

# the. pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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# News

## Regents Consider Costs of Funding Cuts to System

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Students are facing a rising cost of tuition, while at the same time the amount of funding the UW System receives from the state has been steadily decreasing. The University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents met on February 9 to discuss the intersection between tuition costs and state funding for higher education, as well as possible avenues for universities to maintain quality instruction.

"At the core of this debate are some really complex questions that don't have clear simple answers," said Kevin Reilly, UW System President. "How do we meet the growing national demand for more well educated graduates even as the resources to produce those graduates continue to diminish?"

Mark Nook, the interim vice president for academic affairs, opened up the meeting with data that clearly shows that tuition rates are increasing far beyond the rate of inflation while at the same time the amount of funding from the state has been decreasing despite the increased demand for higher education.

"We are remaining a good buy for the state and our students," Nook said. "But we are falling further and further behind the actual costs of running an enterprise like the University of Wisconsin."

Relative to inflation measured by the Higher Education Price Index, an inflation index that was designed to measure the costs universities face, tuition has gone up by almost \$5,000 per student since 1980, while at the same time state funding has dropped \$4,000.

Over that time period the system has shifted money to instruction and academic support, areas that directly help students move through their academic career, from the physical operating costs of universities.

This has lead to deferred maintenance costs of \$50 million at the University of Wisconsin - Stout alone,

according to Stout Chancellor Charles Sorensen.

Despite the reduced funding, Nook said that the UW System has become more efficient at producing graduates as the number of degrees awarded each year has risen by 45 percent since 1980, while enrollment has only increased 22 percent.

University administrators were quick to point out that while the level of instruction has remained high, there are areas of the university experience that have suffered.

In a recent report issued by the Goldwater Institute, the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee currently ranks near the lowest in terms of instructional staff per student. Currently Milwaukee has 3.5 instructional staff per 100 students, which is exactly half the national average of 7 per 100.

"In our College of Letters and Science we currently have an 800 to 1 student to advisor ratio," said Michael Lowell, the chancellor at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

"We have 3,500 students per mental health advisor in our health center. Particularly with the stress on students, and when you factor 1,400 veterans on campus who often need more mental health help, these are areas we need to realize that there are other parts of our campus we need to be worried about," Lowell said.

Regent Jose Vasquez questioned where the balancing point was between being cost-efficient and still providing a high level of instruction to students.

"There is a point where that gets low enough, you can't become any more efficient, you are going to offer less quality, and I think we are approaching that point," Lowell said. "I'm not sure what else I can do to cut the cost without having the quality degrade of that education."

"In some areas we may be seeing that we've crossed that line," Nook said. "When you look at our academic salaries, they aren't keeping up."

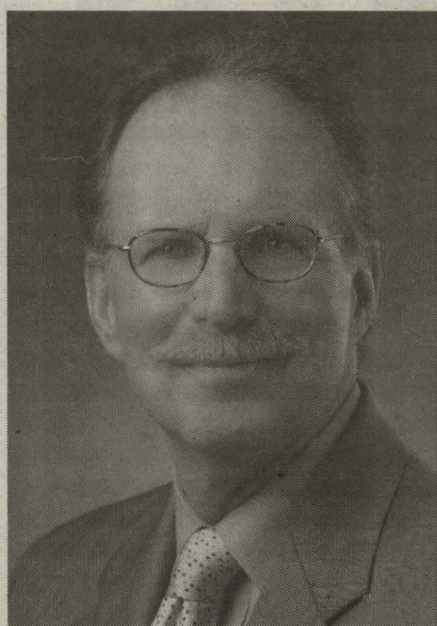
Chancellor Lowell jumped in

Cheap, however, comes at a cost.

"Sweat labor is highly undervalued human effort in unsafe working environments used to generate and enhance the accumulation of wealth in the global economy," said Ismaila Odogba, Assistant Professor of Geography at UWSP.

Odogba said such labor standards lead to an "unfair system of wealth accumulation" where "the balance of power in such relationships is skewed towards the corporations and not the people."

It is a platitudinous assertion that Wisconsin is wrapped in a controversy that started a year ago, largely over worker rights. Now, recent controver-



UW System President Kevin Reilly.

sies surrounding Apple's assembly factories in China and Adidas' assembly plants in Indonesia don't seem so distant.

Less than two years after students organized enough pressure on the UW - Madison administration to drop its apparel contract with the retailer Nike over reports of worker exploitation in its plants in Honduras, UW students are turning their attention to Adidas. The UW's relationship to the retailer is worth approximately \$2.5 million in royalties and equipment annually, according to a release from Feb. 14.

Chancellor Sorenson said that simply by reducing the amount of incoming freshmen would give the appearance that the university was performing better, but some ask what cost that would have by denying someone the opportunity for higher education.

"If we would reduce our freshman class by 125 or 130 a year, over four years, and retention rates go up, graduation rates go up, and we look like a quote better university. So we can do that yet we deny access to some of those that deserve it," Walsh said.

Walsh clarified his question, stating that at some point the quality of the education isn't fair to students, and asked at what point enrollment needs to be reduced.

"It may be sooner than any of us would like," Riley said.

## THE POINTER

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## UW's Adidas Controversy Raises Questions

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### COMMENTARY

Before I put on my UWSP sweatshirt, I glance at the tag. Champs Sports, cotton, made in Lesotho. We have pride in our school, but do we ever worry about the conditions of the places where that sweatshirt has been? Where was the cotton extracted? Who assembled it?

"What I have heard anecdotally from my colleagues in the industry is that students want either brand name or cheap," said UWSP University Store Manager Stephanie Pope.

Continued on page 4



# news

## Four Senators, Constitution Changes Threaten Recall Efforts

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Four Wisconsin state senators challenged pending recall petitions against them on Feb. 9 in an effort to retain their seats. In light of these recalls and challenges, state lawmakers are proposing changes to the state constitution that would make election recalls more difficult.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau), Sen. Van Wanggaard (R-Racine), Sen. Terry Moulton (R-Chippewa Falls), and Sen. Pam Galloway (R-Wausau) all believe that they have been wrongfully recalled. On Feb. 15 they released to the Government Accountability Board (GAB) a joint reply in support of the written challenges. In this statement, the senators write that the recall committees are "long on rhetoric and hyperbole and short on analysis of the significant legal issues raised by the Senators."

Much of this joint reply is dedicated to grievances about recall proceedings. In the first section of the statement, the senators attempt to explain the effects of Act 43, which

mandated redistricting of all senate districts in the state as of Aug. 24, 2011. They write that each senator represents the people residing under the districts created by Act 43. They go on to say in the next section, however, that if recall elections are held prior to the general elections on November 24 they must be conducted using the former districts.

In effect, senators want recall petitions to be signed in the new districts, but recall elections to be conducted in the old districts. The senators, in their conclusion, request that the GAB "eliminate all invalid and inadequate signatures from the four petitions. Moreover, the Senators request that GAB evaluate the sufficiency of the petitions in the legislative districts created by Act 43."

Confusion among recall leaders and signatories may arise as a result of this flip-flopping of redistricting policies.

**"Why should we have to be under the burden of always looking over our shoulder to determine we are doing the right thing every time we make one vote?" - Paul Farrow**

To complicate matters further, lawmakers are proposing changes to the state constitution that would make petitioning for recalls more difficult. These changes would also crack down on individuals signing petitions more than once. Under the new constitution, elected state officials would have to violate the state ethics code or commit a crime in order to be recalled.

This code of ethics, however, has not yet been determined by legislators. Rep. Paul Farrow (R-Pewaukee)

says that recall petitions would still be possible, yet begs the question: "Why should we have to be under the burden of always looking over our shoulder to determine we are doing the right thing every time we make one vote?"

Proponents of the changes agree that stiff fines should be imposed on those who sign petitions more than once. They also believe that preventing unnecessary recall elections

would save the state millions of dollars. Farrow said that recall elections have cost the state approximately \$2.1 million over the last year.

Those opposed say that the state could do more to save money during recalls. For example, the GAB could be required to only count up to the number of necessary signatures instead of counting them all. Rep. Kelda Helen Roys (D-Madison) agrees with this point of view. "I don't spend my time looking over my shoulder at constituents," Roys said. She goes on to say that legislators should not be concerned about issues only around Election Day, but should have an ongoing dialogue with constituents.

No legislation has been written up or negotiated yet regarding changes to the Wisconsin state constitution. Recall petitions are still being tallied.

## Central Rivers Farmshed: Farming New Farmers

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The Beginning Farmer Course is a four-day course on the topics of starting or expanding a farm to produce local, sustainable food. Experienced local farmers in sustainable agriculture teach the course over the middle two weekends of February.

The course originally started as a one-credit course on Friday afternoons during the spring semester at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point College of Natural Resources. Now, the course is put on by the Central Rivers Farmshed and occurs over two weekends. It attracts to a wide array of people from the region, even as far as Minnesota.

Each day covered a different theme. "We had a day on CSAs, or community supported agriculture farms. So, we had a few different farmers that had CSA farms come in and talk about their strategies," said Holly Petrillo, Assistant Professor of Forestry at UWSP. "We had a day focused on animals, and so a few different farmers that keep animals came in. It's really interesting to get the different perspectives of the same topics

from different farmers, to see how everyone does things differently."

The focus of the other two days included resources, organic grains, a field trip, specialty crops, perennials and value added processing.

"We wanted to attract a lot of people that are interested in farming, kind of beginning farmers—that is how the name got there, but you are not going to come out in four days and be a farmer," Petrillo said.

The main focus of the course is how to start a farm, not necessarily how to run a farm. The topic of resources was mentioned frequently as being a key component of new farm start-up.

Ken Schroeder, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent, discussed resources and services available for beginning farmers. Other presenters discussed state and federal funding sources, opportunities and programs.

Local community members and UWSP students mainly attended the course, with some attendees from Minnesota.

"Most of the students that I have worked with are kind of at that stage where they have done farming enough that they know that they



Photo by Samantha Feld

A Beginning Farmer Course will be held over the course of two weekends and will be organized by the Central Rivers Farmshed.

want to keep doing it. They want to figure out how to move on, to become the farmer instead of just the intern or [discover] some resources available for acquiring land and that kind of thing," Petrillo said.

Six UWSP students, half of whom are members of the Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society (SACS), attended the course. By getting involved, the students have access to several resources to help them achieve their goals, whatever they may be, while being able to work harmoniously alongside peers.

"I had the opportunity to meet farmers and community members of

the Central Wisconsin area. I find those connections especially important when looking for job opportunities or connections with resourceful farmers when starting fresh," said Megan Hogfeldt, sophomore at UWSP and member of SACS.

"It is a great way to get exposure, to see what is out there, to help get motivated and really to see what the possibilities are and to, I think, realize that it is doable," Petrillo said. "You know, you really can be a farmer if that is what you really want."



# news

## Voting Has Gotten Confusing, But Help Has Arrived

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After last year's Voter ID law changes there has been confusion among the ranks of students on just what exactly has changed, worrying political analysts that voter turnout might drop from previous elections.

"Wisconsin has consistently had the second highest voter turnout in the nation, Minnesota is first, and it has been shown that when students vote, students win," said United Council Government Relations Director Analiese Eicher.

The Voter ID law has brought a number of new changes to navigating Election Day in Wisconsin, especially for students. The biggest change is that voters now need to show a compliant photo ID in order to cast a ballot.

But some students are wondering what qualifies as a valid ID under the new rules and where to get one.

"I have no idea if I can vote right now, or what I need to get if I can't," said UW-Stevens Point student Kyle Mullen.

Some of the accepted forms of IDs are military ID cards, passports, valid and current driver's licenses, official Wisconsin state IDs, and accredited university IDs.

Unfortunately for UW-Stevens Point students the standard issued school ID is not up to regulation.

Under the new laws, for a student to use his or her school ID it must have on it, the date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after its issuance date. Also, along with said valid ID, they would have to provide a proof of enrollment certificate, the same one used for insurance companies and financial aid.

While standard issue student IDs do not comply, students can stop into the campus Point Card office and ask to have a special Voter ID card issued to them that complies with state regulation but will still need proof of enrollment.

Most of those IDs are pretty common, but not all students have passports or driver's licenses, and keeping in mind these new laws apply to everyone not all will have free student ID cards. Individuals can also travel to their local DMV and ask for a State Issued Voter ID card. Be sure if you do to inform the DMV clerk it's free of charge, or they will charge you for a new card.

"From the top down, DMV employees were given instructions not to advertise free state ID cards to the public, or inform people they are free. If you went up to the desk and just ask for one without reminding them of that fact they will charge you anyways," said United Council President Seth Hoffmeister.

Students should also know that

if they need to register to vote at the polls that they will need to prove their residence with an official document (lease, bank statement, electrical bill, or official piece of mail). A big change in proof of residence is that students who live in the residence halls will no longer be able to prove their residence using an official hall list provided to the poll workers.

"The biggest change in registering to vote on Election Day is that voters will no longer be able to vouch for one another," Eicher said. "For example, if you and your roommate go to vote together and you bring your proof of residence but your roommate does not, only you will be able to vote. In the past, roommates used to be able to vouch for one another, that is no longer the case."

"The power of the student vote in Wisconsin has always been strong, but these new laws are meant to and will have a drastic effect on the ability of Wisconsin's students to exercise their right to vote and that will be reflected in the voter turnout numbers in the upcoming elections," Eicher said.

Students are encouraged by their peer leaders and faculty administrators to overcome the new difficulties and wade through the confusing regulations.

"Voting is the equalizer of democracy; everyone should feel empowered to vote, despite disenfranchisement. Students need to get out and

register, then encourage their friends to register too," said Vice President of the United States Student Association Tiffany Loftin.

"While these new laws are meant to impede the student vote, UW students and UW campus administrators across the state have shown great leadership in educating students and making sure that they have access to the IDs, documents, and information that they need to successfully exercise their right to vote," Eicher said. "It is my hope that students get educated, get what they need, get to the polls and be proud to exercise their right to vote. Students have risen to many challenges before, and I hope that they will rise to this one."

For more information on any of the new regulations and what you need to have done in order to vote, go to the university website, [www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/pages/voterID.aspx](http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/pages/voterID.aspx).

If a student would like to learn where to register or check if they are currently registered, go to [vpa.wi.gov/](http://vpa.wi.gov/).

For more information on the laws themselves, visit [bringit.wisconsin.gov/](http://bringit.wisconsin.gov/).

With all the new changes in the law, students can expect longer lines and overall a longer process when exercising their right to vote. Polls will be open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

## Adidas/UW/Adidas Relationship Under Scrutiny

Continued from page 2

Adidas' worker rights abuses included shutting down a subcontracted facility and fleeing, to the detriment of over 2,800 workers to whom the company is legally responsible for paying some \$3.3 million in severance pay. On average, this debt amounts to each worker's entire annual salary, at minimum wage.

Students have been organizing for months, drawing national attention once again at the first university to disinvest from Nike. Since, UW Chancellor David Ward has consulted the Worker Rights Consortium, an oversight agency of which UWSP is a member, and entered "a period of mediation" with Adidas, according to the release.

Student efforts to pressure a rupture culminated on Feb. 18, when students from the Student Labor Action Coalition in Madison teamed up with United Students Against Sweatshops, which had its 15th anniversary conference planned in Madison that weekend. The crowd of about 250 students chanted and carried banners that said "All day I dream about sweatshops," on their way to Bascom Hall, the UW's administrative building.

According to The Cap Times, the student activists then marched downtown to join a series of actions against anti-union legislation and

cuts to education, perhaps drawing parallels between the economic recession, privatization and outsourcing at home, and labor exploitation in the world's peripheral regions.

"Unfortunately, oftentimes locally produced and/or 'American made' products are not priced as competitively as the off-shore produced items, which makes consumers shy away from purchasing those items, and when those items don't sell, it makes retailers shy away from offering those products," Pope said.

Pope says UWSP does not currently contract with any apparel vendor. "We purchase from a number of vendors on an as needed basis. We require all of our vendors to supply us with codes of conduct that indicate that they will not operate or contract with vendors who exploit their workers or provide unsafe or unfair working conditions."

"We have in the last few years stopped buying from companies that have been cited by WRC as not meeting their fair labor standards. For example, we no longer order Nike merchandise for two reasons: first, they were cited by WRC and second, they refuse to comply with the code of conduct requirement we have for all apparel vendors," Pope said.

In her opinion, Pope said, "The University Store and even the University of Wisconsin System is a

## Some Aspects of Sweat Labor

### Low wages

(Lower wages equates to higher profits for corporations)

### Unregulated or dangerous working conditions

(Addressing this issue will cut into profits)

### Generates wealth for a few

(i.e., corporations over people)

### Occurs on a global scale

(Think Apple jobs in China)

### Does not enhance overall quality of life

(Despite the jobs created in faraway places, it still amounts to underemployment)

### Unfair system of wealth accumulation

(The balance of power in such relationships is skewed towards corporations and not the people)

Information by Prof. Ismaila Odogba

Infographic by Michael Wilson

tiny fraction of the consumers that get products from clothing producers primarily in Central America. There is little that we could do as an institution to affect the labor standards in that region."

"A nationwide college and university pact or agreement related to labor standards would be a start, but since colleges and universities all get their athletics gear and their wholesale products from a variety of vendors I'm not sure it would ultimately

be the answer," Pope said. "I would also venture that there are deeper geo-political questions that make any solution to labor standards in this region more difficult to achieve."

While the future of the relationship between Adidas and the UW is not yet certain, it cannot be denied that UW students organizing for worker justice goes beyond the state's borders.



# Sports

## Pointers Forced to Split Title Following Loss

ANDY HESSE

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point women's basketball team lost to UW-Eau Claire 66-55 last Saturday. The hosting Bluegolds out-rebounded the Pointers 45 to 33, resulting in 20 second-chance points. Eau Claire also had 32 points in the paint compared to Point's 10.

Eau Claire got out to a quick start by gaining a six-point lead twice in the first eight minutes, but Point was able to tie the game halfway through the first half. The tie held for the following four minutes as both teams went cold.

Point broke the tie and went on a 15-7 run to end the first half with a 29-21 lead. UWSP had eight points off the bench in the first half, led by sophomore post Myranda Tyler, who finished with a team-high 12 points in the game.

"We have great depth on our team," Tyler said. "Whenever someone needs to come out of the game for a break, I'm always confident that whoever subs in is going to play good minutes."

The Bluegolds quickly erased the deficit in the first three minutes, but

Point would regain the lead until halfway through the second half. The game was tied with five minutes remaining before Eau Claire went on a 14-3 run to end the game.

"They played with more intensity than we did coming out in the second half," Tyler said. "They were more aggressive and we didn't match it. They also used their strengths well to get an advantage over us."

Junior guards Sam Barber and Brooke Allen each had 11 points to

help out Tyler in scoring. Barber also had a team-high seven rebounds.

Senior forward Callie Halama led the way for the Bluegolds with a career best 27 points and 13 rebounds. Senior center Ellen Plendl also finished with a double-double, scoring 20 points and pulling down 12 boards.

Going into the game, Point was ranked 10 with Eau Claire at 22, according to d3hoops.com. Due to the loss, Point is forced to share the

Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title with the Bluegolds, but for the second straight year UWSP either owns or shares it.

"It makes me work hard and gives me a passion to always want to win the title and go far in the post season," said Tyler, who has been a part of both titles in her two years at UWSP. "I hold myself to the same high standard that is expected of me and our team on the court."

The Pointers earned a number one seed in the WIAC tournament, giving them a first round bye. They will then host the lowest seed remaining on Thursday. Potential opponents are UW-La Crosse, UW-River Falls or UW-Superior. Point lost to both La Crosse and River Falls during the regular season but also defeated La Crosse in a rematch on Senior Day.

"Our focus going into the playoffs is defeating the team in front of us," Tyler said. "Thursday's game is the only one that matters and we're not going to be worrying about who we might face in the future because we have to earn the right to advance first. Coach Egner always says that the current game we're playing is the most important one of our season."



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Women's Basketball team tallied its sixth Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athlete Conference Championship this week.

## #AnathletesBestFriend



"Sitting at my Jimmy Johns in New Orleans eating a #9. Parade crowd is gone. Nice and quiet. Anyone care to join me?"

That is an official invite to join @drewbrees for a sandwich.

"Swaggin out on this Tyga Careless World: Rise of The Last King. Really nice album! Great features on it"

That is an exclamatory statement of happiness from @KingJames.

"Say no to cigarettes and drugs!"

That is a Public Service Announcement from @VernonDavis85.

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COMMENTARY

The greatest thing to happen to the sporting world since balls is the invention of Twitter. Now that your favorite athlete is on Twitter, the only way you could get closer to them would be the obvious stalking/sifting through their garbage.

Twitter allows for anyone to give an opinion, provide social commentary, or simply tell the world that they just went to the bathroom. When an athlete gets on Twitter it provides them the opportunity to show the world they are a real person.

Athletes like @ochocinco regularly tweet invites to go to dinner with them to places as mundane as IHOP. @TheRealTPlush posts pictures of himself flying a kite. @ArianFoster tweets quotes from some of the great-

est minds in history, and actually knows what they mean.

Twitter doesn't only put a face on the player; it provides a soul to the uniform.

And it's not just players getting followed on Twitter. Guys like Dallas Mavericks Owner Mark Cuban and Cleveland Cavaliers Owner Dan Gilbert are also highly visible and very active.

"I think Twitter is a great thing for sports," said UWSP Athletic Director Daron Montgomery (@MontgomeryUWSP), who recently became a member of the micro-blogging site. "I'm still trying to figure it out though."

The presence of Twitter among students has exploded and college athletes haven't missed the boat. If you're a #NASCAR enthusiast and a Badger fan you may want to give @BenBrust a follow. If you're look-

ing for someone that inspires thousands of people and deserves our respect and admiration, check out @EricLeGrand52.

But like every good thing, Twitter has its drawbacks. As almost every career counselor will tell you, social media is a powerful thing. People have lost jobs and future prospects because of things they have said or posted. So the best advice I can give you is tweet with caution.

Rob Ambrose, head football coach at Towson University, has banned his players from using Twitter after one star player tweeted a message containing a racial slur before a game.

Yuri Wright, ESPN's 40th ranked recruit in the nation from Don Bosco High School, has lost out on potential scholarships from Division I schools like Michigan and Colorado following multiple tweets containing racial and anti-Semitic remarks.

"I don't foresee such an event happening here," Montgomery said. "However, if it did I believe the university would be very proactive in addressing it."

When asked if the university has a system in place that trolls the social media sites for posts from athletes that could become potential problems, Montgomery said no. They did, however, have such a program in place while he was the Senior Associate Director of Athletics at the University of Detroit - Mercy.

But as potentially controversial as a tweet can be, the majority of them are completely harmless.

There is no doubt that Twitter is a tremendous tool in our world today. Nowhere is it more apparent than in sports. We all want more reliable insight when it comes to our sports information, so who better to hear it from than the athletes themselves?



# sports

## Pointers Drop the Ball against Bluegolds

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The 12th-ranked University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point men's basketball team dropped their second straight game, falling to UW-Eau Claire on Saturday with a final score of 77-58. It was the first time since Feb. 7, 2001, that the Pointers have lost to Eau Claire.

The Pointers were without the team's leading scorer Tyler Tillema, who suffered a wrist injury in the overtime loss to UW-Stout on Wednesday, and it had an effect on the Pointers on both ends of the floor.

"Obviously Tyler is a tremendous player that we missed," said Pointers' senior center Jordan Brezinski. "We tried to have his back and win without him, but we struggled to score."

The Bluegolds shot a blistering 57.7 percent in the first half, and ended up shooting 48.1 percent from the field in the game. The Pointers converted a season low 32.1 percent of their attempts in the game.

"They were very good," said Pointer head coach Bob Semling. "They shot the ball very well—give them credit."

Eau Claire ran out to a quick lead, and never looked back. At one point in the first half, the Bluegolds held an 18-point lead. The Pointers cut the lead down to 12 going into half, with a score of 42-30.

UWSP came out fighting in the second half, but it still wasn't enough. The Pointers brought the deficit down

to eight points on a couple of occasions, but could not string together a good run.

"We didn't feel like we could catch any breaks out there," Semling said. "They forced young players to beat them, and we didn't have anyone to shoulder the load."

With 58 points, the Pointers recorded their second lowest scoring total of the season.

"They just didn't go down for us tonight," Semling said.

Senior guard Dan Tillema racked up a team-high 17 points to lead the Pointers. Freshman guard Joe Ritchay added career highs in points and rebounds, scoring 10 and gathering 5 boards.

Junior guard Jordan Peterson led the Bluegolds in scoring, with a game-high 23 points.

Brezinski led the team with 7 rebounds, but was held to just 4 points.

"Eau Claire did a good job in doubling Dan Tillema and I because they didn't have Tyler to worry about," Brezinski said.

The Bluegolds out-rebounded Stevens Point 40 to 31, with Eau Claire's senior James Pfitzinger leading the way with a game-high 13 boards. The Pointers also posted a season-low 5 assists and turned the ball over 10 times.

Even after stumbling down the stretch, the Pointers still have confidence.

"Our team will not be defined by a bad week of basketball," Semling



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Senior Dan Tillema drives through defenders in a game against University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

said. "We will regroup, get back home, and get healthy."

With the loss, the Pointers fall to 19-6, and 12-4 in conference. With the win, Eau Claire improves their record to 15-10, 7-9 in conference. With the Pointer loss, and UW-Whitewater's win, the Pointers fall to the number three seed in the Wisconsin

Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament.

The Pointers opened the WIAC Tournament with a 62-52 victory over UW-Superior. Senior guard Dan Tillema led Point with 18 points. UWSP jumps back into action Friday for the Semifinals at 7 p.m.

## [This Week in Sports]



Photo courtesy uwsp.edu

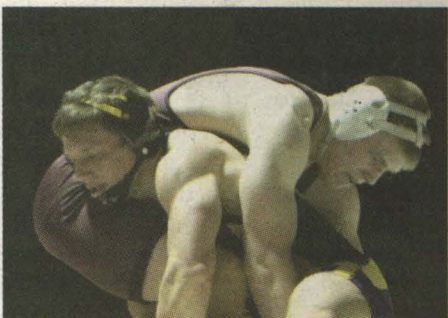


Photo courtesy uwsp.edu

With a victory over UW-Eau Claire Saturday the wrestling team finished their season with a 7-15 record overall, 2-3 in conference. The WIAC tournament kicks off Sunday at UW-Whitewater

(Photo: upper left)

The men's and women's track teams took third and second, respectively, at the Eastbay/Pointer Invitational last weekend. The men's distance medley team of sophomore Scott Berry, sophomore Babatunde Awosika, junior Alex Steiner, and sophomore Dan Sullivan was named the WIAC Athletes of the Week for men's track and field after finishing first with a time of 9:57.78. Freshman Dennis Haak finished first in the 800-meter with a time of 1:55.68. On the women's side, senior Kelly Haen took the mile with a time of 4:58.44. Haen is ranked eighth in the nation in the mile. Sophomore Nicole Hillman and freshmen Lauren Dilley and Katherine Larson finished first, second, and third in the 5,000-meter. The Pointers return to the track Friday and Saturday for the WIAC Indoor Championships at UW-Stout.



Photo courtesy uwsp.edu

The men's swimming and diving team captured their 13th consecutive WIAC Championship, led by Coach of the Year Al Boelk. The men's team has taken the title 15 of the last 16 seasons. The women's team took third behind UW-La Crosse and UW-Eau Claire. Both teams set their sights on the NCAA Championship next month.



The men's hockey team advanced to the semifinals of the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association with an overtime win in Saturday's mini game. Senior forward Chad Boeckman forced sudden death with a goal with 36 seconds remaining in regulation. Sophomore forward Kyle Heck continued his phenomenal performance with the game-winning goal. With the 2-1 victory UWSP advances to play St. Scholastica Saturday at 7 p.m.



# Pointlife

## Not Your Average Spring Gala

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The Encore of the Dreyfus University Center resembled an old jazz club by its featured talent and intimate atmosphere on Saturday, Feb. 18. The Spring Gala, organized collectively by Centertainment, the Black Student Union, and Arts Alliance, showcased live jazz music from the Alex Meronek Quartet, a Juried Art Show, and slam poetry.

The art show held no specifications, allowing artists to make their own decisions about what they wanted to submit. From paintings to sculptures, the best of show were selected out of 33 applicants to be displayed at this event. Five pieces out of the best in show were then picked as honorable mentions. The top three out of the honorable mentions were awarded cash prizes; however, each left with an opportunity.

"Each of the five honorable mentioned art pieces will be given the chance to display their art in the DUC. It is the artist's decision; however, if they agree, the art will be on year loan to the DUC," said Trevor Fyler, Center Stage coordinator for Centertainment Productions.

Roughly 100 students showed up to what Fyler described as an event "by students for students that allowed one to experience art, music, and spoken word. The point of Centertainment is to provide stu-

dent involvement in special opportunities and that's what really got us going with the idea of an all-student art show."

As for the spoken word performance of the evening, one individual couldn't help but stand out. Emmitt Williams closed out the show after six poems. A self-described artist, comic and musician, this freshman blew many away with his 'Killadelphia' monologue: "Welcome to Philadelphia. Just watch your back wherever you go. They might try to kill you, but you're going to love it here." He wrote this a week and a half before this open mic event.

Inspired by his two favorite artists, Common, the rapper/poet, and Kanye West, Williams has been writing spoken word poems since his freshman year in high school.

"I can usually get my stories done in a week if I work on them consistently. I usually just draw inspiration from average everyday stuff. I tend to write about things I find funny ... or my mom. However, the first line has to be the most engaging," Williams said.

As an upcoming contestant for the poetry slam state competition in Milwaukee on March 10, it's clear that this event brought in the right kind of crowd for this event.

For more information on upcoming Centertainment events, check out their Facebook page at UWSP Centertainment Productions.

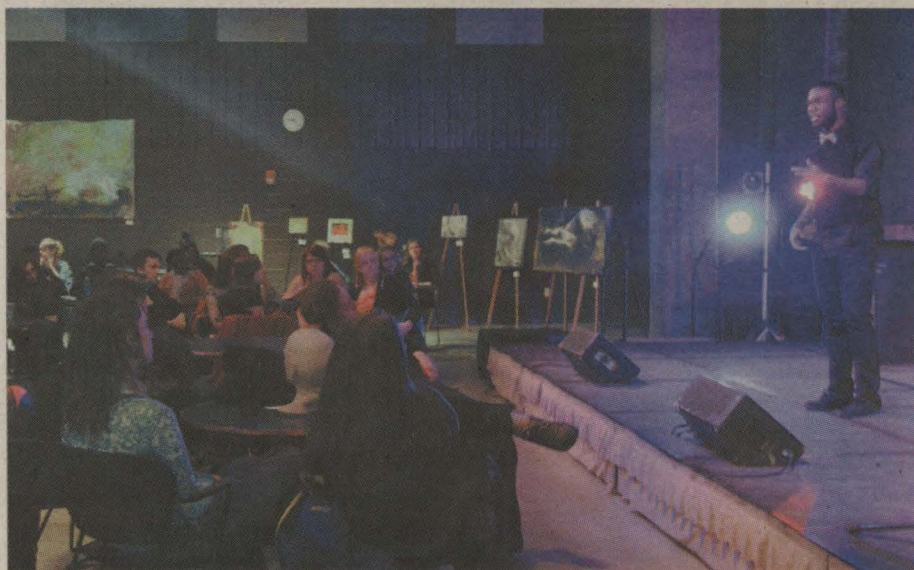


Photo by Samantha Feld

Freshman Emmitt Williams performs one of his spoken word pieces.



Photo by Samantha Feld

Jazz music at the Spring Gala was provided by the Alex Meronek Quartet.

## Memes- UWSP Style

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How many times have you searched the web in between classes and ended up on Facebook? On a typical day, there are not many things interesting in that number. However, the new "UWSP Memes" page has given even the most average day a slight jump-start of giggles.

For those who don't know, memes are pictures from a meme webpage (www.memegenerator.net) that combine with a caption you create yourself to entertain others. The "UWSP Memes" page allows students to share inside jokes that a typical UWSP student would know, such as, "Oh, you call them RAs, that must feel so ... normal."

This page has gotten popular fast, gaining almost 2,000 likes in less than a month.

"They're so addicting. I can't help but check on the new memes posted every day," said Ali Lindner, a natural resources major.

The same goes with Zach Strohl, a computer information systems/web and digital media development major, who found the meme page on the day it was created, when all of his friends "liked" the page. After seeing the meme with Leonardo DiCaprio and the caption "Oh, you wanted to drive through the cross-

walk? My bad," he quickly got to action on his own meme. Strohl's "Oh, you're walking through Schmeeckle? Don't forget your pipe" Willy Wonka meme is currently at three shares and 185 likes.

"I simply thought about the most well-known joke relating to UWSP and the activities that take place in the surrounding area. The first thing that came to my mind was Schmeeckle and the things people do there," Strohl said.

While it's fun to post memes, you might want to check out knowyourmeme.com before doing so, or you could end up having a meme posted about you. "The misuse of memes is too damn high" and "I don't always post about a radio station but when I do, I post three memes that are exactly the same" are just examples of some memes posted about poorly made memes. The creators of the page themselves, even admitted, "Yes, we will delete memes we find stupid."

Another perk of knowyourmeme.com is their trend alert for new memes. Therefore, if you are looking for new memes to post on the UWSP meme page, this is the page to go to.

So for those that have not liked this page yet, you have to check it out. I can guarantee you'll share at least one.

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[a vague attempt at something delicious.]



## An On-The-Go Snack



Photo by Mael Glon

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With spring around the corner comes the promise of clean roads and trails for cyclists, runners, hikers and all outdoor enthusiasts that have been patiently waiting for a whiff of fresh spring air. Personally, I've been waiting for beautiful roads with no snow in sight. I can't wait for the breeze to go through the slats on my bicycle helmet on a long climb, to reach behind myself into my jersey's pockets to grab a quick snack to propel myself up and over my immediate nemesis.

But what snack will it be? Could it be a candy bar of the Snickers variety, maybe a gel pack, or a high performance energy bar?

Nope, this week Dartmouth College researchers are reporting worrisome levels of arsenic in energy bars and energy shots that contain organic brown rice syrup, a replacement for the common high-fructose corn syrup.

So, of course, I'm going to recommend that you make your own snack.

Not only because of the arsenic, but also because you can customize your bar to your favorite foods. I hate most nuts but I love hazelnuts. It's really hard to find an energy bar that has hazelnuts because they're generally more expensive than a bar with peanuts.

The foundation of any good homemade energy bar starts with a few ingredients: namely, oats, nuts, fruit and puffed rice. These with binders, such as honey and peanut butter, form the basic recipe. If you like shredded coconut, chocolate chips, dried fruit or spices, you can just pile it in to your personalized granola concoction.

However, it's important to note that these are chock full of calories. Unless you're striving to gain a few pounds, munch at your own risk, preferably on the saddle of your favorite cruiser with the wind in your hair.

So when spring finally comes, be prepared with your favorite bar blend and revel in your awesome cooking and money-saving prowess.

### ENERGY BAR

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 ¼ c. Rice Krispies, generic or name brand, white or brown rice
  - 1 c. Rolled Oats or Instant Oats
  - 2 Tbsp. Flaxseed Meal
  - ¼ c. Crushed Nuts (Optional)
  - ¼ c. Dried Fruit (Optional)
  - 1/3 c. Honey (Plus extra if the mixture is dry)
  - ½ c. Nut Butter (Peanut butter, almond butter, even Nutella would work)
  - 1 tsp. Vanilla Extract
  - ½ Tbsp. salt
  - 6 oz. dark chocolate & 1 Tbsp. of heavy cream (very optional, only if you want a chocolate topping)
  - Add anything you want!
- Shredded coconut, chocolate chips, chopped up chunks of a candy bar, cinnamon, nutmeg or even potato chips if you want

#### DIRECTIONS

- In a large bowl, combine all dry ingredients till thoroughly mixed.
- Put honey and nut butter in a small saucepan over medium-low, stirring until the two are melted and combined. Add the vanilla extract and stir until the extract is combined, then take the mixture off heat.
- Pour the honey mixture over the dried ingredients in the bowl and

mix until thoroughly incorporated. This step is easiest by using your hands, optionally with plastic gloves. Make sure that the honey mixture isn't too hot or else you will burn yourself. When everything is combined and still too crumbly, heat up 1/3 cup of honey in the saucepan with a tablespoon of water and stir until it becomes syrupy. Add the honey to the mixture and combine.

- At this step you can either press the mixture into a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper to cool and later cut into the desired shape or you can form the shape with your hands from the bowl.

- If you choose to add the chocolate topping, you'll need to start a double boiler with a suitable bowl over a pan of boiling water. Add the chocolate and heavy cream and whisk until the chocolate melts and you're left with chocolate syrup. You can dip your bars into the syrup after they're cut or you can drizzle the chocolate syrup on top of the uncut bars.

- Wait for a few hours for the bars to cool and harden. After this you can package them in plastic wrap or put them in zipped bags.

## RECIPE

## Nontraditional Students at UWSP

RACHEL HANSON

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University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point student Robert Sell is enrolled for the third time. He describes his education path to this point as "military, student, construction, student, construction, and student."

Sell already has a degree in Public Administration and decided to return to UWSP for his degree in Special Education. He and his wife are both pursuing degrees while raising their children, and are part of a growing number of nontraditional students here on campus.

"It was really important to condense my schedule," Sell said. "Maggie Beeber from the Education office laid out a really clear track [to

do so]. That was extremely helpful."

Chris Hofmann, a veteran nontraditional student, says that being older than most students can have its disadvantages. In one particular incident, he needed help figuring out Microsoft Word in a campus computer lab.

"Tutors are gone after about 6 p.m.," he said. "After that you're on your own."

Hofmann says that in many cases it is difficult to find a student willing to assist him.

"It's not like they're falling down left and right to help you out," Hofmann said. In addition to technical difficulties that come as a result of his position, he also feels like professors are pushing a leftist "agenda" in many of his classes.

"I want to get a good job so I can

make money. Until then, I've got to put up with the insanity," Hofmann said.

Duachee Yang is the Office Manager in the UWSP Nontraditional Students Office. Since the U.S. economic recession began, she has noticed an increase in nontraditional students coming in for help.

"We've seen a lot more people coming back to school," Yang said. "We do what we can to make their transition easier."

The Nontraditional Student Office has many programs aimed at making student life a little better for veterans, transfer students, those working on their second degree and those over 24 years old. Their main focus right now is on possibilities of the College Level Examination Program that allows stu-

dents to test out of more classes in order to speed up their time here.

"Assistance for veterans is also priority," Yang said. "The Veterans Office and Nontrad. Office share a lot of ideas."

While nontraditional students encounter many difficulties, many also come to the university with a lot of life experience.

Sell feels that he has narrowed his scope on education after many years of academic study. "I know what I'm paying for, and I know what I am looking to get out of these classes," Sell said.

The Nontraditional Student Office is Located at 070D in the Dreyfus University Center.



## Group Fitness Extravaganza

EMMA ST. AUBIN  
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If you have been running on a treadmill or confining yourself to an elliptical all winter like I have, your body is probably craving a new workout atmosphere.

Maybe you do not own a gym membership, or maybe you are just simply gym-shy. In this case, your body is probably craving an afternoon filled with sweat and tush-lifting activities.

Either way, your body is in luck because the Allen Cardio Center will be offering a new, free and gym-less atmosphere on Feb. 24 at 2:00-4:00 p.m. during the Group Fitness Extravaganza. The Extravaganza will provide samples of the regular Group Fitness classes for any University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point student.

"It's different than the usual Group Fitness classes because within a two-hour period, participants can try four different classes, which makes each class shorter than their normal one-hour time length," said junior Tammy VanderLoop, one of the many Group Fitness instructors at the Allen Center.

During this time, eight 25-minute

classes will be held in the Allen Center in Studio A and Studio B to encourage participants to expand their workout atmosphere.

"We want to get more people involved in Group Fitness and experience classes they may not have tried otherwise," VanderLoop said.

Students who have not tried Group Fitness in the past get a chance to try many different formats in a short period of time while the regular members will enjoy the familiar upbeat instructors.

"I'm excited to try out some of the classes during times that work for me while seeing what they're like before I go for an entire hour," said Marissa Christensen, a front desk employee at the Allen Center.

Kiley Powers, another instructor at the Allen Center, will be teaching Calorie Blaster at the Extravaganza.

"Calorie Blaster is a full-body strengthening class with lots of cardio to really blast calories. Participants should be ready to sweat and rock out to great music," Powers said.

In order to reserve a spot in each class, participants must sign up outside of Studio B before the extravaganza takes place. At that time, participants are allowed to sign up for



Photo by Sara Rebers

On February 24, the Allen Center will be hosting a Group Fitness extravaganza where participants can try four different fitness classes within a two-hour period.

one of the two classes offered per time session. If a participant signs up and attends three classes, they will receive a free T-shirt.

Class sizes range from just 20 to 35 participants, so hurry over to the Allen Center to reserve your spot!

### Group Fitness

#### Extravaganza Schedule:

- 2:00-2:45 p.m. Zumba or Bounce
- 2:30-2:55 p.m. Kickboxing or dub-STEP360
- 3:00-3:25 p.m. Cycling or Calorie Blaster
- 3:30-3:55 p.m. Yoga or Abs

## Students Uncertain of Impact of Course Evaluations

DAN NECKAR  
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After each semester winds down at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and all of the lectures are over, students participate in a routine many of them admit they know little about.

Professors are assessed by students with a numerical, multiple choice evaluation. Students are responsible for judging their professor's helpfulness, enthusiasm for the subject, course workload and overall effectiveness.

According to Chapter 4B, Section 3 of the University Handbook, evaluation of faculty is the responsibility of the individual department. The handbook states that the departments may use results of the evaluations when evaluating colleagues for promotion, retention and tenure, but also states that personnel decisions cannot be made based solely on the evaluations.

Evaluations give students a formal opportunity to provide feedback, but they often don't understand how this data is used and what kind of impact it has on their university.

"You want the professor, especially if they're great, to have a good evaluation. But at the same time, sometimes the professors need a warning for the way they're teaching their classes if the evals are all bad," said UWSP Junior Lindsey Miller.

Miller and other students say that they don't feel certain about how the evaluations are handled. She believes

that the weight of the evaluations is higher for professors who are new to the university.

"I would hope that they are used for feedback and also for the department to watch professors who are still new, but I've honestly never known," Miller said.

Senior Dana Scheffen said that even though she's always completed the evaluations honestly, she finds it hard to believe that a good or bad review has much impact overall.

"Honestly, I don't know if anything really happens from the reviews because I've written not-so-positive reviews before and I'm not sure if anything has ever happened because of it," Scheffen said.

Communication Professor Rhonda Sprague said she uses the feedback to determine whether or not her methods are working. She said students should know that the evaluations are not related to grades.

"I have colleagues who get excellent evaluations and give very high grades. I have colleagues who give high grades and whose evaluations are so-so. I have colleagues who give so-so grades and get excellent evaluations. There doesn't seem to be much consistency," Sprague said.

After 27 years at UWSP,

Communication Professor Richard Dubiel says that the evaluation system's influence has grown to be more powerful than it needs to be.

"They originally were to be simply a help for the instructor. If you had bad evaluations you would take a look at that and improve," Dubiel said.

Apart from believing that the evaluations are being used for more than they were originally intended for, Dubiel says that he thinks some professors are at the mercy of the numbers.

"It gives way too much power, not so much to the students, but to one way of judging the teacher. Once a teacher finds a way to get good evaluations it makes them reluctant to change that class because they want to keep those good numbers," Dubiel said.

Although Dubiel says he doesn't need the evaluations to judge whether or not a class is going well, he says that he is able to get the best feedback by offering his own supplemental evaluations--in a free-written, non-numerical format before the end of the semester.

"This doesn't mean that I'm going to turn my class around completely," Dubiel said. "But these are things that I sometimes forget, and it's a real wakeup call."

Students seem to agree that writing their thoughts out and wording it themselves rather than choosing multiple choice answers is the best way to send a message to their professors.

"I feel that the writing-in spot is probably the more important part of those evals, so if no one writes anything, I don't think the professor is getting a good evaluation of their performance," said Junior Zack Knapton.

Both Dubiel and Scheffen suggested that professor-supplied evaluations that are collected before the semester's end are the best approach for better feedback.

"If you're going to get anything out of the class, then the teacher should be knowing what they're doing wrong during the class and not after it, because by then you've already paid for the course," Scheffen said.

Regardless of how effective the evaluations are at gauging professors, Dubiel says that their influence is undeniable.

"I don't think that students know how they're regarded. They really do impact. Some people say we shouldn't tell students how powerful they are and that they could really go in and do some damage with them," Dubiel said.

More information about the evaluations is available at the Student Government Association web site at <http://stuorgs.uwsp.edu/sga/pages/home.aspx>.

**"I don't think that students know how they're regarded. They really do impact."**



## pointlife

## [comic of the week]

## POIN-TAN by Randy Shaw



## Mr. Lovenstein

## by Justin Westover



## [photo of the week]



Photo by Zach Schwaller

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# Opinion

## Housing Complex Offered Options, Competition

LOGANT CARLSON  
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Alright landlords and property owners, you successfully defeated the new student-housing proposal for the old Cooper Tires lot, congratulations. Now it is time to put your money where your mouth is and improve some of the housing options around campus so that they are actually livable.

Do not get me wrong, there are some really good landlords who are very responsive to their tenants' requests, and keep up with maintenance of their properties, but there seems to be a lot of properties around the campus area that are on the verge of being unlivable.

I once lived at an apartment complex close to campus, that is never in danger of not being filled with students clamoring to live as close to campus as possible without having to deal with res life, that literally had a hole in one of the bedrooms that lead outside. Insulation was something unheard of at this place. We kept the thermostat around 64 degrees, with

the temperature never rising above 60 during the winter, yet our heating bills were still upwards of \$250 a month.

There was a crack in the bathroom ceiling that made us believe that if the people upstairs ever decided to fill their bathtub that it would have collapsed. The entire year we thought the people upstairs were obsessed with Dance Dance Revolution--it turns out they were just walking around normally.

I am sure my experience will not be anything new to many who have experienced living off campus.

Landlords and property owners have largely had a monopoly on apartment living in Stevens Point. Up until this fall they were the only game in town and students had to play by their rules if they wanted to experience life outside the dorms. Yes, I called them dorms, not residence halls, because that is what they are. But with the opening of the suites it gave students a different option, and isn't that what most people want in life, more options?

I spent my freshman year at the



Photo courtesy of stevenspointjournal.com

The Lullaby Plot on the west side of town will be developed despite known contamination.

University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, all those years ago, and I think their on campus housing options should be the model that other universities follow.

Freshmen stayed in dorms much like what we have here at UWSP, though the buildings themselves are much smaller with only around 30-40 rooms in each building.

Sophomores typically lived in two bedroom apartments with four people while typically upperclass-

men lived in apartments similar to what the suites are, only a little bigger. In total UWGB had six buildings like the suites, and a further nine of the smaller two bedroom apartments.

I am not saying that the student-housing proposal was the best option for the old Cooper Tires lot, but it would have provided more options for students, and maybe forced some of the bad landlords to update their properties to compete.

## London's Like That: Observations from a Student Abroad



Photo by Leah Wierzba  
The London Eye.

LEAH WIERZBA  
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Four weeks ago, I left Wisconsin behind me and sped through the night on a jet to London with the optimistic thought that, although I was travelling to an unknown place 4,000 miles from home, at least the people there would speak the same language as me. Now that I'm actually in the city of double-decker buses and endless coffee shops, however, I think I may have been mistaken...

The other day, I encountered a street sign that read, "Absolutely

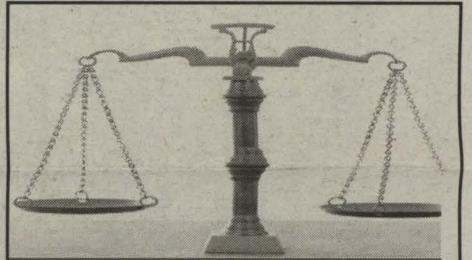
no fly tipping." Now, like any true Wisconsinite, I've heard of cow tipping. But I was pretty sure fly tipping was not the same thing. And if it was, it didn't sound like much of a challenge. A Google search later, I learned that there was not, in fact, a correlation between trying to turn over a four-ton bovine and a pea-sized insect. Instead, "fly tipping" refers to illegally dumping garbage, which made sense in retrospect when I remembered the sign was posted near several dumpsters.

The Brits, however, don't call it garbage. To them, it's "rubbish." One

thing you might throw in the rubbish bin is the wrapper from a sandwich you ate for lunch. Instead of waiting in a line to pay for it, though, you probably waited in a "queue." I'd like to know who gave British people the authority to put four vowels in a row. If you got that sandwich to go, I hope you didn't ask for "carry-out," because the two options here are "eat-in" or "take-away." You may then have proceeded to eat that sandwich while driving down the "motorway" back to work before grabbing your briefcase from the "boot" of the car. Sometimes I think the Brits made up these terms purely for the entertainment of seeing the looks of confusion on the faces of unsuspecting foreigners like me.

Even when I do manage to use the right British lingo, my accent still gives me away. The only thing that marks an American tourist more definitely than his or her accent is a fanny pack, and fortunately I haven't resorted to using one of those.

When I first arrived in London, I was self-conscious of my way of speaking, convinced it made me stand out like a dandelion amongst the Queen's roses. But then I started eavesdropping on the people around me and heard something that changed my attitude, something beautiful: diversity. I realized I can walk down the street and hear five different languages or accents within just as many blocks. In a city that brings together people from all over the world, no one stands out, yet no one blends in, and somehow all are accepted. London's like that.



### Questions to the Lawyer

I live in an apartment with three other UWSP students. We have a lease which was signed by all four of us which lasts until May 25, 2012. We have paid one half of our rent and the last half is due by Dec. 1, 2011 for the balance of the lease. One of the roommates just announced that he will be transferring to a different school next semester, and has stated that he will not be making his last payment on the lease. What do we (the rest of us) do?

**Jan Roberts, Staff Attorney for Student Legal Society:** Your best bet is to look for a subletter that the rest of you can live with to take the place of the departing roommate. It sounds like you have a lease that provides for "joint and several liability" of the tenants to the landlord. That means that the landlord can sue any or all or some of you for any amounts outstanding under the lease. The remaining three tenants are responsible for the rent. However, the remaining three would have standing to sue the departing roommate for his share if he refuses to pay, and the remaining tenants pick up his share for the last semester. If the remaining three tenants stay, and the last tenant's share is not paid, the landlord can sue for eviction, and/or unpaid rent. Some words to the departing tenant: this is not a good way to treat your friends. You should pay your share, and try to find a subletter so that your friends don't have to pay for your flights of fancy and decision to not uphold your legal responsibilities.

Students should feel free to set up an appointment with Jan Roberts, staff attorney for the Student Legal Society, with any questions related to landlord-tenant issues, or any other legal issues (tickets, criminal cases, family law issues, auto accidents, consumer issues, etc.). There is a \$5 administrative fee (paid to Ticket and Information), and appointments are 30 minutes. Follow-up appointments are free.

**To submit a question for the attorney please email Student Legal at: [slegal@uwsp.edu](mailto:slegal@uwsp.edu)**





# MILWAUKEE BUCKS STUDENT NIGHTS

ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS

TICKETS ONLY **\$5**

(\$24 value)

MUST SHOW STUDENT ID AT THE DOOR  
WALK UP ONLY

TUE, FEB 7  
7PM

VS



WED, FEB 15  
7PM

VS



MON, FEB 20  
7PM

VS



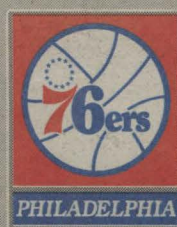
TUE, FEB 28  
7PM

VS



MON, MAR 5  
7PM

VS



WED, MAR 14  
7PM

VS



TUE, MAR 27  
7PM

VS



WED, APR 4  
7PM

VS



MON, APR 23  
7PM

VS



WED, APR 25  
7PM

VS

