

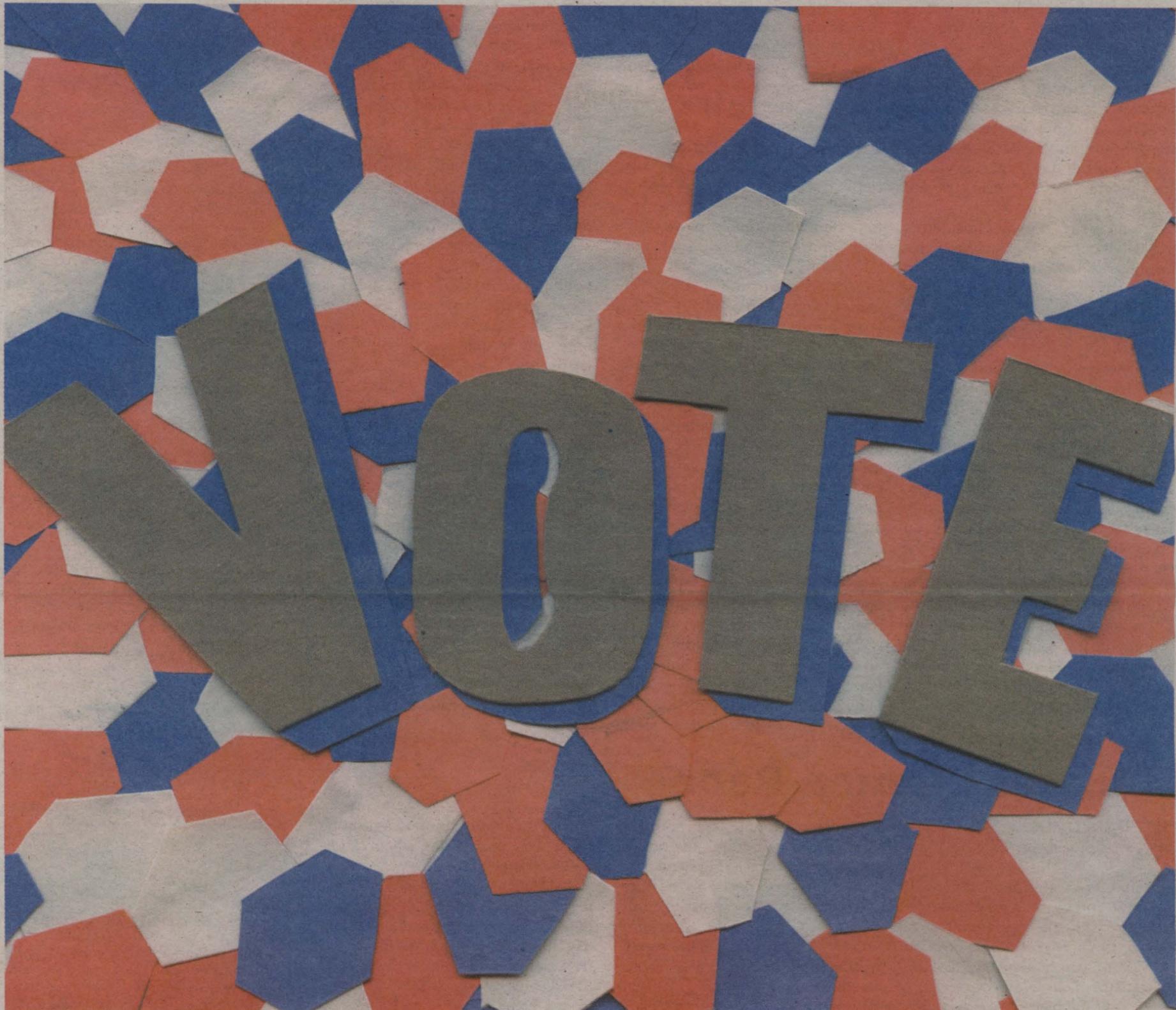
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University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

November 1, 2012

pointeronline.uwsp.edu

Volume 57 | Issue 9



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2 NEWS

Get Acquainted with Local Politicians

SARAH MQUEEN
smcqu643@uwsp.edu

As we draw closer to the election, it is becoming clearer what issues will be the deciding factors in which candidates voters will cast their ballot for.

Considering the scope of national issues, it is easy to forget about the local politics and concerns. However, dealing with the issues closer to home is still important. Students are more involved than ever this year at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.

"The issues I'll be considering in this year's elections are women's health and reproductive issues, as well as gay rights, the gay community and healthcare," said Elly Keily, a psychology and French major here at UWSP.

State Assembly candidates for the 71st district, Patrick Testin (R) and Katrina Shankland (D), came to UWSP on Oct. 23 for a forum and Q-and-A with students and locals. They touched on health care, state budgets, the school budget, creating jobs and bipartisanship. They both wholeheartedly agreed on the importance of revitalizing the economy.

"Absolutely, number-one issue would be jobs and the economy. Every single person, nationally or countywide, is concerned about the job situation," Shankland said. "We have lost a lot in Central Wisconsin. We need to focus on not only

attracting new jobs but keeping them here."

"It is jobs and the economy. That is the number-one issue I keep hearing over and over again," said Testin. "We need to make sure that we are creating a pro-growth environment for job creation. We need to get people back to work so they can start providing for themselves again and start helping out their families."

Voters who attended the forum agreed that jobs are the top issue right now.

"From my perspective, it is important that people have livable lives and are able to find good jobs, good paying jobs," said Brady Gregors, a graduate of UWSP. "The energy policy is nice for the federal level, but from a local standpoint, it is all about taking care of people and making sure that they can provide for themselves."

When Gregors and Keily, who both attended the forum to hear Testin and Shankland speak, were asked which of the candidates' comments stood out for them the most, they were attracted to different aspects.

"The candidates stand pretty equally in a lot of ways. I think the one definitely has more motivation and experience than the other, and it shows. So I am pretty set on who I will be voting for," Keily said.

"For me it was a big thing that Pat has lived here, he has worked here, been to school here," Gregors said. "While Miss Shankland seems

to care about the area and like the people, and she wants to work to make things better here, that feeling of somebody who has been here and has actually been around the community for over six years—that feels homegrown to me."

No matter who is elected, students here at UWSP will be affected, and the student votes are important to the candidates. Both candidates were asked what they would like students to consider in this election, and both had a message to send.

"Our unemployment rate is double the national average," Testin said. "I think we need someone who has a proven track record, who is willing to work with both sides of the aisle to get the job done and make sure we have new opportunities, especially for our soon-to-be-college graduates. What we are going to need is common-sense solutions and to get Wisconsin working again."

"I think the first thing that is most important is just to vote, period. We need everyone to vote, turnout among students especially," Shankland said. "I would suggest you consider the funding of not only UWSP and our school system, but also the funding of Badger Care and health care in general in our state, women's rights and worker's rights. Additionally, I think staying educated not only before you vote but after you vote is really important. Student involvement doesn't end at the polls. It only begins there."

Debates Tighten Race

JUSTIN SULLIVAN
jsull828@uwsp.edu

The three presidential debates are over, and citizens now look forward to casting their votes on Nov 6. With less than a week before Election Day, both candidates are making their final bids to sway voters.

One of the biggest surprises this year was President Obama's poor showing in the first televised debate on Oct 3. Many analysts are saying that if the president fails to win reelection, Obama's much-maligned performance could be the cause. In a CNN poll of registered voters after the first debate, 70 percent said that the Republican challenger Mitt Romney won.

Though President Obama's performance was rated much higher in the following debates, political analysts are finding that the debates themselves may not hold much importance to voters. According to an NBC/Wall Street Journal survey, debates made no difference for 47 percent of registered voters.

Some University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point students held similar opinions of the debate.

"I thought each debate offered

a good background with both candidates, but I also think the debates alone shouldn't be as big of an influence on voters' decisions as some make them out to be," said junior urban forestry major Benjamin Kollock, who watched all three of the presidential debates. "The debates definitely are important, and I think they help show an in-depth view of each candidate's personality, which can be that one thing needed to convince an undecided voter to vote for them."

Cassie Scott, a junior communication major, said that she did not watch the debates but felt that they do have at least the possibility of educating voters.

"I feel having the right to vote is a chance to make an impact and to choose who you believe would be the best candidate for presidency. Every person should have the personal drive to vote, regardless of all the political debates and advertisements," Scott said. "The outcome will affect you, so it can change your life."

Corey Lepak, a senior communication major who watched the first of this year's presidential debates, found the debate important to watch

but that it should not necessarily be the sole factor deciding which candidate someone votes for.

"I got to know the candidates a lot more than I did in any other format. It was pretty enlightening. I feel like the debates have some influence, but a lot of what people draw from the debates can be pretty overblown like, 'Obama had a good debate' or 'Romney was the better debater.' I don't think any of that matters, come election time," Lepak said.

Not all students agreed that the debates or politics in general were important.

"I honestly don't really care at all because none of it really affects me right now," said senior English major Theng Khang. "The debates are pretty much just drama between the candidates."

With an Oct 24-28 survey by the Pew Research Center finding President Obama and Republican challenger Romney virtually tied at 47 percent apiece, this election will surely be as close as ever. Either candidate's performance in the debates might just be the reason for any outcome.

THE POINTER

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The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 2,500 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

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Votestock: Tune In, Turn Out, and Vote Now

AARON KRISH
akris8211@uwsp.edu

Votestock, a midday music festival sponsored by the Student Government Association (SGA) and Centertainment Productions (CP), will be held this Saturday, Nov. 3 to promote voter awareness among students for the upcoming election.

Votestock will be held in The Encore of the Dreyfus University Center at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point from 12- 4 p.m. and will feature the musical groups Guarantees, Horseshoes & Hand Grenades, The People Brothers Band, and The Mustache. David Boardman, an SGA representative, explained the final push to encourage students to get out to vote.

"The last convention we were at, the United Council made the decision that there was going to be a

statewide day of action," Boardman said. "Votestock is a combined effort of multiple University of Wisconsin schools in the system where students will see concerts on campuses around the state."

The idea behind the day of action is to get students excited to cast their vote in Tuesday's presidential election. Six UW campuses will be bringing in bands to promote this awareness in students.

Votestock, as explained by Boardman, is one event for the larger campaign that SGA and the Student Vote Coalition (SVC) have been working on since the beginning of the fall 2012 semester. Both organizations have collaborated in efforts of voter registration, held screenings of every debate and candidate forums and have invited every candidate on the ballot to every event they have put on.

"This is really our final push to engage a wide audience and the student body and encourage them and the community to cast their vote," Boardman said.

UWSP SGA President Seth Hoffmeister, UW - Marathon County President Ian Reese, and President of the United Council of UW-Students Geoff Murray will all be present at Saturday's Votestock event. Each will be on stage helping to introduce the musical acts as well as promote voter awareness.

SGA also reminds students that if they are already registered, they may show up to the polls on Election Day at any time to cast their vote. Registration is still possible the day of the election, as long as voters bring a valid Wisconsin identification card with them. If they do not have a valid ID, they will be asked for the last four digits of their social security number

and proof of residency.

Opportunities to volunteer on Election Day will also be available and SGA will be able to assist any students who are seeking additional information on volunteering while attending Votestock.

"Our mission is to provide the opportunity to vote and to be educated when we are doing so," Boardman said. "Going to Votestock is a good way for students to educate and inform themselves."

While representatives of SGA and the SVC cannot advocate whom students should support in the upcoming election, they have made it clear that it is important for students and young voters to be aware of who is running for which positions. They encourage students to take advantage of their right to vote on Nov. 6.



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From Pointer to Packer and Back

WILL ROSSMILLER
wross460@uwsp.edu
@willrossmiller

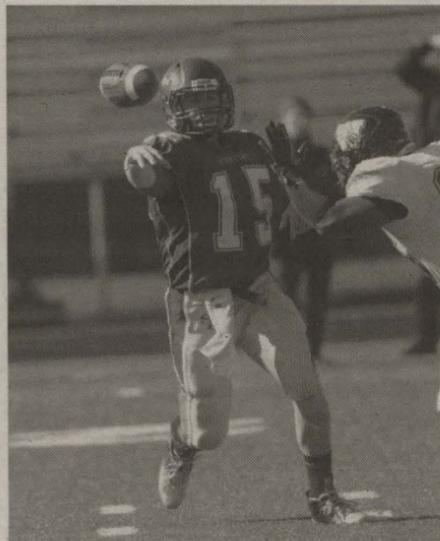


Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Quarterback, Mitch Beau, throws a pass to awaiting teammate.

He walks the sidelines on game day like any other defensive line and strength coach would for a Division III program, but Drew Vanderlin is not your typical coach.

On October 17th Vanderlin was added to the Green Bay Packers practice squad as a defensive end. However, the NFL changes quickly, and Vanderlin was subsequently released on October 23rd.

When Vanderlin got the call to play, he was shocked.

"I haven't heard from them since training camp ended, so I thought that my chances of playing again were done, but when they called I was extremely excited," Vanderlin said.

Vanderlin played college football at Michigan Tech. In his four-year career he totaled 117 tackles and 20 sacks, only 1.5 shy of the school record.

During his short time with the Packers, Vanderlin met some interesting people in the organization.

"The most interesting people I've met during my experience with the Packers would have to be the defensive line as a whole," Vanderlin said. "They are true professionals, and in my short time there they taught me a lot."

Vanderlin pointed out Ryan Pickett as a person that he really respected while there. "To be able to learn from guys like that was an amazing experience."

As a member of the practice squad, Vanderlin participated in almost everything the members of the regular roster would do. "You go to the same meetings, you're in the weight room together, and you practice together," Vanderlin said.

"The only difference is during the team portion of practice, the practice squad players are on the 'look team,'" Vanderlin said. "The week I was there, we were playing St. Louis, so we had to simulate the Rams defense for our offense."

How did Vanderlin end up at UWSP? Head coach Tom Journell has a lot to do with that.

After competing in the Packers rookie orientation, Vanderlin knew that he wanted to pursue a career in coaching, and UWSP was just putting together a new staff.

"Coach Vanderlin interviewed in July, and right away I knew I wanted

to hire him," Journell said. "He has energy, football intelligence, charisma and is just a people person."

Now back at UWSP, Vanderlin knows that his brief stint with the Packers doesn't mean the end of his career but possibly the beginning.

"After this past week, I think anything is possible," Vanderlin said. "But no matter what happens I will be happy."

Journell is happy that Vanderlin is back on the coaching staff but knows it may not be for long. "He could get called back next week. You just never know," Journell said.

Vanderlin will continue to strive for playing in the NFL, but he really

enjoys coaching.

"Coaching is my passion, and helping young people develop into not only great athletes but good people is my ultimate goal," Vanderlin said. "I've had so many coaches who have helped me get to where I am today, and I want to be able to give back like they did."

Either way, Vanderlin knows that he has support here in Stevens Point, and he appreciates that.

"Stevens Point is a great community that I am happy to be a part of," Vanderlin said. "The support that I have gotten from not only the football team but the entire athletic department has been amazing."



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Jymani Bryant, Defensive Lineman, runs the ball down the field.

Pointers VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6

NO VOTER ID REQUIRED

REGISTER TO VOTE

Already registered? Check the status at <http://myvote.wi.gov>. Visit your Clerk's office to register or register at the polling place

EARLY VOTING

At your Clerk's office October 22nd - November 2nd. Still haven't registered? Bring your Proof of Residence.

MAKE A PLAN

What time do you plan to vote? Have you registered? Do you know where your polling place is?

VOTE: POLLS OPEN @ 7AM TO 8PM ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6TH.

Find your polling location at myvote.wi.gov

For questions or more information call 1-866-OUR-VOTE or visit 866OURVOTE.org

Campus
VOTE
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FAIR ELECTIONS
LEGAL NETWORK

Still haven't registered? Bring a Proof of Residence.

A university, college or technical institute identification card (must include photo), ONLY if the bearer provides a fee receipt dated within the last nine months.

Any official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit with current address.

A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes election day (NOT for first-time voters registering by mail).

A utility bill (including gas and electric) or a cell phone bill with current address from the period 90 days or less before election day.

Bank statement with current address.

Paycheck with current address.

A check or other document issued by a unit of government or the university with current address.

These Documents can now also be shown in electronic form on your phone, tablet or laptop. For a complete list of Proof of Residency see <http://myvote.wi.gov>

Pointers Upset Warhawks

WILL ROSSMILLER
wross460@uwsp.edu
@willrossmiller

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team stunned 15th ranked University of Wisconsin-Whitewater last weekend with a 17-14 upset.

The win is the Pointers' first in conference this season and the first time UWSP has beaten Whitewater since 2008.

A key factor in the game was the nine first-half penalties for Whitewater, which helped the Pointers claim an early lead.

"I'm a fourth-year senior here. This is the first time we've beaten Whitewater while I've been here," said senior wide receiver Theo Maglio. "It feels amazing, like a dream come true."

Head Coach Tom Journell knew it would come down to two key points if the Pointers wanted a chance to win the game. "If we don't turn the ball over, and if the defense steps up, it's going to be a great game," Journell said.

The Pointers didn't turn the ball over, while Whitewater had two costly turnovers. UWSP's defense bent but did not break against a formidable Warhawks offense that only found the end zone once in the day.

The first score in the game didn't come until six minutes into the second quarter, when Pointers sophomore defensive back Zack Vallafsky picked off Whitewater sophomore

quarterback Matt Behrendt's pass and returned it 22 yards for a touchdown.

Less than six minutes later, the Pointers struck again with an 84-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Mitch Beau to Maglio, bringing the score to 14-0 at half.

But the Warhawks wouldn't go quietly. Whitewater and UWSP alternated field goals in the third quarter. Whitewater junior kicker Eric Kindler connected from 23 yards.

UWSP's freshman kicker Jesse Vervelde connected on a field goal of 23 yards. Kindler then connected on a 41-yarder, making the score 17-6 going to the fourth quarter.

With less than four minutes going by in the fourth quarter, the Warhawks had an opportunity to tack another three points on the board, but Kindler missed a 35-yard field goal.

The Warhawks would need those three points later in the game.

Whitewater finally found the end zone at the 8:06 mark with a one-yard run by freshman running back Nick Patterson.

No other scoring threats happened in the fourth quarter until the 1:30 mark when Whitewater was on the UWSP 23-yard line.

The Pointers defense held the Warhawks and forced Whitewater to attempt a 47-yard field goal. Kindler's kick was blocked by sophomore defensive lineman Matt Cuadra, sealing the win for Stevens Point.

"I think we played a full-team game today. It was a lot of fun," Beau



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Marc Young, Wide Receiver, flies down the field.

said. "We grinded, we made plays when we needed to and we found a way to win the game."

Maglio was a standout for the Pointers. He continued his stellar season, finishing with the game high of 142 yards receiving.

"Coach Journell does a great job," Maglio said. "He spends every night scheming the opposing defense, and today we took them to school."

Freshman linebacker Aaron Karlen led the Pointers with a game high of 16 tackles, including two for loss.

Whitewater's offense was led by senior running back Desmin

Ward who compiled 133 yards on the ground.

Whitewater has now lost two games in a row, for the first time since the 2001 season. The Warhawks' record now stands at 5-3, 3-2 in conference. They play the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire next weekend at home.

UWSP improves to 2-6 with a 1-4 conference record. The road doesn't get any easier for the Pointers as they play 6th ranked University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh next weekend in Oshkosh.

Out of Bounds with Forward Kyle Heck

GUS MERWIN
amarc543@uwsp.edu
@GusMerwin

The world is obnoxiously serious. But it doesn't have to be. This column is testament to that. In a life full of nuisance, pain, and strife there can be found a rich abundance of hilarity and laughter. Sports may seem a trivial and complex choreographed performance, but it's really just a game. And what are games? Fun. Just like this column.

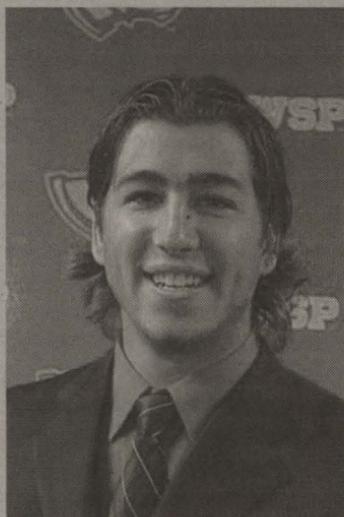


Photo courtesy of uwsp sports information

I think Thad Castle from Blue Mountain State summed up hockey fairly well when he said, "They play their sport on the hardest surface in the world with knives on the bottom of their feet."

You need to be a badass to be a hockey player. You need to be able to rock sick flow and a shirt

and tie with equal enthusiasm. And few do it better in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Conference than junior forward Kyle Heck.

How old were you when you first started skating?

"Two and a half."

Approximately how many times have you fallen on the ice since then?

"A million."

What's your favorite thing about nachos?

"The cheese."

Is your slapshot better than Happy Gilmore's?

"Yeah right."

If you could go pro in a sport other than hockey, which would it be?

"Golf."

Would you rather drink out of the Stanley Cup or the Goblet of Fire?

"Stanley Cup for sure."

Who let the dogs out?

"Baha men."

Do you have Gangnam Style?

"No, hate that song."

How often do you sharpen your skates?

"Two times a week."

Would you rather have a break up song written about you by Taylor Swift or Adele?

"Taylor Swift."

What's the first thing you do when you get home from a game?

"Eat as much food as I can."

What advice would you give to kids developing an interest in hockey?

"Stick with it as long as you can, best sport in the world."

WORD ASSOCIATION

Puck: "I want it."

Mighty Ducks: "Wu, Wu, Wu, Kenny Wu."

Pointers: "1 Point."

Zamboni: "Me, because I always fall down."

Deep fried Oreos: "Gross."

Bacon shortage: "How do pigs go extinct?"

THE PRESIDENTIAL

Why Vote? We asked university Faculty and staff 'Why Vote?' Here is what they had to say.

"Look at what is going on in the world - how people in countries where the rights we enjoy and take for granted are stifled. People are willing to sacrifice their lives to get those rights! We in America HAVE those rights by virtue of our citizenship here. Let's exercise them! While we may not always agree with what our politicians are doing, we have a voice in determining who represents us! Let's make that voice heard! All of us have the responsibility to ensure that our country and our representatives speak for all people. Put in office the people you think do that best based on your personal beliefs." Patricia A. Shaw-Head, School of Education, Associate Dean- College of Professional Studies

"We are at a turning point now, and it matters A LOT which party wins this election. The parties are very different in the amount of support they would provide for higher education and financial aid. We are all tired of the negative ads, but students need to use their critical thinking skills to cut through the rhetoric to figure out which candidates would act in your best interest." Karlene Ferrante - Professor of Communication

"By voting, people in general feel invested in their country, feel like part of it, and also grow to see outside the confines of their own interests." Sarah Pogell - Associate Professor of English

"Many people around the world have no right to vote. You do have that right, but if you don't exercise it responsibly, you imply it's worthless." Dan Dieterich - Senior Lecturer of English

Do you feel that for us to be a prosperous, economically stable, vibrant country, we all need to contribute to the health and well being of all our citizens? Or do you feel that healthcare is simply a consumer good, just like any other consumer good (soda, pizza, beer) and that other people's health care access is in no way connected to you? Whichever way you feel on this topic, you need to vote on November 6." Timothy Halkowski - Professor of Communication

"Bob Schieffer, the long-time CBS News personality and host of 'Face the Nation,' gives a great reason we need to vote. He quotes his mother as saying, 'Go vote. It'll make you feel big and strong.' There's a lot of wisdom in that old kernel." Andrew Stoner - Professor of Communication

"Elections matter and this presidential race clearly provides two distinct, alternative philosophies between the candidates and the winner is likely to greatly influence policy for at least the next four years." Scott Wallace - Professor of Economics

Please Note: Due to an overwhelming number of responses and a lack of space we were unable to publish entire responses, as well as all of them. We will be posting all of the responses in their entirety on our website at pointeronline.uwsp.edu.

What's Influencing Your Vote?

EMMA ST.AUBIN
estau255@uwsp.edu

The presidential election is just around the corner and most of us have already made a decision regarding our vote, but what exactly is influencing that choice between Mitt Romney and Barack Obama?

Turn on the television and find a channel on a commercial break and you are sure to find a campaign advertisement. Go for a walk and enjoy the fall air along with the abundance of picket signs. Listen to Pandora radio and rather than jamming to 90's pop, jam to the advertisements telling us why to not vote for the opposing candidate. Log on to Facebook and Twitter during the debates and notice the immense amount of political updates.

Joseph Rohrer, SGA director of academic issues, finds the political ads to be aggravating and uninformative rather than tackling the important issues.

"Students might be feeling influenced by the social media in a sense that they are seeing what others have to say, but I'm not sure how much of an influence it is," Rohrer said. "Rather, I think it's more of a place to express their opinions and reinforce those opinions already in place."

Steven Blank, a junior elementary education and Spanish major, has been watching the debates to educate himself throughout the political campaign instead of listening to the oftentimes biased ads we see on television and the Internet.

"I really think that social media affects the way we think. I tend to have more liberal thoughts, but then sometimes I see ideas from conservatives that I like via YouTube, Twitter, and/or Facebook and I sometimes change my perspective. You can also tell a lot about a person by what they say about things like the debates," Blank said.

YouTube videos that "songify" the highlights of the debates and portray the candidates in certain views aren't always reliable sources for learning the facts, but many students find themselves getting information regarding the campaign through these subjective means nonetheless.

"I always tell myself that no, political ads on TV don't influence me, but sometimes they really do," Blank said. "I end up remembering a lot of random statistics that jab the other candidate."

Advertisements on television and the Internet have recently

been bombarding our everyday lives and might be resulting in more of an influence than we care to admit to.

"I feel like ads are effective in persuading our votes because there are lots of college students who have lots of ideas, and who are like me and are easily influenced when they hear an idea that they agree with," Blank said.

Rhorer has been trying to veer away from the influence of the political ads and is educating himself through the debates, candidate forums, and the screenings of the senate debates on campus.

"I enjoy a good, civil debate, but when that isn't the case, the entertainment value is a good incentive to tune in," Rhorer said.

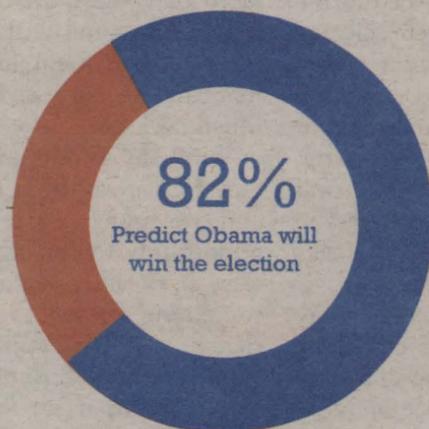
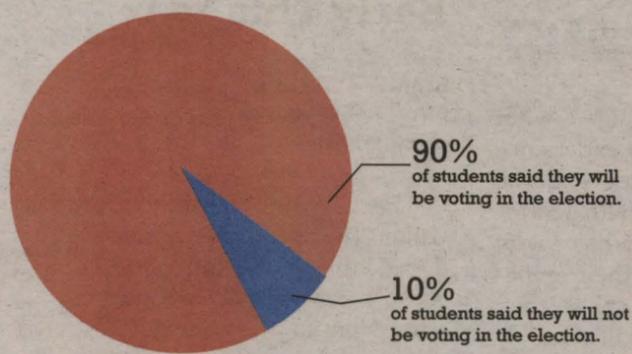
After what seems to have been an eternity of persuasion, it all comes down to one day: November 6, 2012. On that day there will be an immense amount of diverse feelings across our nation. However, after all is said and done we will all hold one feeling in common, and that is the relief that, although temporary, the ads are finally over.

NOVEMBER 6TH

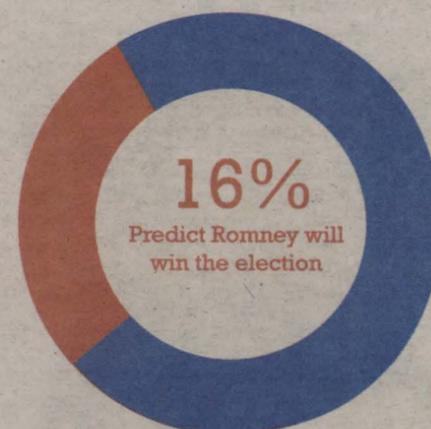


ELECTION SIT-REP

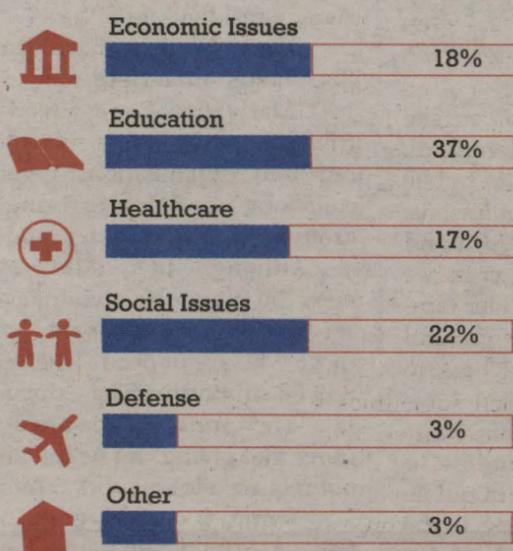
The 2012 Presidential Election Student Survey



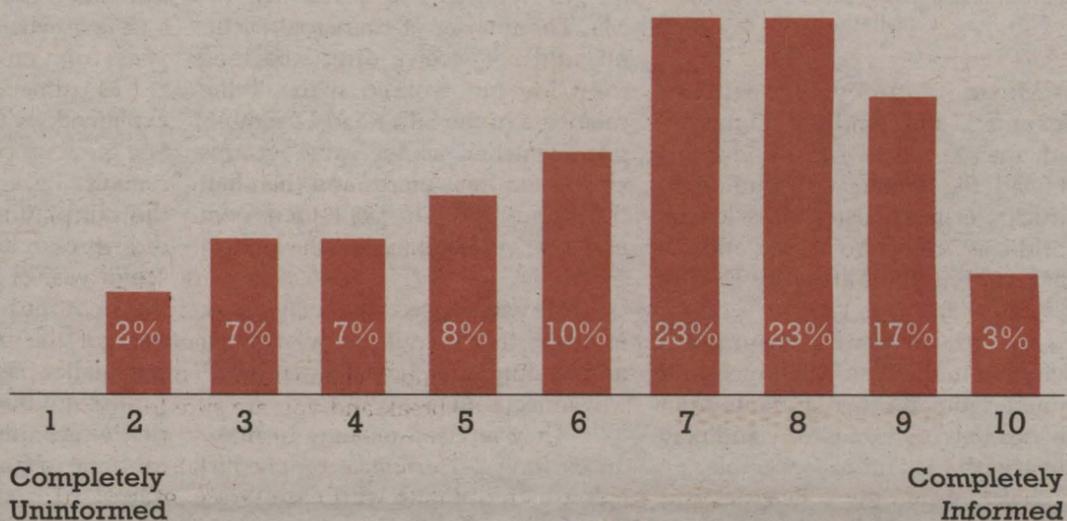
2% Predict a different candidate will win the election



The Issues Most Important to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Students In Choosing a Candidate



How informed do you feel you are for the Upcoming Election?



Obama



- On Immigration**
 - Children brought to the U.S. illegally can be exempted from deportation.
 - Wants path towards citizenship for those enrolled in college or the armed forces.
- On Education**
 - Wants to eliminate the "No Child Left Behind Act".
 - Wants to implement "Race to the Top" competition, rewarding states money for pursuing education.
- On The Economy**
 - Plans to eliminate tax breaks for companies that ship jobs over seas and tax breaks for domestically producing companies.
 - Let Bush-era tax cuts expire.
 - Wants to raise taxes on the wealthy.
- On The War**
 - Wants to have all troops out of Afghanistan by 2014.
 - Wants major cuts to size of Marine Corps and Army, with a decrease in the defense budget.
- On Abortion**
 - Supports abortion rights.
 - Requires contraceptives to be available for free in workplace health plans.
- On Marriage Equality**
 - Supports same-sex marriage
 - Believes the decision is up to each state.
 - Repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in the military.
- On Healthcare**
 - Obamacare
 - Insurers are banned from denying coverage to people with pre-existing illness, people without work-based insurance will have access, taxes will subsidize premiums, small business receive help for offering insurance.
 - Medicaid will expand.

Romney



- On Immigration**
 - Favors U.S.-Mexico Border fence.
 - Opposes education benefits for illegal immigrants and denies legal status to those who go to college, but not those in the armed forces.
 - Would end immigration caps for spouses and children of legal citizens.
- On Education**
 - Supports the "No Child Left Behind Act."
 - Believes Government should have less control over education.
- On The Economy**
 - Would lower all taxes, less regulation within the economy.
 - Would cut federal programs to bring down costs and taxes.
 - Would cap federal spending at 20 percent of gross domestic products.
 - Wants a constitutional balanced debt amendment.
- On The War**
 - Endorses end to combat in Afghanistan by 2014, subject to conditions.
 - Would seek an increase of armed forces and increase of Defense budget.
- On Abortion**
 - Pro-Life
 - Would end funding for Planned Parenthood.
- On Marriage Equality**
 - Opposes gay marriage
 - Believes it should be in the constitution, and should not be up to the states.
 - Opposes civil unions.
 - Hospital Visitation rights are appropriate.
 - Would seek to ban openly gay members in the military.
- On Healthcare**
 - Opposes Obamacare.
 - Wants to leave policies up to states, not the federal government.
 - Wishes to expand individual tax-advantaged medical savings accounts.
 - Wants savings to be used for insurance premiums and personal medical costs.

Student Musicians Perform for Yo-Yo Ma

AARON KRISH

akris821@uwsp.edu



Photo by Samantha Feld

Brittany Musumeci was one of the students who performed with Yo-Yo Ma during his master class, as a part of Sentry Insurance's Invitation to the Arts series

Music students Brittany Musumeci and Andrew Cameron, with their respective trio and quartet, had the unique opportunity to participate in a master class led by world-class cellist Yo-Yo Ma and his Silk Road Ensemble at Sentry Theatre on Wednesday, Oct. 17th.

As part of Sentry Insurance's Invitation to the Arts, Musumeci and Cameron joined other students from the area to work exclusively and play music with Ma and his ensemble.

"Last spring, my colleagues and I committed to playing the Brahms Trio for a recital in the fall. In mid-September, horn professor Dr. Miles approached us to see if we were interested in being submitted for the possibility of playing for Yo-Yo Ma," Musumeci said. "Our trio began to meet two or three times a week to

prepare, and two weeks before the event we found out we were selected to play in the Master Class."

Cameron was selected in a similar way, with percussion professor Sean Connors nominating the quartet to play at the event. Both the trio and quartet that Musumeci and Cameron are involved in went through weeks of preparation for the event.

"The prep for this was actually pretty tough. We were originally not going to be performing this piece until our percussion ensemble concert in November," Cameron said. "When we were selected, we essentially had our amount of prep time cut in half, leaving us only about six weeks to get it ready."

Musumeci's trio performed for Ma. The quartet of Cameron's actually did not receive direct coaching from Ma but worked with all the members of the Silk Road Ensemble. Each watched as the other groups performed their pieces and then had the opportunity to play their own and receive feedback on the performance.

"He encouraged us to play music in a way that is continually growing and leading to a climax, essentially," Musumeci said.

"They advised on how to make an exciting performance by encouraging us to interact with each other more while playing," Cameron said.

Musumeci explained that Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble reminded her why she loves to play music and how Ma is just another person who wants to share his love of music with the world.

"It's not about being the best,

or to play the most difficult music, but to communicate with people, to connect with them in a deep way that can't be expressed with words," Musumeci said.

Both musicians explained what they took away from the experience and are grateful that they had the opportunity to perform with world-class performers. Each has taken something away from their experience and will apply what they learned to their current skill set.

"It is important for a performer to appear relaxed and to smile while performing, especially if you're enjoying what you're doing," Cameron said. "This experience should serve as an inspiration for young aspiring musicians everywhere. I was given a taste of what I hope to be doing ten years from now."

Musumeci's experience, as she explained, was deeply meaningful. She grew up playing music in public schools, never had private lessons, did not play in youth orchestra and did not own her own violin until her senior year of high school. Her family is not musical, but she is grateful she got the push from teachers to pursue her passion for music.

"If anything, I hope this experience encourages communities to continue to support the arts in public schools. I would never have had the chance to play for Yo-Yo Ma if my incredible public school educators hadn't poured their love of music into my life," Musumeci said. "I just want to point out the fact that I'm an ordinary person who pursued my dreams through hard work."

Students Hope to Bring Thanksgiving Early This Year

EMMITT JAMES

ewill756@uwsp.edu

@Emmitt_James

Each year, the Black Student Union (BSU) throws a semi-formal dance during the fall semester and accepts non-perishable food items as admission to the dance. This year, they will be collaborating with the Latino Student Alliance (LSA).

"We decided to collaborate because we're trying to get student organizations to work together, starting with our own," said Maira Avila, president of LSA.

Nigel Golden, the president of BSU, holds similar beliefs.

"Maria and I are already good friends. It only makes sense to bring our two organizations together to collaborate and try to bring ethnic groups together," Golden said.

Although the collaboration is new, the main objective that remains set in stone is to raise support for those who are in need. This year they will be supporting The Cupboard.

"The canned goods are a way to show that giving can be fun and does not require a lot of work," Avila said.

Giving a canned good or non-perishable food item is not mandatory but is strongly recommended.

Golden mentioned how most of us know what it feels like to run low on meals or be short on cash, and this is a way to support The Cupboard and be a helping hand to students in need.

However, giving to The Cupboard was a very conscious decision for both BSU and LSA.

"What came to mind automatically was the two food banks that are right in our vicinity: The Cupboard through the university and the local Salvation Army. We voted on which one we were going to donate to," Golden said.

They chose The Cupboard because they are giving back to the university and can relate better to it.

"Many of us as college students have been there where we couldn't afford food or ran out of meals. So we're giving to The Cupboard where they'll give back to our peers who may be in a situation where they are in need of a little food," Avila said.

On top of giving, there will be a lot of dancing going on.

Avila and Golden both say it will be a fun and memorable night. They encourage everyone to come out, dance and bring a friend.

It is a black and white, semi-formal dance, so remember to wear those colors, bring a non-perishable food item and feel free to dance as much as you want.

The dance will be Thursday November 8th in the Alumni room. It starts at 7 p.m. and will go until 11 p.m. Start your weekend early and help BSU and LSA bring Thanksgiving to The Cupboard a little early this year.

Students and Faculty Gather at Iris Dinner

AARON KRISH

akris821@uwsp.edu

57 Students and faculty members gathered together to eat and socialize at University Dining Service's bi-annual Iris Dinner last week Wednesday, October 24th.

The Iris Dinner, formerly known as the student/faculty dinner, occurred the last four semesters under the direction of University Dining Services Director, Mark Hayes, and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Residential Living staff. This is the first semester the event used the iris as part of its theme.

"We wanted to brand it. The intent was to create a tradition because 'student/faculty dinner' didn't really embody that idea, and the iris is the school flower," said Mary Duckworth, Program and Assessment Coordinator for Residential Living.

Hayes brought the idea to UWSP from the previous institution he worked at and contacted Residential Living to help start the event. Since the spring of 2011, the dinner has taken place every semester, and Duckworth confirmed they will continue to offer the event every semes-

ter to come.

"I get a lot of feedback from a lot of the faculty members that attend, and almost all the responses are positive and say how much the event was appreciated," Duckworth said. "Many say that the dinner is so much more than they were expecting!"

The idea behind the dinner is for students to ask a faculty member to attend the event with the student. It is a chance for both students and faculty to see each other in a different light.

"I think it's an opportunity for students and faculty to break down barriers that may be present in the classroom, and it's a great opportunity if a student is trying to decide on a major to invite a faculty member in that field and start that new relationship," Duckworth said.

Residential Living also has a program where faculty members become a mentor and participate in many programs that are put on by the staff members of the residence halls. Faculty Mentor Kaz Wawrzaszek and Steiner Hall Academic Resource Coordinator Chelsey Baeb attended the Iris Dinner together as a way to build a relationship for Steiner.

"I think the Iris Dinner is an

excellent way to connect students and faculty. The atmosphere is laid-back and open for students and faculty to snack on appetizers, catch up on campus activities and enjoy a very nice dinner together," Wawrzaszek said. "I've looked forward to each dinner and can't wait for next semester's event."

"I thought it was great. The food was absolutely fantastic, and the conversation was even better. I felt as though—even though I'm already pretty comfortable talking with Kaz—it was great to talk to him in a different environment, one where work and school didn't dictate the conversation," Baeb said.

Baeb explained that asking a professor to attend could be stressful. However, she offers advice to students who may be in the same situation and hopes that they will initiate some kind of relationship with them.

"If asking seems a bit daunting, it is, but it also isn't. Your professor is a person just like you," Baeb said. "There are plenty of opportunities to break the ice and invite the person. You could see them after class, during an office hour or email them. It may seem a bit nerve-wracking, but it is well worth it."

Zeppelin Display at the Library

NERISSA NELSON
librarian

The University Library has had a number of interested spectators of the popular Zeppelin display located in the Lobby. The Zeppelin airship display includes materials from various sources and formats, including videos, old books, photos, magazines, and pamphlets. Many of the items in the display are from the collection of Rudolf Schmetzke, the father of Axel Schmetzke. Axel is a librarian at the University Library and is the Coordinator of Instruction.

Rudolf Schmetzke was born in Berlin in 1907 and was the son of a merchant. Fascinated by the emerging aviation technologies, he enthusiastically took to the air himself -- first in balloons, later in gliders, and finally in small engine-powered planes. He studied business and actuary science, and he worked in the insurance industry until WW II broke out. Drafted into the German air force (Luftwaffe), he spent six years in logistics, planning and setting up air

fields in German occupied territories. After the war, he worked for several large insurance companies, helping to build their commercial aviation divisions. After completing his doctoral thesis (an historical account of insurance as it applies to aviation), he took on various positions teaching courses in actuary science. He retired from his last position as professor at the University of Cologne in 1975, and he died in 1999. While he had given up flying after becoming a family man and after suffering severe injuries in a plane crash, his interest in aviation persisted and he continued to add to his collection of aviation books until close to his death. The German books on display here are just a few examples of his extensive collection (some 2000 volumes).

Please stop by the Library to see this unique and popular display that will be up through mid-November. It is also posted on our Facebook page and Blog that you can find on our Library Homepage <http://library.uwsp.edu>.

A Day at Fort McCoy

SARAH MCQUEEN
smcqu643@uswp.edu
COMMENTARY

Saturday Morning I found myself wondering what I had volunteered for as I sat on a bus that was bouncing its way to Fort McCoy. Myself and about 50 other students had signed up for a one credit course, sponsored by ROTC, called Joint Field Training Exercise.

Upon arrival we stood in line in squads we had been divided into, shivering in the early morning frost. We waited for the uniforms to stop running around and tell us what we were going to be doing.

The four squads were soon sent in different directions to begin the day's activities. Each event was led by a different cadet from ROTC. Our first activity was the Confidence Course and the Conditioning Course, which were basically challenging obstacle courses.

The courses involved a lot of climbing, swinging, jumping, and balancing; and for me at least, it also involved a lot of bruises and sore muscles. One challenge, where you had to climb about 12 feet up a rope and then shimmy across a pole, got the better of me. I lost all my strength half way across. Clinging upside down to the pole, arms shaking and legs giving out I knew I was done for. My hand slipped a moment before I got my legs underneath me and down I fell, clocking my spotter in the head on the way down. I picked myself up, apologized to my now probably equally bruised spotter, brushed the dirt off and moved on to the next

thing. That was first of six times I would face plant in the dirt that day.

For lunch we were allowed the treat of MRE's. In case you have never had the pleasure of eating one, allow me to describe them. They consist of food that has been vacuum packed into plastic bags which you attempt to heat using chemicals, water, and more plastic bags. I opted to eat mine cold.

After lunch we went to an indoor, electronic firing range where we fired computerized M-16s. The weapons felt very real, even had a little kick to them when you fired. We played with these for an hour before they took us to the paintball field.

After being briefed in a few simple assault tactics they put us into teams, armed us with paintball guns, and turned us lose in a patch of woods about the size of a football field. My tactic of hiding in the shrubs and taking potshots seemed to work well. I survived until the middle of the third and last round before being shot in the side.

By this point in the day my arms were numb with tired. But there was one more event to come: repelling. This was by far the best part of the day. We were shown how to tie a Swiss seat, the harness you sit in while repelling, and taken to the "Bunny-wall" where we got a feel for how the ropes worked.

Next came the 34 foot high tower. Taking that first step backward off of a tower is one of the scariest feelings I have ever experienced; until we got the 54 foot tower that is.

From the higher tower they sent us down just dangling off a rope with

This Month In Fashion: What Women Really Think About Facial Hair



Photo by Samantha Feld

EMMITT JAMES
ewill756@uwsp.edu
@Emmitt_James

We live in a world where fashion is a gateway to expression. Trends change and, in some aspects, are completely recycled.

In honor of "No Shave November," I dressed this month's column in what women really think about facial hair.

As I made my way around campus to speak to women, I found that most don't seem to have an opinion.

Most women commented that it depends on how it looks on the male. If the male can't pull it off, they rate facial hair low, but if the male is well-dressed with a scruffy beard, you might get a different story.

Also, I found that although most women say they don't have a preference, they really do.

Groomed or Not Groomed: Scruffy Vs. Clean Beards

"It's okay as long as it's taken care of. I don't like the wolf look," said ShaQuese Jones, a junior at UWSP.

"Keep it clean. I like it clean," said Megan Rogness, a sophomore pre-dentistry and biology major.

"If you're eating and something falls into it, that's gross," said University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student Bethanee Dix.

"I think it depends on the man. One stage I don't like is the scruffy-it-hurts stage, but on certain men it looks very nice," said Laura Bell, an admissions counselor at UWSP. "A clean beard looks more presentable."

"It makes them look more together and ready to do things, not like they just woke up," said Peg Hanson, also in admissions at UWSP.

no board to brace our feet against. Terrifying. It's the kind of experience that you want to talk yourself out of but know you'll kick yourself later for not doing if you chicken out. Repelling for the first time gives you an amazing rush and is most likely something you will remember for the rest of your life.

All told it was a fantastic day that left me completely exhausted and hoping I get the chance to do it

On a scale of 1 through 10

"On a scale of 1 through 10, when it comes to importance to fashion, I'd rate facial hair in general a 2," said Mykalia Lo, a junior at UWSP.

"I'd say a 7 or 8. It gets in the way sometimes," Dix said.

"On a scale of 1 through 10, it's probably a 5," Hanson said.

"For me, probably a 5," said Shanice Dison, a freshmen political science major.

What Women Really Think About The Scruffy Beard?

"Some guys can pull it off, but some not so much. It depends on the guy," Lo said.

"It's gross and very unattractive," said Gaonou Lo, a sophomore at UWSP.

"They are okay as long as they are kept neat and tidy. I don't like really wild beards," Hanson said.

"I happen to be a big fan of beards and facial hair," said Dana Christel, a senior soil and land management: water resources major.

"I don't mind facial hair as long as the person manages it," said Cherie Fu, a junior communications major.

"I don't have that strong of an opinion about it, honestly," said Elizabeth McElroy, a sophomore graphic design major.

"Some grow them down to their neck, which is really disturbing," said Lien Nguyen, sophomore biochemistry major.

Tips Guys Can Take Away From This

Although most of these women claim neutrality regarding their opinions on facial hair, they still prefer a clean-shaven man.

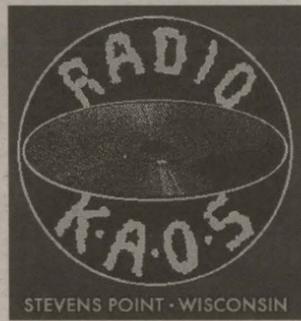
If you haven't mastered the scruffy beard yet, stay away from it.

Your facial hair is a compliment to your personality.

Although your overall appearance might matter when you're trying to pick up a lady, it's more about personality.

all over again sometime. On the bus ride home, as I nursed sore muscles and bruised legs, I couldn't help but think of the soldiers who work even harder out in the field, day in and day out. No amount of exhaustion or sore muscles means they get a break. I now have even more respect for what our military does and would like to take this last line to say thank you to anyone who has served this country.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Tame Impala - *Lonerism*

DYLAN SHANAHAN
dylan.j.shanahan@uwsp.edu
ALBUM REVIEW

Kevin Parker is at it again. Tame Impala have just released its second full length album and it's

a zinger! The Australian musician/producer, known from his work with Pond, The Flaming Lips, and various Aussie projects, earns his keep on this marvelous album. Experimentation at its finest and the melodic psychedelic nature almost makes me feel like it's been ripped from a few Beatles records. A lot of the singing even sounds very similar to Lennon and McCartney except it's far more hypnotic, repetitious, and enigmatic, and I say that with the best intentions. This type of music is hardly mechanical; it's more of an organic goo of sex and bliss. It's provocative, magical, and most of all energetic, with all the fuzzy bass tones you'll be stroking the furry wall in no time.

The entire album is really worth the listen, but a couple of songs really

stood out to me. Apocalypse Dreams is one of the most stylistic songs on the record, utilizing a serious amount of layers. The musical cadences seem to be all over the place, but they still hold onto a similar instrumental tension and release found most noteworthy in the chorus. The song starts in a way that's very upbeat and steps back to ease the chorus in, where the bass line has your ears yearning for the resolution. It changes subtly and varies from part to part in a way that is rarely seen. Making it feel like four different songs smashed into one. It speeds up and slows down the chorus several times, with new effects, to create a truly inspiring masterpiece. Listening to this is absolutely refreshing, and sets up the following song incredibly well.

Mind Mischief is a quintessential

psychedelic song. Everything about it, from the repetitive distorted guitar, the superb reverb on the vocals, and the pleasing delay make this a top tier experience. With phaser effects coming later in the song, it's a dreamy wonderland of effect modulation, with a space age kick that makes you realize the power of music. Parker's obsession with recording experiments has served him well in this mind-blowing, polished extravaganza of a head bobbing groove. Every time I listen to it I find new things I like about it, especially the chunky bass, so, so chunky. The bass is so chunky that my ears can hardly swallow, let alone make love with its enormous sound. This is a song, and an album, that aliens would destroy Earth for, or at least abduct Kevin Parker for!

Flashbulb Fires - *Gasconader*

MITCH SLUZEWSKI
mitchell.j.sluzewski@uwsp.edu
ALBUM REVIEW

I'm going to feel very hipster for saying this, but Flashbulb Fires is this really cool indie band you probably haven't heard of out of Denver, Colorado. OK, now you've all heard of them so I can stop being a hipster. Flashbulb Fires has this really cool, upbeat style that reminds me of bands like Circa Survive, Arcade Fire, Arctic Monkeys, and Tokyo Police Club. They broke onto the indie scene in 2009 with their first album Glory. It was well received in the few reviews I found, personally I found it middling. In comparison to their new album Gasconader, Glory had a great concept but lacked the confidence that they have now brought to the table.

This brings us to the album I'm reviewing this week, Gasconader. The first thing that grabbed my attention was the vocals. Lead vocalist

Patrick McGuire has a swing to his voice reminiscent of '50's soda-pop, schwoozy and melodic, which he fits into the indie style surprisingly well. The instrumentation is varied but typically has guitars, drum set, and a keyboard, fairly standard there but they include brass and strings for some tracks as well. The overall style I would describe as imaginative yet grounded by the vocals. In this respect I liken them to Arcade Fire as both have whimsical backdrops to vocals that generate the intensity. However, the album is set at a fairly slow pace that drags if you aren't listening to the album in its entirety, but key tracks make up for it and keep the album alive.

My favorite tracks of the album are "Serious Way", "I Beat My Body Down", and "Dark Ghost (I've Got Arms)". "I Beat My Body Down" is the starting track and it sets the pace with its laid back yet strong style. "I've Got Arms" brings a more upbeat style and leaves you with a melody you will be whistling for the rest of the day. "Serious Way" is my favorite track of the album. It is the second to last track and by this point McGuire is winding down the narrative of his religiously divided family. "Serious Way" is slower paced but the vocals hit the emotions hard, especially in the chorus "I will help you out: when you're on your way down: like a cigarette lit up". Gives me shivers every time. So bringing it all together I would say Gasconader by Flashbulb Fires is a neat little album definitely worth checking out.

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