Fox Theater to reopen pending referendum

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Many students walking downtown after coming back from having a scoop at Belt's or going to Jim Laab's to buy some strings for their guitar notice the sign of the Fox Theater, but see the windows boarded up.

It's looked this way since 1985, but soon, its doors will be opened once again for movies and live entertainment.

"Our hope has always been to bring this theater back to life," said Ada Sanders, the owner of Fox Theater. "We want to restore the elegance of our great-grandfather's opera house."

It appears that she will get her wish. The theater is part of a development plan that will tear down the nearly vacant Centerpoint Mall and allow Mid-State Technical College to move into the vacated and rehabbed JC Penny building.

Recently, the project received $750,000 in federal aid to help fund the project totaled at $9 million. The theater project could be hindered if the referendum fails on the Feb. 15, to approve the project and allow developers to begin work on the project.

The reason the project affects the theater is because land was lost by the development of the mall and in order to reopen it, it will need to be rebuilt and renovated.

The original opera house was built by Sanders' great-grandfather, G.F. Andrae, and opened in 1894.

"There is one way, and only one way to bring the Fox back to life," Sanders said. "And that is to vote yes and pass the referendum on Feb. 15."

The project will potentially benefit students potentially as an alternative to see concerts and shows in a location other than the Sentry Theater at the Sentry Home Office building north of Campus.

It could also serve as an attraction for downtown development and economic growth if all goes to the plans of Sanders.

Students can vote at their polling locations if they are registered. If students are not registered they can do so by presenting their student ID if they live in the dorms; if off campus they can present a copy of a lease, or a utility bill. Information on voting can be found on the Stevens Point website at www.stevenspoint.com under "elections/voting."

The Fox Theater in downtown Stevens Point could reopen pending a referendum vote Feb. 15.

The theater has been boarded up since 1985.

Wilson opts to pay back 20 hours of overpay

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Last week the Student Government Association Senate got the ability to question President Mike Wilson on allegations of theft via Kronos hours.

Wilson had reportedly given himself an extra 70 hours of pay during the months of June, July and August, equaling to a total of $630.

Wilson didn't want to deal with the questions during the open senate meeting Feb. 3 and asked, through email, that members of SGA come to his office privately during his regular office hours.

"I hope the rest of you will come and personally investigate this matter," Wilson stated.

Wilson further explained his reasons at the meeting.

"I don't want to waste this assembly's time," Wilson exclaimed. "I have a document signed by the budget director, which has been approved by the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs in his investigation."

At the end of the 2009-2010 school year there was several thousand dollars in SGA's salary budget that went unused during the year for a variety of reasons. At the beginning of the summer, Wilson requested to interim SGA Budget Director Kirk Cycloke allow that unused money to be reallocated as extra hours for the president above and beyond the 15 that were already allocated, Wilson said.

University of Wisconsin System policy states that any previously allocated segregated fee money that is not used at the end of the academic year go back into the general fund for the system to use as they see fit, according to current SGA Budget Director Ashley Riederer.

However, even with the signing of this document, if validated and accepted by senators in SGA, Wilson admits billing the university for an additional 20 hours over that document.

"I went over on my budget by 20 hours," Wilson stated. "If you want this information I'll pull the budgets for you."

See Wilson, page 2
Why democracy matters in Egypt

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Commentary

With the protests in Egypt against autocratic ruler Hosni Mubarak already entering their third week, there is a collective holding of breath in the international community over the eventual political outcome of the conflict.

For the United States, it is a crucial moment for us to remain honest to our principles and ideals. For a country that professes to spread freedom and democracy, it is ironic indeed that one of our most stalwart allies in the Middle East has been Mubarak.

Mubarak’s regime, which has been in power since 1981, has been seen as one of the more corrupt administrations in the world. The Economist’s Democracy Index ranked the country 139th of 167 countries as far as political freedom goes.

Mubarak has imprisoned dissident activists, violated his citizens’ privacy, maintained illegal detention centers, and, as many know, has been complicit in rigging elections for his party. The Egyptian government, as a measure to try to appease the protestors, pledged on Monday to investigate further from page

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mend that he pay those

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they speak to the issue.

Many in the American political realm have joined in the common theme of calling for the immediate removal of President Mubarak. Whether politicians are doing this for political points of view or because they sincerely believe Mubarak does not have his people’s interests in mind is perhaps unknown.

What is known is that this Egyptian president has been one of the most helpful to U.S. interests in the Middle East. In exchange for substantial U.S. military aid ($1.3 billion a year, if exact), Egypt has safeguarded American interests in the region such as supporting U.S. counterterrorism efforts, keeping a peace with Israel, and allowing the U.S. to utilize the Suez Canal for military purposes.

Though politicians aren’t talking about these things, it is a definite fact that, should the Mubarak regime fall, these stipulations may be subject to change. The dialogue that should occur over political change in Egypt should stress the pre-eminence of democracy and free and open elections over everything else. The people of Egypt have spoken, and any attempts to push aside democratic reforms could serve to only inflame opposition groups further.

The political crisis in Egypt also brings into question the size and scope of the U.S. military. The existence of an autocratic ruler such as Mubarak can be viewed as a by-prod­

uct of the overwhelming U.S. military presence in the Middle East.

Look at it this way: Egypt is a crucial buffer state that stands between Israel, the largest recipient of American military aid, and the many international terrorist groups that are hostile to both the U.S., whose forces are widespread, and Israel itself, which is armed almost exclusively by the U.S.

Thus, it is beneficial, if not neces­

sary, based on the extent of America’s military presence in the Middle East, that Egypt is sympathetic to their interests. And, of course, over the past 30 years, that has meant supporting an autocratic ruler such as Mubarak. This crisis provides the perfect opportunity for the United States to reassess their foreign policy in the Middle East which, all too often, has helped to inflame the very opposition groups it has tried to defeat.

The Muslim Brotherhood, one of the primary groups calling for the removal of President Mubarak from office, is dedicated to democracy in Egypt. The group, although misunderstood in the West, is non-violent and has a high level of support amongst Egypt’s citizens. To bring about positive change in Egypt, the international community will have to listen to groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood as well as Egypt’s citizens.

If the United States truly believes in the idea of democracy, they will put theory into practice and support free and open elections in Egypt.

Wilson/SGA senators may still investigate further

from page 1

Advisors Stephanie Aleman agreed that Wilson had gone over his hours and would, as the disciplinary officer of the organization, recommend that he pay those hours back by taking five hours a week off of his pay through the first four weeks of February.

Wilson nodded in agreement to Aleman as she spoke to the issue. Senators still have the option to investigate the matter on their own, said Senator Owen Landers, at the senate meeting. SGA senate has disciplinary procedures they follow mandated by their constitution, if they choose to use them.

SGA meets every Thursday in the Dreyfus University Center at 6 p.m. in the Legacy Room. Students may voice opinions or raise issues during the open forum period on the agenda.
February 10, 2011

NEWS

Teacher tenure at risk?

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Republican governors around the nation have issued calls to reform K-12 education and do away with teacher tenure. Rick Scott of Florida, C.L. Otter of Idaho, Chris Christie of New Jersey, Brian Sandoval of Nevada and Mitch Daniels of Indiana are but a few of those who have called for the abolishment of tenure for K-12 teachers. There are even some legislators in Wisconsin that would modify the state's current teacher pay system.

Currently teachers earn tenure after a probationary period that typically lasts between two or three years. This allows them to a hearing before being dismissed. Professor Ed Miller, who teaches an educational policy class here at UWSP, says, "Teachers usually view tenure as a protection against personal attacks and favoritism."

The calls for the abolishment of tenure are seen as a way of getting rid of underperforming or incompetent teachers. Lawmakers want to move towards a more merit-based system where teachers are rewarded for performing well and those who underperform are removed. However, Miller believes that this is going to be a tricky prospect, saying, "Getting rid of tenure is a good idea in the notion of rewarding on merit, rather than on seniority. The problem is in the implementation of the system."

"How do you measure merit? There is currently no good way of reviewing teachers. The obvious person to review their performance would be the school's principal, but they usually are not that good at evaluating teachers. They see teachers actually teach so infrequently, and often times it is just superficial." Standardized tests are another form of evaluating teachers that legislators are considering. This was the cornerstone of "No Child Left Behind," the federal law requiring school districts to meet standards on standardized tests. Miller says, "If teachers' jobs are on the line, why would they want to take the students who need the most help?"

Standardized tests are also not immune to protest from teachers as documented by economist Steven Levitt and journalist Stephen Dubner in their book Freakonomics. In the book, they analyzed standardized tests in Chicago and determined that some teachers cheated or helped their students cheat on the tests.

Amy Hetzner reported in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that there are currently legislators in Madison that are considering proposals that would identify those qualities that make an effective teacher and institute a merit system in Wisconsin schools. State Sen. Luther Olsen (R-Ripon) was identified as one of the leading legislators working on education reform this assembly session.

Erin Richards of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported this past Tuesday that the Wisconsin Education Association Council has come out in support of a move towards a merit-based system. WEAC is the state's largest teachers union.

The current proposal would mandate that new teachers undergo a peer review system for the teacher's first three years. After being certified, teachers would then be responsible for submitting a video of them teaching once every three years along with a written commentary.

Mary Bell, WEAC's president, said that the need for a new system that rewards high-performing teachers was needed and that the current system based on seniority was an "outdated model." State Sen. Olsen was quoted in the article saying "WEAC's announcement was a huge move."
Packners welcome home Lombardi trophy

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In a showcase of the culmination of a season defined by talent, potential, injuries, and pure resilience, the Green Bay Packers marched into Dallas to win Super Bowl XLV. Defeating the AFC powerhouse Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25, the Pack proved what few thought possible. Now the Vince Lombardi Trophy, named for the green and gold legend himself, is back at home in Green Bay.

In their 92nd season, the Green Bay Packers entered the Super Bowl riding on a five game winning streak and as a 6th seeded Wild Card team. They weren't favored to get into the playoffs, much less win the Super Bowl, but the resilience that defines what it is to be a Packers fan propelled them to victory.

Already fitted for their championship rings, the Packers brought their best under head coach Mike McCarthy, an offense led by young quarterbacks Rodgers and him solidifying his own legacy, a defense that is notorious throughout the league. Opposite them on the gridiron was a team equally notorious with two Super Bowl victories in the past five years under head coach Mike Tomlin and led by quarterback Ben Rothlisberger.

Starting the game on a sour note following Christina Aguilera's attempt at the national anthem, the action picked up right away as these two teams with everything to loose fought for the fame.

The first quarter showed Packers domination. Aaron Rodgers found wide receiver Jordy Nelson on a 29-yard pass to give both players their first Super Bowl score and an early lead.

Not to be outdone, the defense kept the momentum swinging on one side. Nick Collins intercepted Ben Rothlisberger's throw intended for Mike Wallace and ran it back 37 yards for a touchdown, only 24 seconds after Rodgers and Nelson's touchdown.

Despite a rallying attempt at a comeback by the Steelers and a two-point conversion in the fourth that nearly set up a Pittsburgh victory, it was the Pack who prevailed. Winning 31-25, the Pack claimed their 13th NFL Championship Title, four of which are Super Bowl Victories, and their first Super Bowl victory in 14 years. The Mighty Clay Matthews summed it up well, "You pray to be world champions, and that's what we are today."

There has been a lot of talk surrounding the young and talented quarterback Aaron Rodgers who filled the shoes of football legend, well, you know. In three seasons starting for the Packers under the shadow of the most recent Green Bay dynasty, he proved not only his own worth, but he proved the worth of his team, of our team, of the Green Bay Packers.

Donald Driver, who has been around to see two of the great quarterbacks of one great team said on the Rodgers-Favre comparison, "You can stop it now. Aaron's proved that he's one of the best, if not the best, quarterback in the game today."

While eyes may have been on Rodgers and him solidifying his own legacy, he was the first to give credit to the team. All this cheesehead can tell you is that this is only the beginning.
When Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert took to the web following "The Decision," he sent out a message to the people of Ohio and Cavs fans everywhere. He took it upon himself and his court jesters to watch over his former king-dom. These jesters have been performing at Quicken Loans Arena all season.

Gilbert may make good on his promise of getting a championship before Lebron, but he and the Cavs are off to a less than promising start. In the first season of the post-James era the Cavaliers, at 8-44, have the worst record in the National Basketball Association. After Lebron averaged 29.7 points per game and also led the team in assists and steals, the Cavaliers now must rely on the offensive output of twelve year veteran Antawn Jamison, who is chipping in 17.2 per game.

In Gilbert's message, he talked about the "curse" that had hung over Cleveland and now that James had moved on, so had the curse. While it is true the Heat had a rocky start, those early chemistry issues have seemingly been worked out, as Miami has come closer to what people thought they would be. The Cavs, on the other hand, seem to be suffering from a serious Lebron hangover and it's never been more evident than it has been in the past week.

After Monday's disappointing 96-99 loss to one of the West's sextest teams, the Dallas Mavericks, the Cavaliers managed to step into a realm of futility all their own. The jesters left in charge have managed to lose their way into the record books by setting a new losing streak mark. Their 25 straight defeats breaks the all time record for consecutive regular season losses by an NBA team. This streak surpasses the former NBA record of 24, held by none other than the Cleveland Cavaliers, set during the span of two seasons by the 81-'82 and 82-'83 Cavs.

These 25 consecutive L's are the second longest losing streak in the history of professional sports. Only the Tampa Bay Buccaneers shamefully boast a longer streak. During the 1976 and 77' seasons, the first of the Bucs existence, Tampa Bay lost 26 consecutive games.

Gilbert raved that Lebron's "shameful display of selfishness and betrayal" had "shifted our motivation to previously unknown and previously never experienced levels." It seems he correctly predicted something. The Cavaliers have sailed into uncharted waters, and Dan can't row fast enough.

If Gilbert honestly thought that, the addition of former NBA Coach of the Year Byron Scott was enough to patch the 6'8" hole in the Cavs' castle wall, than he is a bigger joker than he seems. With the exception of bringing back Wilt Chamberlain and Doctor J in their primes, no off-season acquisition would have been sufficient in his crusade to replace the best player in the game. So he shouldn't be surprised if his once promising world turns into a performance of Julius Caesar.

As for Lebron, he has faced the Cavaliers three times this season. In each game Lebron has proven that he is to Cleveland what Hamlet was to his treacherous uncle. In the first meeting between the two, James dropped 38 on the Cavs, in Cleveland. The next two meetings he eased up on his former countrymen and put on his best Cleveland, you're going to Broadway.

This performance, however, is not one which will have ladies swooning and critics raving, though it certainly is a sight to behold. This play has something for everybody. It is a gentle mix of comedy and tragedy, but if you like a nice happy ending you may want to skip this theatre and go to the next. I think "Much Ado about Nothing" is playing.
Wisconsin takes a holiday

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The UWSP Pointers continue their winning ways as they go over the 100 point mark in a routing of UW-Stout. Pointers combined hot shooting and stifling defense to bully the WIAC's highest scoring team and run away with a 101-50 victory.

The Pointers allowed Stout a 7-6 lead with 6:28 remaining in the first half but took back the reigns after senior forward Louis Hurd drained a jumper to put his team up 8-7. From that point on it was all UWSP.

Point shot their way to a 38 point lead going into the locker room for halftime. Sophomore guard Jerrel Harris fueled the first half fire. In the opening possession of the game Harris sank his first jumper of the game and continued to hit, going 8-8 and scoring all of his game high 20 points in the first half.

The Pointers shot 54 percent from the field during the contest but the story of the game was perhaps their defense. Stout came into the game as the highest scoring team in the conference averaging 80.7 points per game. Point held the Blue Devils to just 50 points, their lowest output of the season. 9P scored 24 points off of 13 turnovers in the first half and forced 20 turnovers in the whole game.

Stout shot just 28.3 percent in the game. Freshman forward Alex Oman scored 13 points in the game to lead the Blue Devils as the only player in double digits. Senior guard Eric Hostetter came in to Point as the

Blue Devils leading scorer and the third leading scorer in the WIAC. The Pointers responded to this by bottling Hostetter up for nearly a full 40 minutes and holding him to two points on 1-9 shooting.

Freshman forward Adam Aebiggen scored the final points of the game with just two seconds remaining in the game to put Point over the century mark. Aebiggen finished with five points. His last second layup marked the first time the Pointers have gone over 100 points this season.

The last time Point crossed the Chamberlain Line against a conference opponent was back on January 17, 2009 after a dominating performance against UW-Superior led to a 104-60 victory.

Harris' 20 points led the way for the Pointer's offensive attack. Sophomore guard Tyler Tillena and senior guard Vinny Ritchey each dropped 12 to add to the output. Senior forward Scott Hoelzel grabbed a game high seven boards and added eight points of his own.

With a 10-2 conference record, Point trails only UW-River Falls who beat the Pointers earlier in the season and stand atop the WIAC with a 12-1 record. With just four games remaining in the regular season, the Pointers couldn't have picked a better time to be hot. After the upcoming game against Eau Claire, Point will square off Saturday the 12th against River Falls at home in a must win game if UWSP's plans to win conference.

The Pointers will be on the road next weekend for a must win game against the Eau Claire Blugolds who own the second worst record in the WIAC. Tipoff is set for 7:00 p.m. in Eau Claire.

The Packers were expected to be the king of the hill, the top of the heap. These expectations quickly turned south as the Packers were plagued by injuries and close contest losses. While many outside of the green and gold kingdom gave up hopes of the Pack bringing back the Vince Lombardi Trophy back to Titletown, the Packers did not.

This season's journey, but I will anyway. This season's mantra for the Packers was "Don't Stop Believing." And they didn't. And they won. They won it all.

There were many obstacles on the field in the way of the Packers achieving this unthinkable task. They had to win their last two regular season games to even make it to the play offs. They did. They had to beat the Philadelphia Eagles and the recently released (from prison) Michael Vick. They did. They had to beat the Atlanta Falcons, the favored team in the NFC who, as one Fox Sports commentator said, "Never made mistakes." They did. Oh boy did they.

The Packers weren't the only team going the distance. NFC North Champs the Chicago Bears in the NFC Championship game. They did. And they had to beat the notorious Pittsburgh Steelers, who are no strangers to the biggest game in football. They did.

While on the field, the Packers proved to meet and beat any obstacle in their way, off the field there was a shadow hanging over the team. A lingering doubt in the future success of this young team, but particularly barred a burden on the shoulders of quarterback Aaron Rodgers who filled the shoes of his predecessor. This predecessor holds nearly every record in the book, including throwing the most interceptions. You know who I'm talking about, but this article isn't about him.

If Aaron Rodgers hadn't won over Wisconsin in his three seasons before Sunday's victory, he certainly has now. In his first Super Bowl appearance, he threw for over 300 yards, and it would have been over 400 if it were not for a few dropped passes (don't worry Jordy, you made up for it).
Cranes and Culture: A UWSP Grad Student's Return to Cuba

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Tall, loud, noble, majestic. These words come to mind when one thinks of a crane. They are a species of bird that have oftentimes bordered on extinction, and one student is using the awe and wonder these creatures inspire to show children in Wisconsin and Cuba the importance of treating our environment with respect.

Korie Klink, a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, will be embarking for Cuba for her tenth time on Feb. 10 as part of a program entitled Children Are the Hope (CATH).

CATH is a year-long academic environmental education program that involves partner schools in Southern Wisconsin and Cuba. Children from 4th to 6th grade engage in outdoor and classroom-based learning activities aimed at showing them their importance in the global community. The children also participate in nature-related art exchanges, with many of the works depicting cranes.

Klink started CATH back in 1998, when her work with the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo inspired her to use cranes to achieve a much broader goal.

In Wisconsin today, the Greater Sandhill crane is a very common species that, thanks to the work of Aldo Leopold in the 1930s and 40s, was lifted from the brink of extinction. A similar situation is now occurring in Cuba, where the Cuban Sandhill crane has become endangered. Only 650 of the birds are thought to be in existence in the country today.

Klink views the predicament of the Cuban Sandhill crane as an opportunity to help Cuba bring the population of the bird back to a stable level, while communicating valuable environmental knowledge and skills to the children of the country.

"We really have this unique story that can be shared in a really special way with the Cuban people," Klink said.

The classroom instruction program in Wisconsin and Cuba utilize diverse subjects such as art, science, social studies, and math in a broad effort to teach the students more about various environmental issues.

"This isn't just the science, but this is very much an internal, a very personal experience with nature," Klink said. "The kids are not only learning about their local culture and their local resource, but they're also learning about this global resource."

Cranes have not been a great subject of study in Cuba until quite recently. After the Cuban Revolution led by Fidel Castro in 1959, fewer scientists were allowed access to Cuba to study the birds. It was not until the mid 1990s that research began to pick up and cranes started to become a global concern.

The particular area of the country that CATH is conducting research on is in north central Cuba on what Korie Klink uses the wonder of the crane to inspire children in Wisconsin and Cuba the importance of treating our environment with respect.

is called the Grand Wetland of the North, a wetland of national importance which contains a known Cuban Sandhill crane population of 10. Klink believes in using cranes as tools to address larger environmental issues, and stresses the additional effects that saving wetlands for cranes could have.

"If you save wetlands to save cranes, you're saving wetlands for all of these other little species that can't necessarily talk for themselves," Klink said.

Klink's hope is to make Children Are The Hope its own non-profit organization, and thinks its project model could be used elsewhere in the world. She hopes to expand CATH to Ecuador and China in the near future.

"Driven by a love for both Cuba and environmental education, Klink is optimistic about the future of the crane population based on what she sees as political and cultural changes between the United States and Cuba.

When asked what she loves most about her career field, Klink responded, "The thing that I love most about environmental education is the moment you realize that someone has made a connection. When you are working with a person, be it a child or an adult, and you look in their eye and they look back at you, and you know that you've helped them discover something new about their world that they never knew before."

New course to teach farming to beginners

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Farmshed Farmers will be holding their annual Beginning Farmer course February 12-13, and February 19-20 from 4-9 p.m.

The Crystal Rivers Farmshed, much like a watershed, is principal, is a network of farmers, restaurants, businesses, organizations, and productive lands dedicated to the strengthening of relationships between Central Wisconsin farmers and their local community food work.

The Beginning Farmer’s course is a four day class, spread out over two weekends. It teaches the basics of sustainability in agriculture and the benefits of locally grown foods, strategies of irrigation, grazing tactics, and marketing ideas among many other topics.

The course, taught by a group of experienced farmers, is meant to instill the ideas of locality and sustainability into the next generation of farmers or to those interested in beginning a food garden.

Topics covered by the instructors range from growing and marketing styles to rotational grazing, urban farming, and Permaculture.

Over thirty students, some with out any previous farming experience, have graduated the course over the past three years.

The course fee is $200, which includes locally grown lunches and the class textbook “New Organic Grower” by Elliot Coleman.

Beginning Farmers is a part of the Farmer Incubator Program, which is a larger group that unites to raise the level of sustainability in the Central Wisconsin area. The program also includes an internship on a local farm for the growing season to get hands-on experience. Fifteen students have interned with Farmshed Farmers since 2008, some of which have gone on to work on those same farms or now own their own, but the internship program is not a prerequisite for the Beginning Farmer Course, and open to the public.

For more information on future classes, registration, and other events involving Crystal Rivers Farmshed and local food markets visit www.farmshed.org.
Café 27 to expand historic building, hours

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Café 27 has received permission from the Historic Preservation Commission to go ahead with plans to expand their current building. The owners' plan is to expand the front section of the building so that it is flush with the other half of the current structure as well as expand the back towards their greenhouse.

The owners had to receive permission from the Historic Preservation Commission because the entire downtown district of Stevens Point has been designated as a Historic District. The Commission has to approve any plans for renovation or construction before any building downtown is modified.

"It would have been a lot easier for us to build to suit our needs, but we wanted to keep the historic nature of the building," said co-owner Thomas Wolf. The building that Café 27 is currently in used to be an ice cream shop as well as an A&D Root Beer stand.

Once the expansion is complete, the bakery counter will be moved up front to better accommodate those customers who come in to buy their baked goods. Currently, the bakery counter is in the back of the café, which causes some congestion during busier times.

"More and more people have been inquiring about our baked goods," said Wolf. "We do not want to define ourselves as a bakery. We want to be known as a café that happens to have great baked goods. Stevens Point had a lot of bakeries in the past. History is doing its full circle thing again, and a lot of bakeries are coming back. We are happy to be a part of that."

The sentiment that Café 27 produces delicious pastries seems to be shared by their customers.

Ginger Dempsky said she has been eating there since they opened their doors and that "they hands down have the best desserts in Central Wisconsin, maybe even the state. Taste, quality, portion sizes are all great."

Café 27 is only open for breakfast, lunch and tea as Wolf puts it, but during summer they are open during evenings on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Wolf said they would like to stay open during the evening in the winter after the expansion is complete.

Customers also seem to be excited to see the expanded hours of operations. Dempsky said she often finds it difficult to make it to the café before they close.

"Being open later is also a plus because it enables me to be able to go and eat there or pick up food from there more frequently since I am not always available to eat there as much as I would like in their current hours," said Sam Glenerz.

Wolf said the motto for the café has been "Food You Can Trust." This means that the café uses local food from local farmers. Wolf also said that during the summer they grow a lot of their own produce, ranging from tomatoes to broccoli. "We grow a lot of herbs, especially since we use a lot of pesto," said Wolf.

Dempsky says that this is one of the main reasons she eats at Café 27. "It suits their idea that they grow their own food, buy local, and make things from scratch," Dempsky said.

Lisa Pett also shared this sentiment, saying, "I especially like that they use local produce and ingredients. It makes me want to eat there more often knowing I'm eating from the local foodshed and supporting sustainable agriculture."

Wolf said that the café currently employs seven people and that after the expansion goes through they hope to hire an additional three to four people.

Children's Museum holds Autism Night

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Every first Monday of the month, the Central Wisconsin Children's Museum opens its doors specifically for autistic children and their families. The museum has been offering this night for four years.

"A lot of parents will come and network with each other and swap ideas or therapies that worked for them," said Tonya Kowalski, the education director at the museum.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, one in every 91 Americans has an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). ASDs have a wide range of characteristics depending on the severity of the autism.

One of the more common diseases on the Autism Spectrum is Asperger's Syndrome, which has symptoms of poor social interaction skills, difficulty reading the body language of others and repetitive motor mannerisms.

The Central Wisconsin Children's Museum opens up its or specifically for children with ASDs to make the experience of going to a children's museum less overwhelming.

"Others [children] might be out going and that could be very hard on the autistic children," said Dr. Debbie Palmer, associate professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP).

Children with an ASD benefit from academic support throughout their educational career.

"When a parent learns their child has Autism, their whole world changes and will never be the same," said Mable Voelker, the special education department chairperson at Stevens Point Area Senior High School (SPASH).

The support for students depends on where they fall on the Autism Spectrum. Some students need modifications and accommodations with class content while others need help with social interactions.

"We believe we need to teach more than academics. We need to teach the whole child," said Voelker.

At UWSP, the Office of Disability Services helped 393 students last year. Two percent of those students had an ASD. The number of students with ASD attending UW schools has been gradually increasing since 2003.

"More kids with autism are now starting to see that they can succeed in college," said James Joque, the Coordinator of Disability Services at UWSP. Disability Services at UWSP provide accommodations that are appropriate to the disability and the individual needs of the student.

For further support on campus, students with an ASD can go to a small support group run by Pam Terrell, an instructor at the School of Communicative Disorders, with the help of graduate students.

"Faculty and staff need to try to learn more about Autism. It's a matter of educating campus to be more welcoming," said Joque.

Doctors and scientists still don't know what causes an ASD, but the latest research disproves an early theory that early childhood vaccinations can cause Autism. Scientists are now researching genetics and brain development to find the cause and therefore perhaps find a way to prevent or minimize the chances of getting an ASD.

For resource information about ASD, go to the Autism Society of Wisconsin's website at http://www.waasautism.org/

Adults with an ASD can look to the Midstate Independent Living Consultants for further support.

Autism Night at the Central Wisconsin's Children's Museum is free every first Monday of the month from 5-7pm.
**POI NTLIFE**

**Pointer of the Week: Andrea Boehlke**

**MADISON HEID**

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On February 16, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student will be appearing on “Survivor: Redemption Island.”

Enjoying Survivor is a family affair for Andrea Boehlke, a senior acting major at UWSP. “I’ve seen all of the seasons because my parents and I are big fans,” Boehlke said. “My mom and dad even sent in a tape once.”

Their interest in “Survivor” isn’t surprising, she grew up in a lifestyle that would prepare her for an experience like this. “I grew up on a farm in Random Lake, Wis., and my Dad took us fishing and camping which prepared me for the physical aspect,” said Boehlke. “I’ve done theater and real life like this. ‘I did a clip of me doing chores around the house and farm and talked about my strategy. I just had fun with it,” said Boehlke.

When she found out she had made it onto the show, it was time to start preparing to spend about 39 days in Nicaragua. No matter what a contestant is kicked off, they spend the entire 39 days on the island until the winner is picked.

“I’m a perfectionist and I was doing every little thing I could think of [to prepare],” said Boehlke. I practiced knots and even studied birds that are from Nicaragua.

In addition to that, she made sure to keep in shape by running and biking often. Her motivation to be on the show is not what everyone may think. “I didn’t do the show just to be on television,” said Boehlke. “It’s a great adventure if you make it to the end or if you’re voted off first.”

Doing the show, she said it was a positive experience. There were definite highs and lows. There is one fact about this experience that many people may not know.

“I’m watching the show when everybody else is watching it,” said Boehlke. “That part’s a little weird because I don’t know what they’re going to show.”

She said she will have to record the premiere, though, because she is performing in a play that night.

“I’m in the play here called ‘Almost, Maine,’ and I said ‘Nobody text me or call me until the play is done,’” Boehlke said, because she doesn’t want to hear what happens in the episode until she sees it.

“Survivor: Redemption Island” premieres Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 7:00pm on CBS. “Almost Maine” will be at the Center Studio Theatre in the Noel Fine Arts Center Feb. 11-13 and 16-17.

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**Dawgs eat dogs: UWSP hot dog eating contest**

**NATE ENWALD**

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Students gathered at the Encore room in the Dreyfus University Center to cheer on their friends competing in Centertainment’s Hot Dog Eating Contest on Feb. 4.

First place, out of a total of 13 contestants, was devoured by University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student Dan Neckar who won a $100 gift card from Wal-Mart. Noah Salmeri won second place, gaining a $75 gift card, and the controversial third place was ultimately taken by Matt Sallinam, winning him a $50 gift card.

“Wal-Mart gift cards worked best because the winners would have had to go through a sea of paperwork and wait about two weeks for their winnings,” said coordinator Jeff Eryant of Centertainment.

After the main 10 minute contest was over, third place had been a tie. Therefore, the two contestants had to face off in an extra side contest lasting three minutes. The winner, Sallinam, needed to keep the dogs in his stomach for a minimum of two minutes to qualify.

Immediately after the two minute marker, Sallinam threw up his ‘fast meal’ and took the third place winnings.

“I could have eaten more, but it’s the time and how fast you have to eat them,” said Sallinam.

The contest rules stated that they had to eat as many plates of five hot dogs, buns and all, within 10 minutes, in any manner they wanted.

Smashing, mashing, dunking, and tearing methods were allowed. Hiding and “Chipmunking” or shoving food in their mouth after the 1 minute buzzer was a disqualification.

There were no disqualifications or foul play. All the contestants were supported by the cheering crowd.

“I felt it went pretty good, the crowd made the event,” said Eryant. For future events by Centertainment or Jeff Eryant, visit their website at http://www.uwsp.edu/centers/centertainment/events.asp

 Winners of the Hot Dog Eating Contest were Matt Sallinam, winning third place, Noah Salmeri, taking second place, and finally Dan Neckar took the first place prize.

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**Sustainable Natural Resources & Community Development: Nyumbani Village, Kenya, Africa**

May 23- June 14, 2011

Cent: $3,150-$3,450
The program cost includes tuition, lectures, accommodations, meals, country transportation, UW-system health/travel insurance, and a credit bonus for a UW undergraduate resident.

**LEADERS:** Dr. Holly Petillo, Assistant Professor, Forestry, 346-4230, Office: THN 362, hpetillo@uwsp.edu & John Shurley, Agronomy Consultant

**ALTERNATE CONTACTS:** Bobbi Kubish, CNR, Jeff Programs Coordinator, (715) 346-3813, Office: THN 192, skubish@uwsp.edu

UWSP International Programs Office, Collin Classroom Center Room 108, (715) 346-2717, interp@uwsp.edu

Limited to 20 students! Applications can be picked up from Bobbi Kubish, THN 192 or at the International Programs Office. www.uwsp.edu/lookup/id.

The application deadline is February 15, 2011. HURRY, HURRY, space is limited to 20!!
**POUNTLIFE**

**Puzzles**

**ACROSS**

1. ABSORB, AS A COST
4. CHOOSE
9. EXPOSED
13. BLACK BIRD
14. LESSER
15. OLD NICK
16. HASTY FLIGHT
18. SATIRICAL DIALOGUE
19. SINGER JOHN
20. ANTIUTOPIA
22. LARGE SPOTTED CAT
25. BEFORE LONG
26. GROUP CHARACTER
28. POTENTIAL MATE
32. SOVIET SECRET POLICE
35. CONGER CATCHER
37. LOITER
38. BUST
40. DETECTIVE PINKERTON
42. LEGAL CLAIM
43. MORE OR LESS VERTICAL
45. MORE CUNNING
47. SUGAR SUFFIX
48. DECORATIVE CORNICE
50. MOVE STEALTHILY
52. BRIC-A-
54. RARE METALLIC ELEMENT
55. RAGING
57. ART SUPPORTER
60. DETECTIVE PINKERTON
62. LARGE SPOTTED CAT
63. SCHWARZBERG
64. BELITTLE
66. CAKE
67. SATURN'S LARGEST MOON
68. BRING OUT
69. HANOI HOLIDAY
70. BRISTLE
71. SATURN'S LARGEST MOON
72. HESITANT SOUNDS

**DOWN**

1. ART SUPPORTER
2. SLENDER PART OF THE LEG
3. CONNECT WITH
4. ORIGINATE
5. COVER
6. BREAK OFF
7. CHILLED
8. LOW CARDS
9. FIT FOR A MAGNATE
10. LOOKING DOWN FROM
11. HINDU PRINCESS
12. "ORINOCO FLOW" SINGER
13. SKIP
14. NARCOTIC
15. BRILLO RIVAL
16. GREEK FERTILITY GODDESS, FLIGHTLESS BIRD
17. KIDS TOYS
18. SLENDER PART OF THE LEG
19. CONNECT WITH
20. ORIGINATE
21. COVER
22. BREAK OFF
23. CHILLED
24. LOW CARDS
25. FIT FOR A MAGNATE
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**Sudoku 6x6 - Puzzle 3 of 5 - Easy**

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**Answers from the Feb. 3rd issue.**

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**Sudoku 6x6 - Solution 1 of 5 - Easy**

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**www.sudoku-puzzles.net**
LOGAN CARLSON
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Two weeks ago, Congressman Paul Ryan from Janesville gave the Republican response to the State of the Union. This self-proclaimed “young gun” of the Republican Party was an interesting choice to deliver their official response, because in effect it was an endorsement of Ryan’s radical plan to deal with the deficit that the nation is faced with.

On a night when the President’s speech was full of hope and optimism for the future, Congressman Ryan spoke of only the despair he sees in our future as “approaching a tipping point” in time. A day of reckoning is fast approaching in Congressman Ryan’s eyes. We are facing a hazard that “threatens not only our livelihoods but our way of life.” Those are some pretty dark statements.

It was the debt and the deficit that Congressman Ryan devoted much of his speech towards, yet he offered up no particulars on how to achieve the promises of fiscal restraint. The one specific he did mention was the Republicans’ vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act that was passed last year. Yet, as the Congressional Budget Office reports, the facts remain that the deficit would only increase if the ACA were fully repealed. Congressman Ryan was also wrong in his assertion that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act failed in creating jobs and stimulating the economy. The CBO issued a report in November detailing their findings on the impact that the stimulus had on our economy. They reported the stimulus “increased the number of full-time-equivalent jobs by 2.0 million to 5.2 million compared with what would have occurred otherwise.” When Congressman Ryan says that the stimulus failed in its goals, he is either devoid of the facts or lying.

When Congressman Ryan says that the stimulus failed in its goals, he is either devoid of the facts or lying.

Republicans’ deficit plan hurts more than helps

KAITLYN LUCKOW
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A couple weeks back, President Obama gave his State of the Union address to the audience of a nation. As always, Obama was elegant in his speech, but hopefully the nation took a minute to look past the well-written sentences and Obama’s strategically placed pauses to hear what he was really saying.

Throughout the speech, Obama continually compared us to other countries, as if we were all in some kind of competition, a competition that we needed to win. Obama talked about winning, saying, “We need to out-innovate, out-educate, and outbuild...that’s how we’ll win.” He mentioned the Soviets and how they beat us with renewable energy. He talked about other countries and how their students are smarter than ours; “We also have to win the race to educate our kids.” And then he compared us once again to another country, this time South Korea, telling us that they have more Internet access than we do. What a horrible thing!

I personally wasn’t aware that we were in some kind of race with other countries, a race to be better than them. The State of the Union address was “incorporeal of the idea that America’s need to be superior and better than everyone else, feeding their superiority complexes.

Instead of looking at other countries and worrying about the fact that they’re better at some things, we should look at our country and fix what we’re doing wrong. Instead of feeling that we have to “beat” other countries, can’t we be happy for their advancements?

The State of the Union address was also interesting on a more political science end too, of course. Obama talked about America’s education system and how our education was failing and that teachers weren’t doing a good enough job. But of course, teachers are a large part of Obama’s and other Democrat’s voting pool. So to make sure that he didn’t lose a great majority of his voters, Obama waited a few minutes and said, “It’s time we treated the people who educate our children with some respect.” So to make teachers forget that Obama just insulted them, he quickly complimented them.

Obama also outlined a huge support plan for future technology and scientific research, to make us better than everybody else. He stated that he was “handing out money” and “issuing a challenge” to researchers. Later, however, he said that we as a country needed to make sure that we weren’t buried under a mountain of debt. So, handing out money is a good solution for that? I’m pretty sure spending money means more debt.

Obama ended his address talking about foreign affairs and how he wants to forge new alliances with countries around the world. However, his desire to be on top and to be better than other countries will prohibit him from doing so.

Greed and the constant need to “win” are not going to fix our country.

~Luckow

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