speedy outfielder has proven invaluable in more ways than one.

Morgan spent his last few seasons with the Washington Nationals where he was regarded by some as a bit problematic. However, his former teammates described him as an excellent locker room presence. Morgan was always at the field early ready to work. He had earned a reputation as a feisty player with a great passion for the game.

Morgan has carried that passion with him to Milwaukee as he has quickly made a positive impression on both the organization and with fans. Morgan’s performance in his 13 games this season has made him the poster boy for 100 percent effort this season. If he maintains that mindset, he may have found a home in Milwaukee.

Morgan has carried that passion with him to Milwaukee as he has quickly made a positive impression on both the organization and with fans.

—Marcellino-Merwin
Quality, Strength, Durability: Brauny

This is not an advertisement for paper towels. Rather this is an advertisement for the reigning National League Player of the Week. For those of you who have not gotten into the habit of watching the Brew Crew this season, I suggest you begin tuning into FSN on a regular basis. Left fielder Ryan Braun has been snapping necks and cashing checks over the course of the last few weeks.

Last week, the Brewers awarded Braun with a five year contract extension through the 2020 season. This extension marks the longest commitment to a single player in Brewer history.

"This is a historic occasion for our franchise and for our fans," said Brewers’ Principal Owner Mark Attanasio.

Braun is off to his hottest start of the year this season. He is leading the majors with 9 homeruns and is second in the majors to teammate Prince Fielder with 21 RBIs. His .372 batting average ties his for 5th in the National League.

Braun's red hot hitting, coupled with the equally impressive start of first baseman Prince Fielder, has tapped the keg of potential for a Brewer team that has the highest expectations of any Milwaukee team in recent years.

Tuesday night it was Braun’s solo homerun that tied the game at two all against the Cincinnati Reds, allowing second baseman Rickie Weeks to give the Brewers the advantage with a solo shot of his own. All three of Milwaukee’s runs came off of homers, including the opposite field smash by Fielder that began the derby.

Tuesday’s game not only marked the first Brewer victory of the season over the Redlegs; it also marked the first at-bat of the season for Corey Hart. Milwaukee’s All-Star right fielder had been sidelined after suffering a rib cage strain during Spring Training. Hart went 2-15 in his five game rehab stint with Triple-A Nashville but he says there’s nothing to worry about.

"I didn’t care what I did. I took my at-bats a little different than I normally do. I wasn’t as aggressive as I normally am. I knew I wasn’t going to have a lot of at-bats, so I wanted to see as many pitches as I can."

In his first at-bat with the big league club this season Hart grounded into a fielder’s choice. However his presence at the plate signaling his return was enough to send Miller Park into a frenzy.

Also expected to make his return on time is off-season acquisition Zack Greinke. Greinke injured his ribs during a pickup basketball game during Spring Training and has since been recovering. He has shown signs that he is back into form following outings in the minor leagues. Greinke is scheduled for a return in early May.

The Brewer’s highly potent offense combined with stellar starting pitching thus far has proven to be the difference maker this season. With the return of Hart and Greinke all signs are pointing to postseason baseball in Milwaukee.

Is your résumé complete? It’s not if there isn’t an overseas experience on it. You’ll always regret it if you don’t go. Study Abroad!

There is still room for you for next spring’s programs.

International Programs Office, 108 CCC, 346-2717

www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad
Southwestern redneck performs poetry

Published poet and author Tim Hunt presented a poetry reading to the public last Thursday in the Collins Classroom Center.

Hunt, author of "Redneck Yoga," "Fault Lines" and "White Levies," among many other titles, read 18 of his time-weathered and image-inducing poems.

"I'm a bit of a self-proclaimed southwestern redneck," Hunt said.

Having spent many years traveling the country, Hunt interprets his first-hand experience of the world into his writings and tells them to audiences all around the nation in what he calls the "Blue Collar Poetry Tour."

"I, in no way mean the term 'redneck' in any derogatory way, it's only a certain way of living life," Hunt said.

Over the past 40 years, Hunt's poems have been published in more than 50 journals and reviews.

In his time on campus, Hunt read "Learning the Piano," "The Dow of Twang," and "The Photo that does not Exist." Hunt also spoke to William Lawlor's class on Jack Kerouac and Lawrence Ferlinghetti at 2 p.m. on April 21.

"We are very excited and honored to have Tim Hunt on campus and hear him read some of his esteemed works," said Professor William Lawlor.


As a fourth generation native of Northern California, Hunt was born in Calistoga and raised primarily in Sebastopol, both small towns north of San Francisco. At the time of his youth, Sebastopol was still primarily apple orchards, and the wine industry had not yet made Calistoga chic.

Later, Hunt was educated at Cornell University; he has taught American literature at several schools, including Washington State University and Deep Springs College.

He is currently a Professor of English at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois.

Read Tim Hunt's poem "Learning the Piano" on page 9

Contest searches for next 'idol' in Point

Want to be part of finding a superstar on campus? 'Point Idol' at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is on the hunt for the next big thing.

The contest, which is being put on by Centertainment, held auditions on Friday and Saturday of last week, but due to attendance, they went with a different plan.

Nikki Truskowski, senior communication major, is the special events coordinator at Centertainment. She will also be acting as one of the judges for the event.

"We were going to have auditions if numerous people signed up for it; however, 12 people signed up that were good," Truskowski said.

"We were going to narrow it down to 12 anyways, so we just said we'll take these 12 and jump right in on Friday."

Though the list of contestants is under wraps, Truskowski says the group is promising and talented.

Along with Truskowski, Trevor Fyler and another person yet to be determined will be judging, and Jeff Bryant will be the emcee.

"Judges will not have an influence on the voting, but we will be able to voice what we think of each singer," Truskowski said.

When it comes to voting, Centertainment will be utilizing their Facebook page to keep fans interested in the event. Along with updates, the website will have links that will lead people to the online voting forums.

"We will be using our Facebook page to generate more members, and we wanted to use social media in a way we haven't done before," Truskowski said.

The first round of performances will be Friday, April 29 from 8 p.m.-10 p.m. in the Encore of the Dreyfus University Center.

During that round, the first three contestants will sing with a 30-second break in between. Third place will receive $100 in gift cards, second-place will receive $150 in gift cards, and first place will receive $200 in gift cards.

The events will be free for students with ID and $5 without. For more information, search for Centertainment on Facebook.
The Pointer

POINTLIFE

Make a stop on “Barney Street”

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Covering topics from geeks in love to body image, Barney Street literary magazine celebrated its 33rd issue on April 22. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point magazine has been in print since 1978 and is interested in what they want to include. Dyjak is happy to be the advisor for the student organization, but wishes the word would get out more about Barney Street. “Those of us in English announce it to our classes, but only so many people are in an English course, so it kind of misses people who are

“This is my fourth year with Barney Street and I feel that we always have a lot of great submissions that seem to get better every year. I’m proud that our campus feels so strongly about writing.”

- Spencer Hupf, senior English Education major

named after the street that existed on campus for about 15 years. Chancellor Bernie Patterson stopped by the event to congratulate the writers and mingle with the crowd.

Amy Zandler, a junior English and French major, is editor-in-chief of Barney Street and part of the student organization University Writers. “We are totally student edited, student run and its all student work,” Zandler said. “We got one to two hundred submissions for this issue.”

The submissions begin to be accepted at the beginning of fall semester, and the deadline is usually in December.

Dr. Patricia Dyjak is the faculty advisor for University Writers, and is an assistant professor in the English department.

“In my class, there are people that are just soaking it up like little sponges and then erupting into beautiful things,” Dyjak said. “There are a lot of really strong writers here at UWSP.”

There are many different types of work that are accepted, such as poetry, fiction and artwork. There are guidelines for each that must be followed in order to be considered. “The student editors decide what is published,” Dyjak said. “They all read everything that gets submitted, and have long meetings and discuss interesting what they want to include.”

Dyjak is happy to be the advisor for the student organization, but wishes the word would get out more about Barney Street. “Those of us in English announce it to our classes, but only so many people are in an English course, so it kind of misses people who are

and critique,” Wagner said. “It’s a little scary, but I am more excited than anything.”

Stay tuned for more information about submissions in the coming semester.

Best Roommate Contest

Do you have the best roommate in the world? Is your story one of epic proportions? Tell it to us. If you have an amazing roommate, send us your story and your roommate might win The Best Roommate of the Year Award! If your roommate wins, your story will be published in next week’s issue of The Pointer. Send your story to Kaitlyn Luckow at kluck791@uwsp.edu by Tuesday, May 3 and look in next week’s issue to see if your roommate won.
POINTLIFE
Veterans discuss difficulties of readjusting to college life

LOGAN CARLSON
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"I came home on a Sunday night at 5:30pm and I had class the next day at 9am," was just one story John Matz gave about his reintegretion home from a recent deployment to Iraq during a panel discussion of veterans on Wednesday.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Veterans Club hosted the event to discuss the challenges veterans have had to reintegrating back into the civilian world after, possibly multiple, deployments overseas.

Lieutenant Colonel Cynthia Rasmussen acted as moderator for the discussion and gave a presentation earlier in the day about the challenges she has seen returning veterans face. LTC Rasmussen is a 22-year veteran of the Army and serves as a Combat and Operational Stress Control Officer out of Minneapolis, MN.

Most of those participating in the event said they felt older than their actual age. "I'm only 25 but I feel like I am in my mid-30's," said Phil Komosa. Komosa served in the Army and was stationed in Germany before serving multiple deployments overseas.

Keith Techmeier, a former Marine, said, "I'm about to turn 28 this year, I feel like I am going to be turning 40 instead." Matz said starting school so quickly after getting home from Iraq forced him to live in the dorms, which he admits was probably a big mistake.

"I don't want to call the people I lived with immature because they were not, but I was just at a different level than they were." He said that it was just a different way of living compared to what he was used to, "the dorm life was like completely the opposite of barracks life overseas."

Many of the veterans on the panel discussed the many challenges of adapting to life as a student. Techmeier compared it to "jumping into water and trying to learn how to swim."

"I had to learn the simple things that other students innately knew," remarked Komosa. "Everything was assumed I knew what the professors were talking about," such as checking emails, D2L and getting resources for homework.

The panel also said most of them found it difficult to interact with students and professors upon returning.

"How do I engage with someone who doesn't know me," Komosa said in reference to reaching out to professors for help.

Elliott Truebe, a two-time veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, said he found it most difficult getting involved with other students and friends upon returning.

"It took about a good six months to really get out there and talking to people again because you just aren't used to it."

LTC Rasmussen stressed the importance of the UWSP Veterans Club in helping returning veterans transition back to lives as students and civilians.

Ann Whipp, UWSP's veterans Coordinator, said the biggest challenge she has seen in regards to veterans coming home is trying to do too much too soon.

"School attendance is vastly different from the military and getting used to school structure can be tough. We do have new students failing their first semester here and again, I believe it is because they needed some time to 'detox.'"

The student panel all praised Whipp as having a remarkable impact on returning to school. Whipp says there are currently around 310 veterans receiving benefits on campus.

UWSP Timbersports splits competition in half

LOGAN CARLSON
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UWSP's Timbersports team broke Southern Illinois University's 18-year domination of Conclaves April 9th at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Overall, Andrew Gollnick from UWSP took first place in the individual contest, with 24 points, bringing in $1,000 for the Timbersports team and qualifying himself for the championship team and professional events.

Two events were also held which are not traditionally associated with lumberjack competitions; tobacco spit and match split events.

The tobacco-spit event featured a piece of grid paper placed on the ground in front of competitors and they score points for how many grids are filled with tobacco spit. The match split event featured competitors trying to drop an ax in hopes of either splitting or sparking a match which was wedged into a block of wood.

Alison Johnson says she really enjoys participating in the Timbersports competitions, "I've made a lot of friends within the group. I'm a health student but I hang out with all foresters now. If they want to continue doing this they have a good change of competing in professional events. This summer we are having a couple people participate in some amateur events."

Johnson said the Timbersports team was restarted around four years ago by Adam Lasalle, who is now a professional lumberjack competing in the Stihl Series.

Next year UWSP will host Conclaves at Treehaven.

"Learning the Piano" / poem by Tim Hunt, continued from page 7

LEARNING THE PIANO

This was before the Beatles, even before I first heard Elvis and already I knew I didn't want to play the piano.

The cover of the book is red—Thompson's Teaching Little Fingers to Play. The black dots with their stiff tails march the lines and my right hand picks at "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" like picking at the peas on my dinner plate after the pork chop is gone.

Already I know that what I want is a guitar. Please, God, not plink, plink, plink. Please, God, Merle Travis and Tennessee Ernie Ford. Oh, please do not make me sit up straight on this stupid bench when what I want is to slouch and learn how to syncopate an alternating bass, how to get that bit of twang.

Please, God, I will put my toys away each night; I will, I swear, even eat my peas without bribes and threats of no dessert. Please, God, make her give me a guitar.
Donald Trump has been all over the media as of late due to his possible future plans of running for President in 2012. And as of today, he has completely taken over the media for his push for the White House to release President Obama's birth certificate. Trump claims that he alone was able to accomplish what no one else could. Fine, good for him.

But Trump for 2012? This is detrimental for the GOP and will undoubtedly result in Obama's reelection. Yes, the biggest need in our nation right now is the national debt and it needs to be the front-running issue in the presidential race. Yes, Donald Trump is a billionaire and has proven in the presidential race. Yes, Donald Trump even wants to consider running for office, he needs to set his priorities straight. The only problem is that all his priorities revolve around himself. In his remarks after the release of Obama's birth certificate on Wednesday, Trump started by saying, "I'm very proud of myself." Yes, Mr. Trump, we're all very proud of the fact that you created an unnecessary distraction out of a pointless conspiracy.

In an interview with Laura Ingraham, Trump made the point several times that he is "very conservative." However, according to a Washington Post analysis of state and federal disclosure records, 54 percent of Trump's donations to candidates go to Democrats. In a Fox news interview, Trump said "Everyone's Democratic [in New York]. So what am I going to do -- contribute to Republicans?" In the past, Trump has made statements in favor of abortion rights. That doesn't sound "very conservative" to me.

The stunt with Obama's birth certificate put Trump on the map for the 2012 elections. I just hope he's taken off soon.

If Trump gets chosen to represent the Republican Party in 2012, then we're majorly screwed over. No one can take Trump seriously as a candidate. He has no experience, no credentials. I hope that voters and supporters look past the celebrity and realize that Trump is not a legitimate candidate. If Trump runs, we lose.

Michigan not North Korea

Since the 2010 elections when Republicans swept into power throughout the country, there has been an explosion of radical legislative proposals throughout the nation. After a while I just became desensitized to what was going on throughout the nation. "Oh the Republicans introduced another bill that aimed at restricting women's reproductive rights? What's new?" This all changed when I heard about what is going on in Michigan. I was literally floored when I heard what Republicans implemented while the nation was focused on the fight for workers' rights in Madison.

Not only did Governor Rick Snyder take away most collective bargaining rights from state workers like Governor Scott Walker still hopes to do, but he wants to take over local communities. The Michigan legislature passed a law that allows the Governor of Michigan dictatorial powers to declare "financial marital law" in any community. The bill allows the Governor to appoint a financial manager that would take total control over that community, essentially eliminating the elected representatives of the people.

A popular phrase among Republicans everywhere since their massive election victories in 2010 was that "all politics now revolve around himself." Well, apparently not in Michigan anymore.

The first victim of this disastrous piece of legislation is Benton Harbor, a community on the western shores of Lake Michigan. Benton Harbor is a community of about 10,000 citizens; 90% of them are African American, with an average income of $10,000. The last thing a community that has an average income of $10,000 would need would be a country club designed by Jack Nicklaus, right? Well, if you thought that then you would be wrong. That is exactly what they need.

There is a park along the shores of Lake Michigan that developers have wanted to develop into a grandiose country club, complete with "signature houses," where an annual family pass to play golf would cost $5,000. That's a lot of money, especially if you only make about $10,000 a year.

Now that this Michigan law has been passed and the Governor has invoked his "emergency powers" to impose a dictator (which essentially can wipe Benton Harbor off the map for all he cares), these developers might get their wish of a country club.

Benton Harbor isn't the only victim of this disastrous and fascist law. Detroit is going to see at least eight of its schools close, and possibly up to forty more sold off to private companies that would turn them into charter schools.

One of these schools that is scheduled to be sold off to private interests is the Catherine Ferguson Academy, a school that was designed solely for pregnant teens that live in the inner city. The Catherine Ferguson Academy boasts a phenomenal graduation rate of 90%, and a college acceptance rate of 100%. In Detroit this is simply unheard of. Yet, the Detroit Emergency Manager says this school must be sold.

When the students protested over their spring break and held a sit-in at the school, they were arrested by police for trespassing. Yes, they are arresting pregnant teenagers in Detroit for wanting to save their school.

This is happening in the United States, not North Korea.

This is a party government in action. This is your pro-life party.

They employ dictatorial powers, dealing with local governments and selling off public facilities to private corporations. They arrest pregnant teens and deprive them of a decent education instead of taxing the rich.

Absolutely revolting.
POI NTLIFE

How to be prepared for a Wisconsin spring – if it’s coming

AARON OSOWSKI, asosowki18@uwsp.edu; GREG UBBELOHDE, gubbe553@uwsp.edu

10. Have a portable coat. There’s nothing more annoying then stepping out the door, sun shining, it’s the high 50s – then your first class goes by and it’s in the low 40s and you look like a fool walking around in your T-shirt. Goosebumps as big as M&Ms. Easy solution! Buy the Portable Coat! Made of inexpensive, easily torn nylon, the portable coat easily folds into a 5 in. square for those days that you don’t know how spiteful Mother Nature will be.

9. Hone your puddle-jumping skills. Whether it’s on a sidewalk on campus or the trails in Schmeeckle, you need to be able to dexterously leap and handle over whatever vicious puddles Stevens Point has managed to cook up. You can practice jumping like Mario, leaping like a ballerina, or even lace up your old track shoes for a good old-fashioned long jump over those puddles. Whatever your puddle-jumping strategy, make sure to remember one thing: commit to your puddle jump. Those who are unsure of themselves will end up having an unexpected second morning shower.

8. Put your gaming console in the closet. Those long winter days of pounding Mountain Dew, exercising your thumbs and staring at a screen are over – there’s sun and life outside and you’ve got to meet them head-on. If you’re not up for the whole outdoors thing, at least move your TV and Xbox to the porch so you are still aware of nature’s existence.

7. Whip out the oversized shades now so it’s not awkward once bikini season rolls around. Because let’s be honest, if you wait too long, the reasons for donning those shades begin to become clear.

6. Get a job at Wendy’s so you can tan for free under the heat lamps. It’s more affordable, you can get a jump on those summer tanners, and hey, you need a summer job, right?

5. Stop jealously staring at those hardcore winter runners – pick up those running shoes and join their ranks. Who knows, maybe you can don your intense running face and one-up their hardcore-ness? They’ll assume you’re training for an Iron Man triathlon probably.

4. Start thinking about how to effectively punch a bear in the nose – camping season is coming up. You’ve got to stand up to protect your brats and trail mix.

3. Put away the Schlitz, Labat’s and Molson and get out the Corona, Land Shark and Nude Beach. Because we’re all seasonal beer drinkers, right? And every man likes to have an excuse to fruit his beer.

2. Pirates 4! Let’s hope that the next installment of Pirates of the Caribbean comes our way this summer, or there’ll be some really bad eggs. Make sure you don’t drink all the rum before then. Savvy?

1. Get ready for the onslaught of hippies. Make sure your senses are finely attuned so you can hear their guitars and smell their pachulia oil before it’s too late.

CLASSIFIEDS

1.2.3 and 4 bedroom housing available for the 2011 summer and school year. Contact Dave at 715-341-0826 or www.sprangerrentals.com to view what’s available.

Summer Housing
Across from Old Main at 1137 Forest St. Nice single bedroom, each with cable/computer jack and individually keyed dead bolt locks. Central AC, $450 plus utilities for entire summer. 715-341-2603 or dkbkurtenbach@charter.net. Immediate opening for a room lease in a 2-bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse 1 block from campus. Appliances include dishwasher and laundry. Heat and water included. Call 715-341-4455.

University Lake Apartments 2011-2012
3 Bedroom Apartments, 1.5 Bath, Responsive managers. Starting at $260/month/person. Contact Brian at 715-340-9858 or brianm2662@gmail.com.

Summer Apartment Reasonable Rent, $110 per person. Call 715-340-8880.

Reasonable 2, 3, 4 Bedroom Homes Near UWSP Campus. 715-340-0602

How's the weather?

4-day weather forecast for Stevens Point, WI

Courtesy of www.weather.com

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Reasonable 2, 3, 4 Bedroom Homes Near UWSP Campus. 715-340-0602

Download the Weather Channel app for more information.