

# the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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# News

## Commencement Ceremony Moved Indoors

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point has recently decided to move its Spring Commencement ceremony from the Sundial to the Multi-Activities Center, in the Health Enhancement Center.

Commencement will take place on Saturday, May 19, at 10 a.m. for College of Letters and Science and College of Natural Resources students, and at 2 p.m. for College of Professional Studies and College of Fine Arts and Communications students. According to university Event Coordinator Brittany Rossman, graduates must present themselves at the Quandt Fieldhouse an hour before their respective ceremony.

"The decision to move indoors to the Multi-Activity Center is based on the safety and security of graduates, faculty, staff, families and friends," said University Relations and Communications Executive Director Kate Worster. "The surface on the Specht Memorial Forum has deteriorated and may cause a problem for

some of our guests. Also, variability of weather conditions impacts the health of many of our guests."

"In addition, we want commencement to be a pleasant, inclusive experience for all participants," Worster said.

Worster believes this change won't be too disruptive to the graduation proceedings. She said that, in pre-

**"The decision to move indoors to the Multi-Activity Center is based on the safety and security of graduates, faculty, staff, families and friends" -Kate Worster**

vious years, when Commencement was moved indoors due to weather, students were allowed 4 tickets per student. However, graduates this Spring will be allotted six complementary general admission tickets. Seating will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

All parking lots on campus will be open to guests, except for Lot F West.

"In the past, the rain call for an outdoor ceremony in the Specht Memorial Forum caused challenges

for families and friends who planned on bringing an unlimited amount of guests, and then had limited tickets for an indoor ceremony. With a planned indoor ceremony, graduates and families receive consistent information and may plan for the ceremonies in advance," Worster said.

Students will be charged a fee of \$35 to cover the cost of commencement, according to an email from Rossman to the graduating students. This does not include the cost of caps and gowns, which can be purchased online or at the University Store.

Graduates must RSVP for Commencement by Friday, May 11.

A Countdown to Commencement meeting will be held for students on Tuesday, April 3, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Dreyfus University Center Concourse. Students will have the chance to meet with the offices of Admissions, Alumni Affairs, Career Services, Registration and Records, University Relations and Communications and the University Store.

## After Eleven Months of Campaigning, Wisconsin Voters Voice Opinion

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The citizens of Wisconsin will finally be able to voice their opinion in the Republican Party presidential nominating contest this Tuesday during the April primary elections held across the state.

The field has been narrowed down to four candidates from an initial 11 that sought the nomination.

Currently Mitt Romney, the former governor of Massachusetts and runner up to Senator John McCain in the 2008 nomination race, leads the race to the 1,144 delegates needed to secure the nomination with 568, according to the Associated Press delegate count.

Former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum currently has 273 delegates, while former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and current Texas Congressman Ron Paul have 135 and 50 delegates, respectively.

Wisconsin has a total of 42 delegates that are up for grabs on Tuesday, with 18 going to the winner of the statewide popular vote while the remaining 24 votes will be awarded to the winner of each of the state's eight congressional districts.

The nomination process this year has been considerably longer than the

one four years ago, as the Republican National Committee altered the way the majority of states allocate their delegates. In 2008, John McCain effectively secured the nomination by March 4 after Mick Huckabee dropped out of the race.

In 2008 many states allocated their delegates to the statewide winner in a winner take all format. This year only ten states allocate their delegates in a winner take all format, with the vast majority following a process identical to Wisconsin.

The way the nomination process has played out during the early parts of the campaign had led some political analysts to believe there was a slight chance of a brokered convention where another candidate could step in and become the nominee.

However that possibility seems to be fading away as Romney only needs 46 percent of the remaining delegates to secure the nomination, according to Nate Silver who writes the FiveThirtyEight blog for the New York Times. The earliest Romney could mathematically secure the nomination would be late May, but would require him to win 95 percent of the remaining delegates.

Voters in Wisconsin will not have to bring a valid Wisconsin ID card to the polls on Tuesday as two Dane

County judges have prevented the voter ID law passed last summer from taking effect.

Attorney General J.B. van Hollen has appealed both judges' decisions asking the appeals court to overturn the injunction before the election next Tuesday.

Two separate appeals courts sent both cases straight to the Wisconsin Supreme Court on Wednesday. Four of the seven justices would have to vote to hear the case.

The Government Accountability Board, the nonpartisan committee that oversees all elections in the state, and who was charged with instituting an educational campaign to inform voters of the new requirements has stopped airing television and radio ads about the new law, but have told local election officials to be prepared in case the court order is overturned.

State election officials estimate that voter turnout will be around 35 percent for the primary, in which a number of local elections are also on the ballot.

Most notably for the Stevens Point area is an election to fill a seat on the Portage County Circuit Court and for the Stevens Point Area Public School Board.

### THE POINTER

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## news

## [full circle thinking]

## Brazil to Build World's Third Largest Hydroelectric Dam

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The Brazilian government is to construct a massive hydroelectric dam complex in the state of Para, to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and achieve a more consistent energy supply. The Xingu River, a tributary to the Amazon River and home to several Amazonian indigenous groups, will be the site of the dam, known as the Belo Monte Dam. The dam will have a generating capacity of 11,233 Mega Watts, or nearly 40 percent of the United States' total energy consumption in 2010.

### The Dam

The Belo Monte dam's impressive 1,233 Mega Watt capacity appears to be exactly that - impressive - but realistic production and efficiency are much more important factors to consider. In the area of the world where the dam is planned, there is typically a three to five month-long dry season. During this dry season the dam will only be able to operate at 10 percent of its capacity. Throughout the rest of the year the dam will operate at an average of 39 percent of its capacity, approximately 15 percent less than the average for other Brazilian hydroelectric dams.

Of the electricity generated, 70 percent will be sold for public consumption, and according to a study

performed by the dam's developer, the company Eletrobras, even during the dry season the dam will provide the entire state of Para with electricity. The other 30 percent will be sold for industrial mining and other similar operations. Additionally, the Brazilian government has planned a \$40 billion (US) investment into mining expansion of the Amazon region through 2014.

Up to 80 percent of the Xingu River would be diverted to new canals and reservoirs leading to permanent drought in some areas. The canals and reservoirs would total some 258 square miles, of which 150 square miles is forestland. Two canals, each 1,640 feet wide and 46 miles long, would be created, requiring removal of more soil than that removed during the construction of the Panama Canal.

### People and the environment

This \$17 billion (US) dam is but one of 60 planned for the Amazon, and is thought to be one of the most biologically diverse regions on the planet. One section of the river, the Volte Grande, would be altered to the point of threatening extinction of hundreds of species, according to a 2009 report by several experts.

Construction of the dams and infrastructure would create 40,000 temporary jobs and only 2,000 long-term jobs. It is estimated that 100,000

migrants would be forced to move into population centers or into illegal and unsustainable logging and cattle ranching, leading to more deforestation. In population centers, the rapidly expanded population would increase competition for already scarce jobs and stress social services and an already crumbling infrastructure.

The dam would directly displace over 20,000 indigenous people who had previously lived and made their livelihood off of the forest and river.

According to an AmazonWatch.org article, "Considered an 'obstacle' to business interests, indigenous peoples are particularly vulnerable. Mega-projects typically confront indigenous communities with disease, loss of food and clean water sources, cultural disintegration and human rights abuses."

### The Economics

The Belo Monte dam was found to be economically not viable by a 2006 economic analysis performed by the Conservation Strategy Fund. In order for the dam to become economically sound, more upstream dams would be required to increase productivity during the dry season. These dams would directly and indirectly affect another 25,000 indigenous people; one of these new dams would flood 2,370 square miles, according to its original design, thus disrupting

human communities and ecological processes.

### Controversy

IBAMA, the Brazilian Institute of Environmental and Renewable Natural Resources, has had two senior technicians and their president resign in protest, due to the incomplete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and strong political pressure to approve the project. Issues with the EIA include missing water quality, socioeconomic indicators and fish populations data, and poor evaluation criteria. In February 2010 the plan was approved by the IBAMA, pending a six-year trial period of operation.

Often overlooked is the impact of stagnant waters rich in organic materials on greenhouse gas emissions. Of note, one 1990 study of a Brazilian dam, the Curua-Una Dam, found that it pollutes the equivalent of three and a half times more carbon dioxide than an oil power plant would pollute.

### Alternatives

A 2007 World Wide Fund for Nature report stated that Brazil could cut its expected demand for electricity by 40 percent by 2020 through investment in energy efficiency. The electricity saved would be equivalent to 14 Belo Monte hydroelectric dams and would save Brazil \$19 billion (US). While appearing complex, the improved energy efficiency would stem from improved energy transmission, replacement of energy-inefficient household products and updating old and failing generators.

## SGA Presidential Debate Held Tuesday Night

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In the final week of SGA candidate campaigning, a debate was held Tuesday night in the Encore Theater for the two opposing parties to discuss their stances and answer questions presented by the student body.

Moderated by Crystal Laabs, the debate revealed that both Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates share many of the same goals and outlooks on what needs to be done on campus next year but differ in approach and style.

For student voters their decision really boils down to preference of style.

For example, while both share the goal of increasing the voter turnout for the 2012 Presidential primaries, Seth Hoffmeister and Shantanu Pai take a more formal and traditional juggernaut approach and Juan-Diego Hernandez and Vince Hucek have a more social "word-of-mouth" blitzkrieg approach.

"The first thing that we have to

pace us is the November elections," Hoffmeister said. "We've talked about student apathy and the feeling of powerlessness that goes along with being a college student and we need to debunk that rumor and get students out to vote."

"I had the privilege to see the voting effort my freshman year in the 2008 Presidential Elections, I loved everything that was going on there. The fact that we had people helping us to register and vote was so helpful, I would have been totally lost then," Hucek said.

Similarly, Hernandez and Hucek take a fluid adaptable leadership method while Hoffmeister and Pai lean more towards a "lead by example" public servicemen style, but both sides hold strongly that accessibility and approachability are vital to successful leadership.

"We have a saying in (the United States Student Association), 'step up step back,'" Hoffmeister said. "As a leader it's important to step up but also recognizing that it's our job to develop other leaders and recognize

the potential of younger students so when we graduate they can take our place."

"It's important to be on top of the issues, on top of both the facts of the matter and the opinions of the students," Hucek said. "Obviously you can't be in touch with every one of the 9,000 students but do the best you can to be in close contact with as many of them as possible."

"I tend to be reasonable, I tend to be articulate, and the last thing I think leadership should be is comprehensive, you want to make sure every voice is heard and heard in a way everyone can understand it," Pai said.

"Leadership to me is pretty simple, you are the kind of face of the group you represent and if you fail you aren't just failing yourself, you're failing the entire group," Hernandez said. "I mean, it happens but that's part of being a leader, and the most important thing is doing what's best for the group and what the group wants."

Neither side is for tuition increases, of course, but both recognize that

there will be some tough decisions to face as well, such as what to do about differential tuition.

"We pay a very low tuition by the standards of the rest of our state, I believe we are in the bottom 25 percent of four year universities. If we could stay there that would be awesome," Hucek said. "Unfortunately, the reality is we will eventually have to raise tuition, the good news is it won't throw us into the top half."

"Given the political climate in Madison, it's unlikely that this will be an issue that we'll have to directly face if elected; however, we definitely need to make sure we are paying close attention to it when it comes up--there are tough decisions to be made but we have to make them," Hoffmeister said.

Students are reminded that the polls open this Friday, March 30, at 8:00 a.m. and close April 5 at 4:00 p.m. Students will be receiving an email to cast their ballot online; the process will take on average five minutes.



# Sports

## Pointers Finish Strong after Tough Start in Florida

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point softball team traveled to Florida over spring break to participate in the NTC games, and finished with a 4-8 record.

The Pointers played in Clermont, Florida, and faced tough competition from around the U.S. throughout the week.

The first 10 games were a challenge for Stevens Point, losing 8 of their first 10, but the team had a good end to the week, winning their last two games over the break.

"It was a great test for our players," said head coach Jill Millis. "It isn't easy playing 12 games in eight days in 85 degree weather, and it gets them ready for the rigorous regular season and conference play."

UWSP started the week of games on Sunday, March 15, against Washington and Jefferson College of Pennsylvania. The Pointers won 7-3.

Later on Sunday Stevens Point went up against Elmhurst College

from Illinois. The Pointers would fall in this game, 1-4.

On Monday, the Pointers would lose to both of their opponents, Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, and Western New England College, by scores of 1-7, and 2-4.

Tuesday started with a win over Lawrence University by a score of 6-0. The day finished with a 5-8 loss to Western Connecticut State University.

UWSP would get back in action on Thursday, but did not fare well. The team dropped both of its games, losing to Elmhurst College again, 1-9, and falling to Frostburg State College from Maryland, 0-2.

The Pointers played another two games on Friday but once again fell short in both, losing to Bethel University, 4-6, and Eastern Connecticut State University, 2-3.

The bright spot of the week came on Saturday when the Pointers defeated Manchester College from Indiana, 7-6, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 3-2.

Although it may have been a tough week overall for the Pointers, there were some bright spots.

"We had many instances where several players stepped up big in key situations and either came through with a big hit or defensive stop," Millis said.

One of the good surprises of the week came from freshman outfielder Sam Raddant, who did not disappoint in her first big starts during the season.

Raddant went 12-for-32 during the week, adding six runs, three RBIs and 16 total bases on the week. She now has a .375 batting average.

"Our talented freshman class showed they can compete at this level, and they really stepped up in key situations throughout the week," Millis said.

Sophomore utility player Bekah Rennie continued her strong start to the 2012 season, going 7-21 during the week, also tallying two runs scored, and two RBIs. Her batting average now stands at a team high .419. She also hit her first homerun as a Pointer.

Junior first baseman Katie Krueger also had a good week, going 13-36, scoring two runs and driving

in eight.

Krueger now leads the team in RBIs with 14. At week's end, her batting average was up to .360.

The Pointers also had some strong performances from two of their pitchers, junior Michelle Jones and sophomore Sara Babbitts.

Jones pitched 36 innings in Florida and struck out 18 batters. She also went the distance in two games, pitching all seven innings.

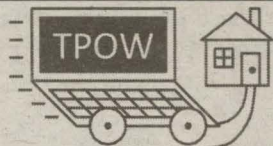
Babbitts made her season debut down in Florida, and had some strong showings. She pitched a team high 43 1/3 innings during the break and totaled 21 strike outs. Babbitts also pitched two complete games.

"Overall our pitching was solid," Millis said. "Michelle Jones and Sara Babbitts did a great job against some very tough opponents throughout the week."

The Pointers start their regular season with a doubleheader at Marion College this Wednesday, followed by a doubleheader at UW-Eau Claire on Saturday.

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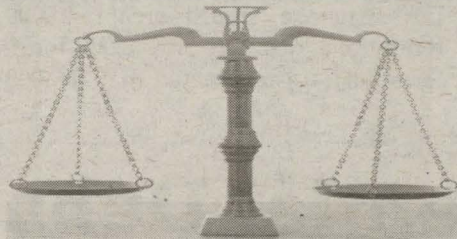
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### Questions to the Lawyer

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)**



# Pointlife

## You Could Be the Match

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You have the power to save a life, so why not?

Ellen Wargowski, a University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point sophomore, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia when she was just three years old. She went through chemotherapy and radiation and was lucky to survive. However, she relapsed when she was six years old and eventually needed a bone marrow transplant to save her life. Luckily enough, her older sister was a good match, and Ellen was able to receive the transplant.

Many people looking for a bone marrow transplant aren't as lucky as Wargowski, and often rely on finding a donor in the Be The Match Registry. The more people that join the registry, the chances of them finding a donor increases.

"Ever since I began to realize how lucky I am to have survived, I have been very passionate about wanting to give back and make a difference in the lives of other cancer patients," Wargowski said.

The Dreyfus University Center will be holding a bone marrow drive for the Be The Match Registry on Thursday, April 5, and Friday, April 6, at 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To join, you must be within the ages of 18 and 60

and willing to donate to a patient of any need.

When registering, a health questionnaire must be completed to make sure you meet the medical guidelines. These protect your health as a potential donor, as well as the health of transplant patients.

Doctors search the Be The Match Registry to find donors for their patients. Once you've joined, Be The Match will contact you if a doctor selects you as a match for a patient in need of a transplant.

"You might not get a call to donate immediately. It could be a couple years, a decade, or even longer, but being in the registry will give someone hope and maybe even another chance at life," said Cody Much, a senior Biochemistry major and the Treasurer of the PreMed and Allied Health Society.

Throughout the weeks leading up to the drive, PMAHS will be selling raffle tickets for prizes that local businesses have donated in the DUC to help raise money for the Be The Match Foundation. Tickets are a dollar a piece or six for \$5.00.

The process of actually getting into the registry is very quick and painless. All it takes is a few mouth swabs and some paper work.

"A lot of people think it involves needles and pain when actually it is just a few swabs of the mouth, and

that is seriously it," Much said.

As a cancer survivor, Wargowski is unable to be on the registry but remains involved in the bone marrow drive to make a difference in the world of cancer.

"Ellen ended up finding us last semester and was curious about helping out. This semester she agreed to help us promote the drive with her touching story," Much said.

Today Wargowski is fully recovered and healthy, while spreading the word about the Bone Marrow Registry to help those whose lives depend on a bone marrow transplant. For them, finding a match depends entirely on the number of people who have generously agreed to join the Registry.

"I was given a second chance at life, and I wish that others who are fighting for their lives could be given that same opportunity. What if a patient's match was out there somewhere, and not on the registry? They would have no way of knowing that there is someone who could help," Wargowski said.

By joining the registry you could be the match a patient needs. You could be the person to make this treatment possible. You could give them hope.

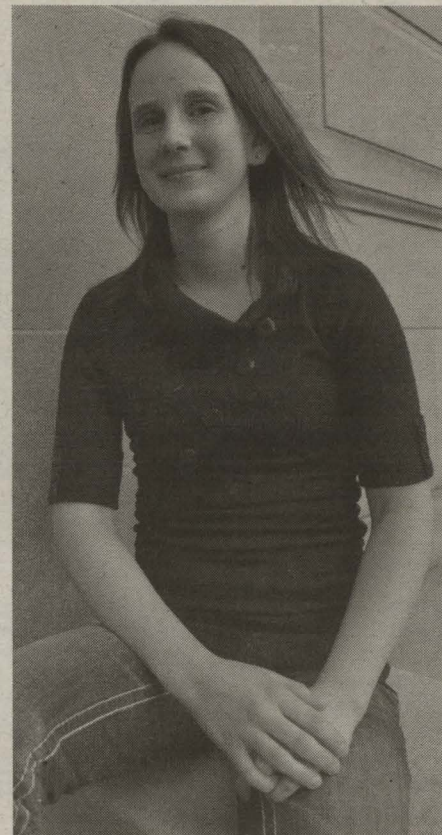


Photo by Samantha Feld

After a bone marrow transplant at age six, sophomore Ellen Wargowski survived a relapse from Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia.

## Rampart Film Review

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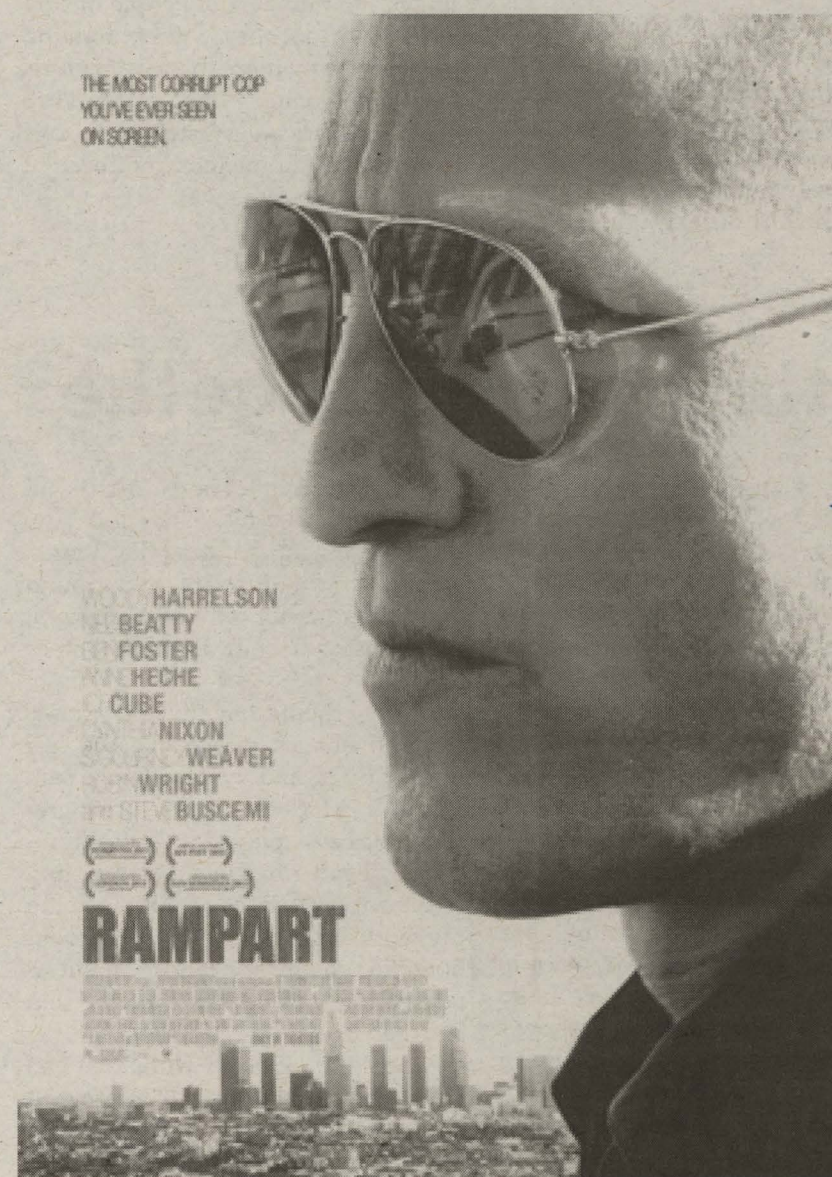
Building off the success of his debut film, *The Messenger*, director Oren Moverman plunges into a world of corruption with his newest effort *Rampart*, which looks at the LAPD in the 1990's and its long history of excessive violence, seedy corruption and racial discrimination. Woody Harrelson stars as misogynistic, hedonistic, alcoholic, quasi-sociopathic, racist (though he maintains that he hates all people equally) police officer Dave Brown. Brown finds himself embroiled in a scandal after he beats a black motorist senseless and is caught on tape doing so, a la Rodney King. Brash, abrasive and downright offensive, Harrelson's Officer Brown follows his own moral code by doing "the people's dirty work." In other words, he's a loose cannon.

Embracing the crime he seeks to thwart, Brown more closely resembles the criminals he cuffs than the badge that sits upon his chest. Yet his family life is even more wayward than his career. Brown is divorced and still living with his two exes, who happen to be sisters (played admirably by Cynthia Nixon and Anne Heche). Yeah, you read that right. Also, he has fathered a daughter with both sisters. His oldest daughter

Helen, in high school and very aware of her father's checkered familial and occupational history, doesn't hide her contempt for her father. His youngest daughter Margaret, still a tad aloof to her father's past, engages somewhat hesitantly with her father, but even she begins to pull away - and they all live together.

While Brown is as predictable as an injured, cornered animal, there's always a certain amount of tact in his methods. He's a really smart guy. In another life, he'd probably be a successful business man or politician. But he's living his own life in the rotting Rampart division of the LAPD. His personal vices that plague him also fulfill him in some self-destructive way. The conflict he incites comforts him.

Harrelson is electric, like a livewire in a puddle of water. Resembling the cigarettes his character chain-smokes, Harrelson is a muted ember color that lies nearly dormant and then explodes to a full glowing blaze with each exhale. His character's rage simmers below the surface, seeping through his pores, incessantly forming beads of sweat on his ruddy brow, and boils over in fits of unbridled violence and spats of vulgarities. It is extremely talented work from an underrated actor. Harrelson alone makes *Rampart* worthy of seeing.





# Dumpster Diving, a.k.a. 'Freeganism'



Photo by Rachel Hanson

Vladimir Yuraslob is a resident of Stevens Point, found dumpster diving. Freeganism – a word mixing of “free” and “vegan,” is an anti-consumerism lifestyle. Freegans usually go dumpster diving to collect thrown out food and items.

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Dumpster diving, sometimes referred to as “freeganism,” is a concept and lifestyle many Americans are turning to in the face of both economic hardship and an unequal national system of food and materials distribution.

I met with Vladimir Yuraslob, a resident of Stevens Point and avid dumpster diver, to help me better understand the lifestyle of a diver, and hopefully learn a few tricks of the trade for future use.

Vladimir learned quickly in life that too many usable materials were going to waste in the world around him.

“Growing up as a child I enjoyed collecting old things ... I remember finding something in the trash while walking home from elementary school. I suppose you could say dumpster diving is a natural progression for me,” Yuraslob said.

That natural progression drew partially from an example set by Vladimir’s father.

“[He] was an example of frugality for me as well; he wore those cut-off jean shorts until they were damn near rags (he opted to use his money to give his three children opportunities) ... it was evident to me that material objects had a much longer life if you were willing to ignore the social stigma of looking ‘poor,’” Yuraslob said.

According to a 2010 USDA report, 48.8 million Americans are live in food-insecure households. That number grows when you include the homeless population of US citizens, which is about 700,000. Yet, even with staggering numbers of people unsure whether or not they will eat tonight, we are wasting more than ever before. Jonathan Bloom, author of the 2010 book “American Wasteland,” says that over half of the food produced in America is thrown away.

“Somewhere between 160 and 295 billion pounds of food is thrown away every single year,” Bloom writes. “Which is the equivalent of filling a 90,000 seat football stadium to the brim at least once every single day.”

Freeganism as a whole is an attempt to combat waste trends in America and includes much more than just dumpster diving. From squatting (living rent-free in foreclosed or vacant homes) to free markets (where items are set out for free instead of for sale) to eco-friendly forms of transportation, the freegan lifestyle promotes living on what is already here, as opposed to producing more materials and thus producing more waste.

People in the United States have been reclaiming food and discarded objects for centuries. Vladimir identifies with one example in particular.

“Nineteenth century American history shows the ‘Rag man’ or ‘Rag-and-bone man’ who traveled around, often with a covered wagon, collecting all manner of discarded items that he could reinvent and resell,” Yuraslob said.

Though reclamation of trash has existed as long as trash itself, it still carries a heavy social stigma.

“Propaganda turns the masses against each other, at the benefit of the rich elite,” Vladimir said. “They tell us dumpster diving is bad. Thus, there is such a social stigma attached to reclaiming good and usable foods and other materials. It creates a picture of a low income person, which is an undesirable in consumer-capitalistic society ... has been for many, many years.”

Just about anything that can be tossed out can be reclaimed. Vladimir has found food, household items and clothing, building materials, artwork, and a little bit of just about everything else.

## Dumpster Diving Tips from Vladimir Yuraslob:

1. Don't leave a mess; clean up after yourself.
2. Remain quiet and discreet.
3. Respect yourself too: use your sense of smell, sight, and hearing to keep yourself safe and healthy.
4. If someone tells you to scram while you are reclaiming a lot of useful items, you might want to move on to another dumpster.
5. Respect other dumpster divers, they eat and shop there too.
6. Don't do anything that would alert authorities to the situation; this is counter-productive to your goals.
7. Wear some solid shoes or boots. Leather gloves are good. Long pants and long sleeves will help a bit.
8. Be a respectful dumpster diver and have fun!!

“Dumpster diving is a life project whereby I am able to reduce the amount of edible foods and usable material items that would otherwise rot away in a landfill,” Vladimir said. “It gives me a great amount of pride to know that I am helping to meet my own needs, and the needs of friends, family and strangers.”

Vladimir left me with a quote from E.F. Schumacher’s *A Guide for the Perplexed*: “The art of living is always to make a good thing out of a bad thing.”

## Artists Come Together

**MONICA LENIUS**  
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Contributing artists from all over the Midwest are coming together for a prestigious event that will be celebrating 40 years of quality artwork.

The Stevens Point Festival of the Arts will be held in the Noel Fine Arts Festival on Sunday, April 1, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Because this festival is so early in the season, artists are eager to be a part of it.

“Like many artists, we hear about shows and art festivals through the grapevine. The time of year, place in your show schedule, and possibility of making money determine a show’s importance,” said Bill Kaufmann, a porcelain maker from Hudson, WI. “Every show is like a job application that has direct ramifications to our income.”

This festival brings artists in areas from woodworking and jewelry to glass and painting. Each artist comes from a different background and therefore not only uses different mediums of art, but different themes as well.

“My theme is to tell stories through images that evoke the feel of paintings and watercolors,” said David E. Mullikin, whose photography will be displayed at booth number 2. “I have had many interesting conversations with people viewing my work and often their stories about how an image appeals to them is fascinating and creates a connection between us.”

Art is the kind of word that can have many definitions. It is more of an opinion-filled word. Each of these artists has a different meaning for themselves as to what art is.

“Art allows us to express a hidden spirit that can only be seen in what we create. It comes from deep inside us and gives others an insight that is special to that person,” said Lou Williams, who has submitted woodwork art for the show.

“Art can portray many facets, from the absurd to the glorious. We are interested in objects that have a presence beyond their function. Perhaps it is the way beauty touches our lives and motivates or compels us to look again, to break us out of the rut of the everyday,” Kaufmann said. “We all depend on art for inspiration, entertainment, and for many of us self-expression. Art is fundamental to action, whether it is mechanical, political, or in the studio.”

These meanings make the artists who they are today. By making their living by selling their art they share a

common ground but are different in many ways. The diversity in artists is what makes this festival one of the best in the show season.

“Among artists, this is a very well-known venue. It is talked about as one of the best and the first really big, important show of the year. My daughter, who has done this show for years, has always said I should get into it. I’ve tried for three years and was finally selected; I’m thrilled,” Williams said.

This event will include free admission and free children’s activities. There will also be a silent auction of the artists’ works that help support student scholarships that are awarded to UWSP students.



# The Legend of Stumpy de la Cruz

STORY BY GUS GUS  
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Every team has a story of a once in a generation player that by all accounts is a "can't miss" prospect that tragically does.

They're brought up with all the potential, all the promise in the world. They're given every opportunity to succeed, but they don't pan out. They get hurt, they hit an endless slump, they break down.

He gets bitter and angry. He toils in a self-sentenced exile. Never able to reach his peak, the ballplayer spends the rest of his life dwelling on what could have been, but never was.

This is not that story.

Esteban de la Cruz was not a rookie phenom. He never won a golden glove or a silver slugger award. He was not highly touted, he didn't even create a semi-mild buzz of excitement.

Esteban "Stumpy" de la Cruz was god awful.

As a weak hitting first baseman in the Pirates' and Brewers' minor league system, de la Cruz accumulated a .091 career batting average with six RBIs and two homeruns over the span of six seasons. In 2002 he set a minor league record when he hit an unprecedented 643 groundouts in a single season, accounting for over half of the groundouts on the team.

But where he truly outshined the competition in terms of pure terribleness was in the field.

"I remember the first time I ever saw Esteban play was when he was in college at UC-Davis," said former scout Fred [redacted]. "We were in town so [redacted] any

Winters and it just so happened Esteban was at first that day. In the third inning he let three consecutive grounders go between his legs and had six throwing errors as a first baseman. I called my mom that night and wept on the phone for an hour and a half. It was horrid."

De la Cruz led all minor leaguers in errors between 2001 and 2006, accruing a total of 613 errors over that time.

In one game against the Red Sox Triple-A affiliate Pawtucket, de la Cruz accomplished the rare error cycle. He was charged with a throwing, catching and fielding error. In that order. Twice. In four innings.

"Oh yeah, I remember him," said former Brewer first baseman Prince Fielder. "He sucked."

De la Cruz earned the nickname Stumpy from his teammates, partially due to his 5'4" stature, but mainly because his left leg was 70 percent wood.

During a horrible butter churning accident as a child, de la Cruz's grandfather splinted his leg with some spare boards he had in the barn. The nearest doctor was four hundred yards away and the only mule the family had had been put down when it contracted chlamydia. De la Cruz had to wait three days for a specialist to arrive, but that night the boards became infused with his leg, forming a literal stump.

His stump hindered him throughout his career. One of the biggest reasons why de la Cruz never pa

could hardly walk, let alone field a hot shot down the line. Plus when it rained he had to sit in the dugout otherwise his leg would warp.

Maybe the only thing more legendary than his proverbial peg leg was his temper.

De la Cruz once merited an invitation to spring training with the Pirates. By all accounts it was nothing more than a joke to keep morale up. One day de la Cruz was inserted as a pinch hitter with runners at the corners and two outs in a one run exhibition game. Former teammate Rob Schmidt remembers the incident vividly.

"When I saw Stumpy saunter out of the dugout I just lowered my head and used words that would get me expelled from most churches and grocery stores. After he whiffed on three straight curveballs he broke his bat over his knee and chased the pitcher around the diamond for 20 minutes. It took five groundskeepers and the Pirates mascot to restrain him. Three men went to the hospital that day," Schmidt said.

De la Cruz once tried to poison former teammate Ryan Braun after Braun criticized his effort on the field during a press conference.

"Stumpy was easily the worst prospect I have ever seen. Maybe the worst prospect ever," said former Milwaukee manager Ned Yost.

The title of worst prospect ever has gone from stigma to full blown fact. He is a seven time winner of the Worst Baseball Player in the World award, his seventh time coming one full year after his official retirement.

Why was someone so damn terrible in organized baseball? Why

wasn't someone as disturbed as Stumpy de la Cruz ripped away from the diamond and thrust into the nearest mental institution?

Because he is the bastard son of Miami Marlins manager and former White Sox great, Ozzie Guillen, that's why. The organization tolerated Stumpy hoping he would soon blossom into the kind of player his father was. Alas, he never did.

After his retirement following the 2006 season, he utilized his father's contacts to get a job as the JV baseball coach at St. Dominguez South Central High School in Gnome, Alaska. In his six seasons at the helm for Los Lobos he has led his team to a 12-94 record, the highest winning percentage in school history.

"I don't get to talk to him very often because of both our busy schedules," Guillen said. "But I'll send him a text every couple of days just to say 'Hey, you still suck,' or 'Hey, you're still an embarrassment that's why you don't have my last name,' just something like that to, you know, keep him in

his place."

The saga of Esteban "Stumpy" de la Cruz is the stuff of legend. It's not an underdog story, nor is it a story of redemption. It is a story of utter failure, and it should be treated as such. De la Cruz was an awful player and remains an awful human being.

But through his struggles De la Cruz has demonstrated one immensely important life lesson for society as a whole: If you suck, find something else to do.

## Brewers Stunned by Pointers in Exhibition Game

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point baseball team shocked the baseball world this week, defeating the Milwaukee Brewers in an exhibition game.

The final score was 10-0, with the Pointers collecting 20 hits during the game and the Brewers only accounting for two hits.

"This is a great team," said Brewers Head Coach Ron Roenicke. "I just hope that we don't have to play them in the playoffs this year."

Brewers ace Zack Greinke was given the loss on the game, giving up seven earned runs in just four innings of work.

"It was a tough day, I hope that the teams we play during the regular season are not as good as these guys," Greinke said after the game.

Stevens Point senior relief pitcher Ryan Iverson started the exhibition game only expecting to throw two or three innings, but ended up pitching a near perfect game for

the Pointers.

"That's the most innings I have pitched since little league," Iverson said. "It felt like my arm was going to fall off, but somehow I got the job done."

Iverson certainly did get the job done, striking out 22 Brewer batters and not allowing a single walk.

Stevens Point got on the board in the first inning when Greinke allowed three consecutive hits to the first three players in the order.

Then freshman Cody Hanke drilled a grand slam home run over the fence, making the score 4-0.

Greinke got in trouble again in the second inning when the Pointers hit three doubles in a row, scoring two more runs and bringing the score to 6-0.

The Pointers would finally finish off Greinke when he went out to pitch in the fifth inning.

Sophomore outfielder Casey Barnes hit a towering home run over the fence, and Greinke was pulled from the game; the score now read 7-0.

The Pointers would add 3 more runs in the next 5 innings, getting to some of the Brewers' relief pitching, while Iverson was continuing to have a strong performance.

"That was a nice performance by Iverson," said Pointer Head Coach Pat Bloom, "but we need to improve for our next games."

The lone bright spot for the Brewers on the day was Ryan Braun, who collected both of Milwaukee's hits, and ended up going 2-4 on the day.

One of the low lights for Milwaukee had to be the play of centerfielder Nyjer Morgan, also known as Tony Plush, Tony Gumbo, Tony Tombstone and Tony Hush.

Morgan went 0-4, striking out on all four of his plate appearances. After Morgan's

fourth and final strikeout, he flipped off the umpires, Pointer team and all fans watching the game. He was then tossed from the game.

"AAAAHHHHH!" Morgan said after the game. "I don't care about the loss; the Pointers will be watching us in the playoffs anyway, gotta go!"

The Pointers were led by Cody Hanke, who ended the day going 4-5 including three runs scored and six runs batted in.

"I can tell you one thing," Roenicke said. "We will be scouting and drafting a lot of the members of that Stevens Point team in this year's draft."

The Brewers will put this embarrassing loss behind them as they prepare for the start of the regular season.

Stevens Point will start their conference schedule on Saturday when they play at UW-Stout in a double header.

Photo Courtesy of the seattlemet.com

(APRIL FOOLS)





# MILWAUKEE BUCKS STUDENT NIGHTS

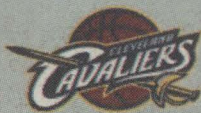
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(\$24 value)

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7PM

VS

CLEVELAND  
CAVALIERS



MON, APR 23  
7PM

VS

TORONTO  
RAPTORS



WED, APR 25  
7PM

VS

PHILADELPHIA  
76ERS



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