

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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A Closer Look at International Programs

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International Programs offers the students of the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point the chance to take their education outside of Wisconsin, and gain global experience in the classroom and workplace.

"I think it would be good for every American to get out of America. On a broad ranging scope as to what is good I think if every American had an experience outside of this country for a while we would understand our own country better," said Mark Koepke, Associate Director of International Programs. "We would have a healthier more globally literate and more understanding of America's position in the world."

One of the most popular destinations is London, which offers the most options in terms of short- or long-term stays and choices of study. There are also trips to Ireland, Iceland, Germany, Greece, Spain and even Cuba.

"I wanted to go because I always wanted to go to England, and since my trip was with an internship I figured it would be valuable work experience," said Margaret Rohr, who participated in an externship in London. "I decided to go because I knew we would be given many opportunities to explore both the city and the country. We were in our own time, instead of following over planned touristy trips with the whole group."

When International Programs first started at UWSP in 1969, it was one of very few programs like it in the nation. A small group of 41 students was taken to London. Over the years the program at UWSP has grown, and study abroad programs are now available at almost every university in the country. Roughly 15 percent of

all UWSP students will study abroad, a huge number in comparison the 2 percent national average.

Pauline Isaacson helped establish International Programs at UWSP. Her plan for this program was rejected the first time she presented it to the Board of Regents. The board was convinced that if any school in system should start an international program it should have been UW-Madison. It was not until Lee Sherman Dreyfus became chancellor of UWSP that the idea was adopted.

"He (the student) gains a yardstick for beauty. As he assimilates the legendary scenic wonder of the Alps or the tranquility of the gardens of Kent, he has a new awareness of a distant view of the Baraboo hills or of the snow laden birches of Wisconsin's north," Isaacson said years ago when explaining what she hoped students would gain from studying abroad.

International Programs works hard to match students with opportunities that they will benefit from the most. Different programs offer different types of classes, Koepke said, and he wants students to be able to gain as much as they can from the time and money they spend.

According to the International Programs mission statement: "Our mission is to advance international education and global awareness through study abroad programming."

"Truly the thing to keep in mind is that this is a shrinking world," Koepke said. "You are not competing with the guy down the block anymore. That is not the way the world works no matter what we want or what nostalgia we have for an old world. It is international. Markets are international, education is international, everything is international."

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

October 20th

11:35 p.m. - Five individuals were spotted in parking lot E putting a bike in a tree.

1:14 p.m. - Two individuals were caught afternoon drinking on the football field; they were both over the age of 21 but were informed that drinking on Willet field was not ok.

1:29 a.m. - A student was found by officers dragging a stolen street sign down the street in front of the Newman Center.

1:07 a.m. - An individual was caught by officers carrying a stolen pumpkin across parking lot A.

12:26 a.m. - South Debot staff called Protective Services to report blood on the walls of Hanson Hall, he stated that he had no idea how the blood got there but thought it needed to be cleaned up.

October 19th

2:22 a.m. - PS found a male subject lying in the center of the roadway North Point Drive. When the officers made contact they learned he was conscious but was unaware of their presence.

October 18th

3:15 p.m. - A student's mother called PS concerned about her son's safety because he picked up a job from the job board tasking him with giving an elderly woman a ride to Fon Du Lac. The woman said she would pay for gas plus an extra 50 dollars.

October 17th

9:37 p.m. - A CNR staff member called reporting that he caught word some students were attempting to steal the alligator out of the lobby of the TNR. The suspects had been trying keys and on one occasion struck the doorknob.

3:58 p.m. - City Dispatch called PS and said they had received a report from a third party that they had dropped off a believed transient on campus. The man seemed confused and disoriented, was asking for money, and did not seem to know where he was going.

October 16th

11:50 a.m. - A resident hall staff member reported that her duty tag was stolen off of her desk and was returned taped to her room door after it had been burned. The situation is under investigation.

October 14th

10:48 p.m. - The mother of a resident of Watson Hall called to report that her daughter's computer had been infected with a virus. Her computer had been blocked with a message saying "Violated an FBI law" and informed her to pay a \$200 fine.

THE POINTER

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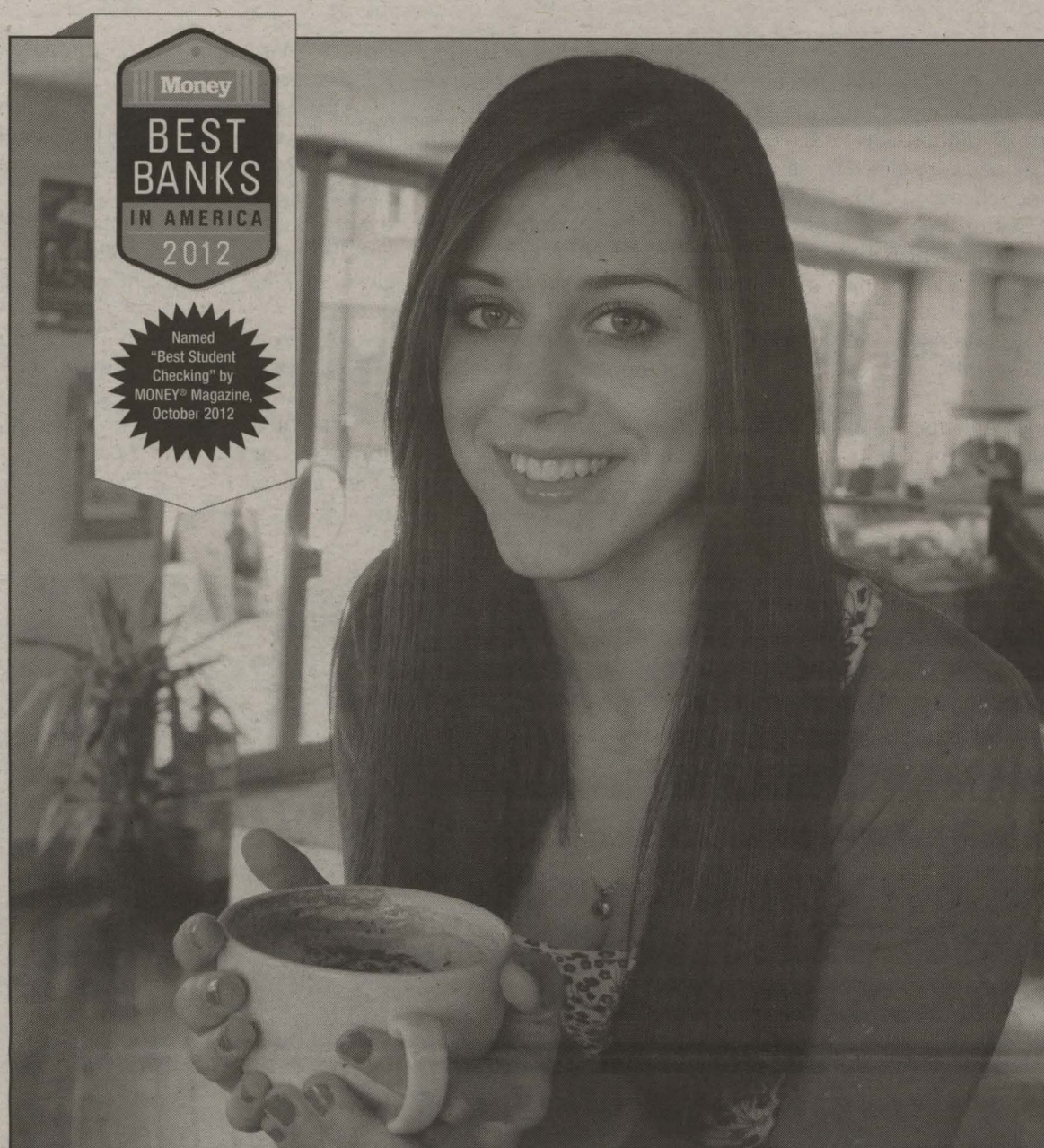
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UWSP Tobacco Policy Reviewed

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point tobacco and smoking policies have been a contentious topic over the past few decades with very little changing on either side of the issue.

Student Life Issues Director Ryan Specht, who co-chairs the Ad Hoc Committee for the Resolution of Tobacco Concerns (AHCRTC), along with Health Services Student Director Anna Haug both hope that the committee will be the first to end inaction on the issue.

"We're sick and tired of the flip-flopping," Specht said. "Everyone might not be happy, but what we're working towards is a compromise. We are committed to getting something done."

Specht said that the committee is more concerned about formulating

fair policy changes in making a healthier UWSP campus and that a tobacco ban is only one of five options currently being evaluated. Another plan involves the prohibition of the act of smoking anything—such as hookah—differing from a full tobacco ban, which would include chewing tobacco.

Another option the committee is evaluating involves making no changes to the current tobacco and smoking rules on campus. As of now, guidelines include a ban on smoking in any indoor building and within 30-feet of a residence halls. There is also a ban on smoking within a non-defined range of any childcare facility on campus.

There is also a plan being discussed that would create designated smoking zones where tobacco products would be permitted as well as a long-term transitional plan that would promote a cultural

shift on the act of tobacco use. This plan would involve promoting the already available smoking cessation programs available on campus.

Senior English major Randy Ploeckelman, who is a smoker, said that he believes the current tobacco rules on campus are necessary and fair but should not be taken any further. Some UWSP students are not convinced that tobacco use on campus is an issue.

"I think the rules are fine now. I don't have a problem with it. I will walk through a crowd of smokers and get a cloud of smoke in my face but it happens, it doesn't really bother me," said Boone Sorenson, a senior communication major.

Daniel Werachowski, a junior English major and smoker, agreed with Sorenson.

"I feel like if they passed legislation to ban smoking on campus, it would be really hard to

enforce and could cost a lot of money to enforce. It seems like since budgets are tight, there are a lot of bigger problems to worry about right now," Werachowski said.

Specht said that he knows changing tobacco and smoking policies is a controversial issue but hopes that an open dialogue with students and faculty will help shape a policy that reflects the opinions of all sides.

"Feedback is critical and we won't be enacting policy without that feedback," Specht said.

AHCRTC is holding an open forum on Nov 14 where students and faculty can voice any concerns and offer input on the issue, as well as learn about some of the proposed plans. Anyone interested in more information can contact Ryan Specht at rspec566@uwsp.edu.

First Lady Rallies in Wausau

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On Friday, Oct 19, Michelle Obama visited the Fieldhouse of the University of Wisconsin - Marathon County in Wausau to speak to grassroots supporters of the Obama Campaign.

"What I like about campaigning is talking about the man I love, your president. He is handsome and charming and incredibly smart, but that's not why I married him. I married him because of his heart," Obama said, opening the speech for her audience.

According to Wausau Fire Marshall David DeSantis, there were 980 attendees in the Fieldhouse and another 600 in an overflow room. Her speech was geared towards women and student voters, two key demographics in this election.

Wisconsin counts for 10 electoral votes, making it one of the crucial Midwest states to win. Before her stop at UWMC, Obama made a visit to speak in Racine, and later Friday evening Bill Clinton spoke in Green Bay.

There were a few speakers who opened for the first lady including Veteran Jim Palmer, Pastor Steven Wright, WI State Assembly Representative Donna Seidel and Former State Senator Pat Kreitlow. Cynthia Johnson of Rhinelander, a student in the middle of her third year of college, introduced Obama and explained why she is a supporter of President Obama.

"We need a president that will stand up for students like me," Johnson said. "I know President Obama is looking out for me."

President Obama has made changes to the federal financial aid

system since 2008. As the first lady mentioned, Pell Grant spending has reached \$35 billion, an amount that will support about 10 million low-income students. Obama also pushed Congress to postpone scheduled doubling of subsidized Stafford loans.

"When it comes to student debt, Barack and I have been there," Obama said. "Barack worked to ensure that Pell Grant funding was doubled and he fought hard to keep interest rates down on student loans."

Obama made statements about her husband's stance on access to healthcare, contraception, and women's rights. She also spoke about efforts to improve the economy.

"We know very well that cutting Sesame Street is no way to balance the budget," Obama said. "Yes, we have to make cuts to spending, but we also have to make smart investments."

President Obama "inherited an economy in rapid decline, but instead of complaining your president got to work," Obama said. "It is going to take way more than four years to rebuild an economy on the brink of collapse."

Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney is scheduled to visit Defiance, OH Thursday, Oct 25; he will be in Virginia Beach, VA on Sunday, Oct 28. As of now there are no scheduled

stops in Wisconsin for the Romney/Ryan campaign.

Obama wrapped up her speech by urging voters to vote early and tell all of their friends and neighbors to vote. She said that what happens in the final days of the campaign will absolutely affect the outcome of the election. Her speech ended with a question.

"Are you ready for this? Are you in?" she asked. She was answered by cheering and applause.

The full speech can be viewed on Youtube.com at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0IETSkcvRIQ>

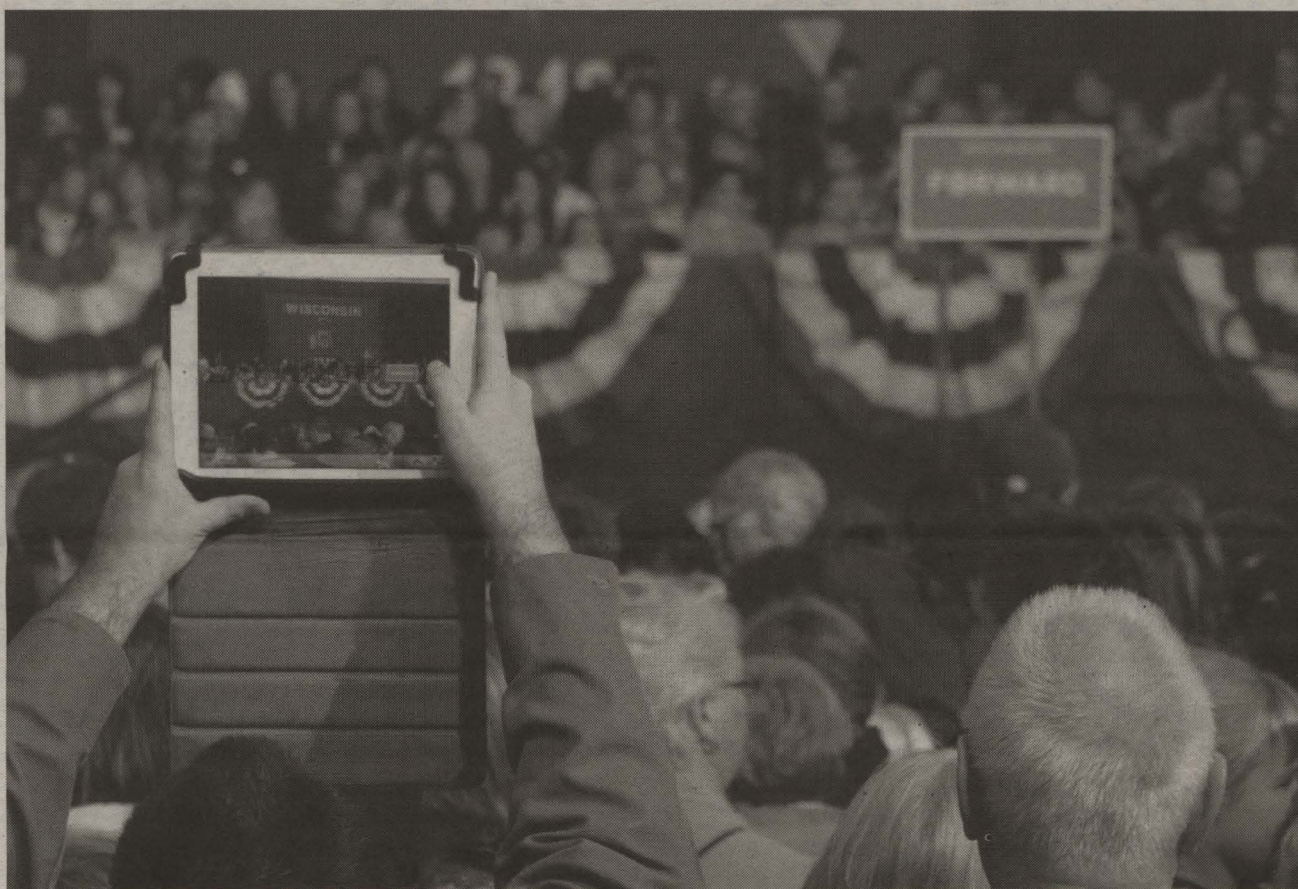


Photo by Samantha Feld

Audience members await the arrival of first lady Michelle Obama. The first lady spoke about her husband at UW Marathon County, in Wausau, this past Friday, October 19th.

Academic Custodial Staff: Always Here to Help

RACHEL PUKALL

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Every campus has its heroes, some less recognized than others. University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point is no exception. Hidden heroes working behind the scenes doing more than you know.

The custodial staff at UWSP is responsible for cleaning more than 1.6 million square feet in more than 18 buildings on campus every day. On top of that, custodial staff is also noted for saving 2 to 3 lives a year on average.

"We do a lot more than just clean buildings. We see a lot going on," said Denis Zylkowski, a custodian at UWSP since 1993.

Zylkowski has witnessed many acts of vandalism as well as medical emergencies.

Recently Custodial Supervisor

Jason Zinda found a student in diabetic shock. The student had already been lying there for two hours when Zinda found him. Zinda gave the student CPR until the paramedics arrived and saved his life.

"It's not uncommon for us to come across stuff like that," Zylkowski said.

One night, Zylkowski saw a suspicious person in a parking lot trying to light a car on fire. He ended up scaring the vandal off, who ran away after the police were called.

"We know who belongs here and who doesn't. We can be the eyes and ears of campus," Zylkowski said.

Zylkowski also came across an underage student who was so drunk he was in a comatose state.

"His friends were carrying him and dropped him over by the CCC. I called the ambulance, and they had no idea who the kid was because his friends took his ID. Luckily, I

had heard the kids calling his name earlier," Zylkowski said.

Those aren't the only encounters Zylkowski has come across.

"In the past we had someone on a ledge. Someone called us and said, 'We need wrestling mats.' At that point we knew exactly what they meant," Zylkowski said.

The girl was about 20 feet up in the air and eventually fell and broke her ankle.

"It would have been a lot worse if we hadn't gotten there in time," Zylkowski said.

Tammy Larson, the head of the Academic Custodial Department, likes being able to help and protect students in need.

"During the first week of school, there are lots of lost students who are crying and confused. We try to talk to them and cheer them up, even walk them to class. We're always here to

help," Larson said.

Last year, with all the heavy rains and floods, the custodial staff fixed all of the leaks and got rid of all the fallen trees.

"We save hundreds of thousands of dollars because we catch these things early," Zylkowski said.

The academic custodial staff is often taken for granted for what they do, from keeping the campus looking its best to protecting students and saving merchandise.

"We get short-changed for what we do around here. I think it'd be a good idea to use us more effectively," Zylkowski said.

"I always tell my staff the students are like our own. They're away from their families, so we have to look out for them," Larson said.

Nationwide Appeal

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They come from all around the United States for various reasons, but student athletes from Alaska, Missouri, Iowa, New York and many other places come to Stevens Point and proudly wear the Pointers jersey.

There are 282 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point athletes on men's teams. 24 percent of them are not from Wisconsin. Of the 230 female athletes, 23.5 percent don't call Wisconsin home.

Almost every team at UWSP has at least one out of state athlete on their team. Both men's and women's hockey have the highest percentage of out-of-state talent, with 78 and 65 percent, respectively.

This is a common trend in Division I programs, but it is becoming more prevalent in Division III programs.

Why would so many come to the small town of Stevens Point to play their sport? There are a quite a few answers to that question.

Both senior golfer Olivia Schiefelbein, from Iowa, and sophomore cross-country runner, Chandler Mellon, from New York, chose UWSP because of its outstanding academic standing.

"I am a wildlife major. UWSP is the best for that," Mellon said.

Schiefelbein echoed that sentiment, saying, "I came to Stevens Point for the Natural Resource Program here."

For most athletes, the level of talent involved and the opportunity to play for a successful program are

big reasons why UWSP is appealing.

"I chose to come to Stevens Point instead of a college in my home state of Missouri because of the level of hockey played here," said Sean Gammage, a freshman defender on the hockey team.

Some athletes come to UWSP because of the great coaching staffs that the university has assembled.

"When Coach Brooks called and was interested in recruiting me, I looked into the school and thought it seemed like a great opportunity," said Josh Daley, a sophomore forward on the hockey team from Pittsburgh, PA.

Many students have multiple reasons for attending this university, like sophomore swimmer Tessa Hasbrouck.

Hasbrouck is from Petersburg, AL. She came to UWSP because of its outstanding natural resources program, its small-school feel, and the solid swim program.

"I wanted to go somewhere I had never been to before, and Wisconsin was one of those places," Hasbrouck said.

Considering the change in scenery and lifestyle to their previous homes, it's understandable that many of these athletes needed some time to transition to the Wisconsin culture.

"Words used like 'bubbler' and 'tennis shoes' were very foreign to me," Mellon said.

"The biggest difference is the size of Stevens Point," Gammage said. "It was way smaller than St. Louis."

Daley, a transfer student from Penn State University, enjoys the small number of students. "I find it's easier for me to get around campus and

have a better one-on-one relationship with some of my teachers," Daley said.

For Hasbrouck, she had to get used to many things, coming from a small community of just 3,000 people in her town. "There were more people on my swim team than there was in my graduating class," Hasbrouck said.

"I had never spent time in a deciduous forest, had never stopped a car at a stoplight and had never heard of Black Friday shopping," Hasbrouck said.

But one of the biggest changes for Hasbrouck was the Debot food. "I'm used to eating a lot of seafood," Hasbrouck said. "Debot caused a major food-oriented culture shock."

Even with all of the changes, the athletes agree that the Stevens Point community is a very welcoming and friendly place to call home for nine months out of the year.

"I have met and become friends with some really great people up here," said Schiefelbein. "The atmosphere around campus is pretty cool, too. You get to know a lot of people and make new friends every day," Daley said.

"I've found that I'm particularly fond of cows," said Hasbrouck. "There are many more choices in Stevens Point, WI, compared to Petersburg, AL."

Students love the atmosphere and friendliness of Stevens Point, but everyone eventually misses home a little bit, and being far away can mean missing it more.

"I really miss my family, especially my niece, my dogs and

close friends," Mellon said. "Parents, grandparents and my brother are a big part of my life," Daley said. "It gets a little difficult at times not having that chance to see them as much as I would like to."

"I miss the ocean and the salty breeze, the nest of mountains that surround and the glorious amounts of seafood," Hasbrouck said. "I miss sea kayaking, fog in the morning, watching sea lions swim and walking through the harbor at night."

Everyone in college misses someone or something along the line, but there are support systems to make you feel better, and that's no different for the athletic teams.

"Playing on the hockey team here helps you through, because it kind of puts you in a 'family' here," Gammage said.

Being so far away from home, the athletes don't get to see family very often, but many have family in the area.

"I am only a couple hours away from my grandparents, Schiefelbein said. "It is nothing to head down to see them for the weekend, which is great."

Sometimes families even travel to UWSP to support their athletes. "Some of my family will visit here a couple times, though, to watch some of my hockey games," Gammage said.

Just remember, whether they're just across the way in Minnesota or all the way from Alaska, make our athletes, and all of the out-of-state students, feel welcome here in our great state of Wisconsin.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

with Gus Merwin



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

- The women's volleyball team captured the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title Wednesday with a 3-0 victory over the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. The Pointers take on Concordia of Chicago, Friday at 3 p.m. in the first of four games of the Benedictine University Tournament in Lisle, Ill.

- Women's soccer travels to Carroll Thursday for their final regular season match at 6 p.m. before the WIAC Tournament begins next Tuesday.

- Men's hockey travels to St. Norbert Friday for two games

against the Green Knights. The puck drops at 7 p.m. for both games.

- Women's hockey kicks off their season with two games this weekend at St. Olaf University, with start times of 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday.

- The men's and women's swimming and diving teams are one of three teams competing in the Tri-Dual in St. Cloud Saturday beside UW-Eau Claire and host St. Cloud State.

- The men's and women's cross country teams travel to UW-Platteville for the WIAC Championship meet Saturday.



Pack Back on Track

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Photo courtesy of 12thmanrising.com

After a dismal start to the season, the Green Bay Packers have strung together a few impressive wins and are back in the division race with a 4-3 record.

The Packers are only two games out of the first-place spot currently held by the Chicago Bears. Things are certainly looking a lot better for the Packers now than two weeks ago.

The Packers started the season with a loss to the San Francisco 49ers 30-22. Green Bay bounced back the

next week with a Monday night victory against the Chicago Bears, 23-10.

Next came the game against the Seattle Seahawks, a game Packer fans will not soon forget. The Packers lost the game on a blown touchdown call as time expired. The play subsequently led to an agreement between the NFL and the striking referees.

The Packers then beat the New Orleans Saints, 28-27. The Pack looked like they might have been getting in a groove, but then the Indianapolis Colts stunned the Packers with a 30-27 upset.

The loss may have awakened a sleeping giant, as the Packers came ready to play against their toughest opponent of the season, the Houston Texans. The Packers stomped the Texans, 42-24.

This past weekend, the Packers traveled to St. Louis to take on the Rams. It wasn't the prettiest, but Green Bay came out on top with a final of 30-20.

Now, the Packers stand at a modest 4-3 record. It isn't what many fans expected, but it could be a lot worse.

To put it in perspective, the Super Bowl-winning 2010 Packers started the season 4-3, but finished strong down the stretch, played their best ball at the end of the season and made history from there.

This is exactly what the 2012 Packers are set up to do. With the tough, start some people wrote them off early and focused on the teams with better records like Atlanta, Houston and Chicago, which could come back to bite them.

Green Bay has gotten through the hardest part of their schedule and now has a legitimate shot at winning the rest of their games.

They play the Detroit Lions twice, who proved to the world Monday night against the Bears that they are a very beatable team. They also play the Minnesota Vikings twice, a team that will not play as well as they have been.

The games to look out for will be the playoff rematch in week 12, against the New York Giants. The Giants can beat anyone at home.

The other threat to the rest of the Packers schedule is the week 15 matchup at Soldier Field against the Bears. If Green Bay can win both of

those games, they will be in good shape for the playoffs.

On the offensive side, there are no surprises as to who is moving the ball for Green Bay. Aaron Rodgers is having another MVP-caliber season, leading the league with 19 touchdowns and a 109.6 passer rating.

On defense, Clay Mathews has gotten off to a fast start racking up nine sacks. Charles Woodson had been playing well but has been diagnosed with a broken collarbone. Someone will have to step up the next four-to-six weeks that Woodson's out.

The Packers next matchup will be against the lowly Jacksonville Jaguars. Jacksonville will be without star running back Maurice Jones-Drew, who is expected to miss extended time with a foot injury. Quarterback Blaine Gabbert also found out this week that he has a torn labrum in his non-throwing shoulder. However, he reportedly will play. The kickoff is Sunday, on CBS at 12 p.m.

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Handoff goes to Pointer Running Back Adam Vesterfelt.
Photo by Jack McLaughlin



Photo by Nino Nuttavuttisit
Students from Watson hall getting ready for tug-of-war.

POINTER DOOMSDAY

Chris Rosenthal shares a tenor drum with Stevie Pointer at the Homecoming Game.
Photo by Nino Nuttavuttisit



Photo by Jack McLaughlin
Running Back, Ethan Lockhart runs the ball down the field.

HOMECOMING 2012



Photo by Nino Nuttavuttisit
The marching band kicks off the homecoming celebration by traveling through the circle Saturday morning.

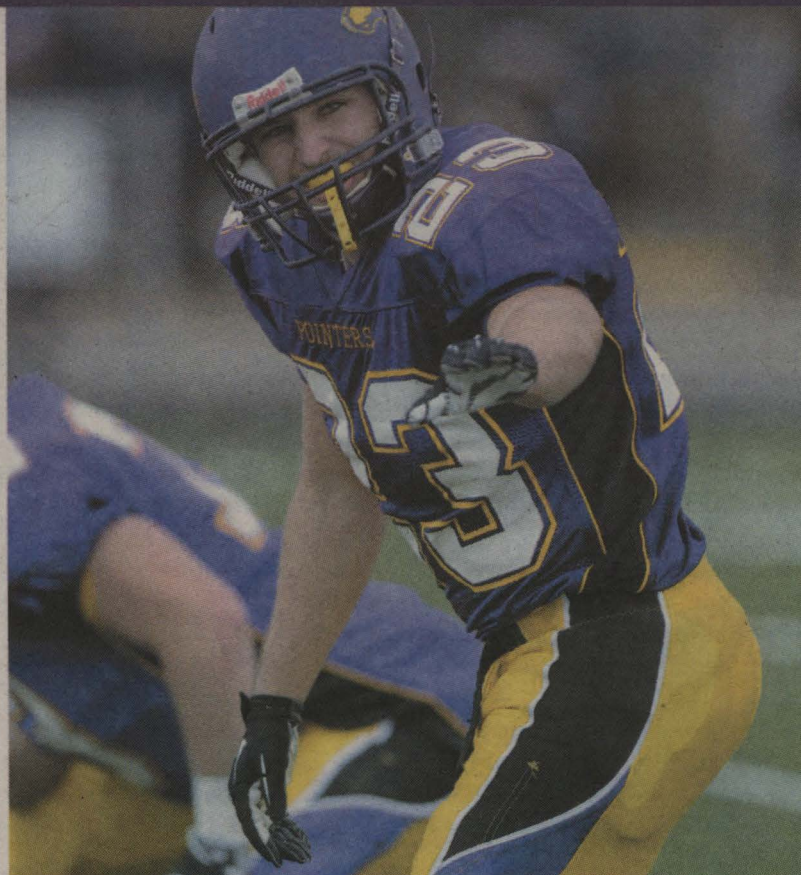


Photo by Jack McLaughlin
Adam Vesterfelt communicates with the team during the Homecoming Game.

Celebrate All Abilities: 3peat

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Disabilities Advisory Council presents another year of "Celebrate All Abilities" to end the month of October.

Since the very first time Celebrate All Abilities was introduced to campus, educating the community has been a main goal. For the last few years, UWSP has been on a mission to celebrate inclusive excellence. To some, it has been unknown; to others, it rings in their ears in the form of event planning. Jim Joque, the director of the Disability and Technology Center, spoke about how Celebrate All Abilities is more than just an event.

"It's good to see people work

together for a good cause, and the good cause is making people aware of disabilities," Joque said.

Moments later, Joque mentioned he thinks that the students will be greatly impacted by the testimony of the people who live with these disabilities.

Each program has brought a lot of success, but a lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make it all happen.

After speaking with Margaret Strong, the Assistant Technology Coordinator, the amount of work became a little bit more visible.

"My part was mainly partnering up with St. Michael's and making sure that it was all secure," Strong said.

However, Strong is not alone. Every year a student intern helps with the promotions as the

promotions manager. This year it is Amy Kucksdorf. Joque mentioned how fulfilling working with Kucksdorf was.

As the student intern, Kucksdorf handled all the promotions. She put together flyers and came up with other strategies to promote as best as she could.

"It's just a matter of getting everything coordinated. So we had a student come in as an intern, as a promotions manager, who has the talent and skill to make posters, well as know how to contact other mediums," Joque said.

Joque later commented that another of the Council's most rewarding opportunities has been offering this information to the students, the staff, and the community of Stevens Point.

Strong's and Kucksdorf's efforts are all linked back to the purpose of educating the campus and community. Some of the topics to look forward to this year will be "Recognizing and Helping people with ADHD," "An American America Resurrection," and "The Visible and Invisible Wounds of Wounded Warriors."

This year Celebrate All Abilities takes place in the UWSP Dreyfus University Center in the Laird Room South.

In its third year, the UWSP Disabilities Advisory Council hopes Celebrate All Abilities impacts everyone who comes out to take place in this experience.

Alumni Banquet

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University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point alumni gathered to be honored for their accomplishments and contributions to both the university and community, as well as to participate in homecoming activities this past weekend.

The banquet that the alumni attended distributed four different awards throughout the night. The Distinguished Alumnus Award (1969), Alumni Service Award (1998), the Trailblazer Achievement Award (2010) and the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Alumni banquet hosted anywhere from 100 to 130 alumni with both their friends and family.

The event started with a pre-banquet reception for alumni to interact with one another. This year, the reception was located in the Legacy Room, and the actual banquet and ceremony took place in the Alumni Room. Alumni Relations staff greeted guests and took photos of award winners and their families.

Laura Gehrman Rottier, Director of Alumni Affairs, explained that The Distinguished Alumnus Award was created in 1969 as the university celebrated its 75th anniversary. Those who are nominated for this award meet criterion that a selection committee then reviews to make a final decision.

"Nominations are based on professional achievement, outstanding contribution to the university and community and beyond the recognition and reputation that extends past the nominee's immediate environment," Rottier said.

There is also a Distinguished Alumni Council, which is comprised of alumnus from each of the four colleges on campus that "demonstrate the broad range

of outstanding accomplishments alumni achieve after they graduate from UWSP."

While the banquet may honor prominent alumni for their accomplishments, the banquet itself established an even bigger connection between the university and the alumni with their participation over the homecoming weekend.

Maintaining relations with alumni after they graduate is important, and the Alumni Relations office works hard to preserve the connection former students have to UWSP.

"This event provides a deep and lasting connection to UWSP. In some cases we are recognizing alumni who have an existing relationship with UWSP, but in others, this honor is the first time they have reconnected in years," Rottier said.

The Alumni Banquet may showcase the accomplishments of former grads. Current students are also able to participate in the event. The jazz trio and string quartet made up of current UWSP students were hired to play during the reception. Even the University Dining Service catering staff was involved with the event.

Rottier explained that alumni can reconnect with the campus by connecting with current students. Students are given a chance to network, and in years past there have been meet-and-greets with students. Out of these connections, scholarships have been developed.

"The connections that the winners develop or deepen with the campus by coming back, and even with each other throughout the event, are truly inspiring," Rottier said. "The night is elegant, warm and fun. The evening itself is a bit formal, but the mood is always fun and full of Pointer spirit."

American Politics in London

REBECCA SUTHERLAND

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COMMENTARY

Similarities to Wisconsin's recent political atmosphere loomed at a demonstration held on Saturday, October 20th, 2012 in London. Students along with union members and union sympathizers gathered outside the University of London Union (ULU) in Bloomsbury to protest the recent cuts in welfare and education as part of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) demonstration for "A Future that Works."

Pamphlets and signs were generously passed out to the crowd that began gathering just before 11:00a.m. Speakers shouted through megaphones about the cuts made in the last two years to the country's budget and individuals with clipboards walked through the crowd collecting signatures on a petition.

Just one and half years ago, a similar situation unfolded in Madison, Wisconsin, where tens of thousands turned out to protest Governor Scott Walker's political actions to balance the state budget that stripped many unions of their bargaining rights. Now, thousands of miles across the Atlantic Ocean, thousands had turned out to protest the cuts Britain was facing under David Cameron and Nick Clegg's Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition government.

Moses, a student at the University of East London, was one of the individuals collecting signatures. He said that the purpose of the petition was to "bring local disputes together" through a general strike in an effort "to kick David Cameron out of office."

"We took a lot of inspiration from [events in Wisconsin]," he said in reference to efforts to fight the recent budget cuts, including Saturday's demonstration.

As the demonstration moved from ULU towards the Thames River and Parliament to join with the larger

movement of the TUC the crowd became more vociferous with drum cadences, whistles, and chants. "Hey, ho, Cameron's got to go" boomed from a megaphone while another group chanted of rights to a free education.

Tyler, a student and the education officer at his university, spoke of the hardships many students were facing with the cuts to student services and the increase in tuition from £3000 (\$4800) to £9000 (\$14400) per year.

"Students need jobs to pay for school, but there are no jobs," he said.

It is a chilling reminder that the economy still lags while the cost of education soars. Students are hard pressed to find jobs, and with cuts to housing benefits, some are finding the need to move back home.

Michael Holland, a teacher at Benedict Primary School in Mitcham, spoke on the difficulties students in primary and secondary schools face along with the problems teachers are now dealing with.

"[It's] turning children into units of labor," he said, referencing the belief that rigorous government standards lead to a "minimal amount of education" and that students are simply being "ground through" the system with fewer resources due to budget cuts.

Increased scrutiny and rigorous government testing, similar to that in the states where students are tested on knowledge gained and teachers are assessed accordingly, has caused frustration in the classroom for both teachers and students.

It is difficult not to hear echoes of Wisconsin's recent political unrest in the struggles between England's working class and Parliament's move towards sorting out the nation's debt. The struggle between fairness to the working class and maintaining a functioning government is a complicated issue that is shared internationally.

Have The Seasonal Blues?



Photo by Samantha Feld
With the transition from Fall to Winter, seasonal blues can take a hold of students.

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As October slowly turns into November and the days become shorter... when professors seem to get together and plan their students' demise with mid-terms and projects... when homecoming comes to an end, students, faculty and the average person may become overwhelmed and depressed due to life's daily offerings.

The causes of depression vary based on an individual's personal circumstances. It is oftentimes triggered when a person feels so overwhelmed by multiple circumstances that the

depression begins to interfere with their daily functions and affects the quality of their life.

However, the general public often defines depression differently. Just because people feel sadness, are upset or are having a bad day does not mean that they are depressed. Symptoms of depression include fatigue, poor concentration and motivation, feelings of hopelessness and worthlessness, decreased interest in activities previously enjoyed and thoughts of suicide.

With these symptoms, Dr. Kelsey Richmond, a psychologist at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Counseling Center, explains that depression is different than normal emotional responses to daily life.

"We feel sadness and grief at the end of a relationship, disappointment and failure when we fail a big test. We cry when we are hurting. It's important to differentiate between expected painful feelings to painful life circumstances and depression," Richmond said.

Starting at the end of fall through the winter, seasonal blues are a common occurrence in people. While these feelings for many people do not interfere with the quality of their life, seasonal blues can turn into full depression.

"We live in a very active community - people like to do a lot of out-

door activities and enjoy the sun and good weather," Richmond said. "That can be challenging when the weather starts turning cold and gloomy. It's also a time of year with a lot of stress, especially for students. The academic demands are mounting, and there is less daylight to study."

Richmond explained that there are many ways that people can manage their symptoms without seeking help. Participating in enjoyable activities is one of the easiest ways to prevent seasonal blues. Even maintaining a steady diet and exercising become a vital component in fighting the blues.

"Once people are up and moving, it's much easier to enjoy what you are doing. The hardest part of getting re-engaged in life is starting," Richmond said. "Research has shown that exercise and healthy eating improve mood. Our bodies and moods feel better when we are healthy."

Theatre major Courtney Holly and education major Arielle Elms both explain how the seasonal blues affect their lives. Their stressors can range from anything to their personal life to academics. Both have something that stresses them out this time of the year.

"Around this time of the year, it's the stress of the semester. Making sure that grades are where they need to be. It's more of a fear of not growing artistically enough," Holly said.

For Elms, finding housing for next year, trying to figure out a manageable schedule of classes for next semester and setting up an advising appointment are what stresses her out, but she finds a way to stay positive by resorting to what she enjoys doing.

"Yoga! I also enjoy dancing and

watching movies. Both help me relax when I am stressing about something," Elms said.

While Holly worries about not growing artistically, her passion for theatre and desire to grow in the art is ironically what stresses her out and what drives her to stay positive.

"I work harder, make sure that I feel confident in what I'm doing, remind myself why I do theatre," Holly said. "I spend time with people I love. Call home. Sometimes I just lock myself in one of the practice rooms in the NFAC and just play the piano until my fingers are too sore. Or I sing."

While students may have their own way of coping with stress to bring their spirits up, Richmond urged that those who need help should simply talk to friends and family.

"Talking aloud can bring about a new perspective and feeling understood and cared for makes us feel not so isolated and lonely. Talking with someone you care about who listens is enough to start feeling better," Richmond said.

If students do need additional help, the Counseling Center is available on the third floor of Delzell Hall, or students can call (715) 346-3553 to set up an appointment. It offers confidential individual and group therapy services and is there to help students "better understand their concerns and themselves in order to make helpful changes."

"I guess as a word of advice to people : don't dwell," Holly said. "Keep yourself busy and remind yourself why you're here doing what you love."

Pointers

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6



NO VOTER ID REQUIRED



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



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

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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.

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OPINIONS

A Little Too Close to Home

JUSTIN SULLIVAN

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OPINION

On Sunday, Radcliffe Haughton shot and killed his estranged wife and two other women in a Brookfield, Wisconsin spa before turning the gun he had bought two days earlier on himself. Recently, these violent acts have seemed all too common, forcing me to reevaluate the trust I held in the nature of people and question why these things were happening.

This past summer wasn't very productive for me. I barely went outside, slept too much and spent most of my time with my head under a rock working as an assistant manager for the same movie theater I've been employed at since I was sixteen years old. I even downloaded an advertisement blocker so I could watch my "Call Me Maybe" covers free from any presidential election ads. I took some time off from the world, but the shootings in Aurora, Colorado at the Century 16 Megaplex pulled my head from the ground and affected me greatly, like for many Americans.

Along with the twelve lives lost that day came the loss of innocence at the movie theater, a place for entertainment and magic, where every class, creed, and gender can come together to lose themselves in a story. In a way, the movie theater

represents America, an opportunity for a melting-pot of silhouettes to escape their problems and forget for awhile.

But the loss of all those innocent lives tested that ideal. I felt distrust in my customers, in my fellow man. I didn't want to be constantly nervous that people were carrying weapons with the intent to harm others. I didn't want to be scared.

Then came the shootings at the Oak Creek Sikh Temple, just three hours away from Stevens Point, the city I grew up in my whole life. Six innocent people were killed along with the shooter in a seemingly senseless act of violence, with possibly a racist motive. Americans were shot and killed because they were different. The American ideals of religious tolerance and the freedom of opportunity were carried out in stretchers in the same state that I live in. One again, a horrific, violent act forced me to question what it means to be a human being and what it means to be an American.

This questioning, these feelings of remorse, regret, and anger, extend above the evaluating of gun control laws. It is certainly an issue, but if someone had used a different weapon in any of these cases, I would still be writing this. The issue lies in the seemingly common disregard certain members of society feel for others. The loss of innocent lives so near to

me that affect me and my community made me ask, "Just what we all are working for?" How are we to deal with our differences as a nation, as a state, as the human race? And the

thing is... I don't have any answers for anyone, including myself. I just feel like we all have to start looking.

Open Lecture:

The European Perspective of the American Presidential Election



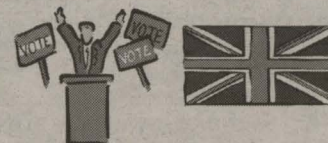
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Collins Classroom Center Room 213,

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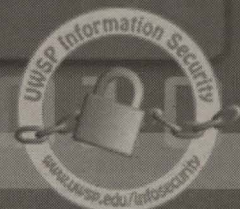
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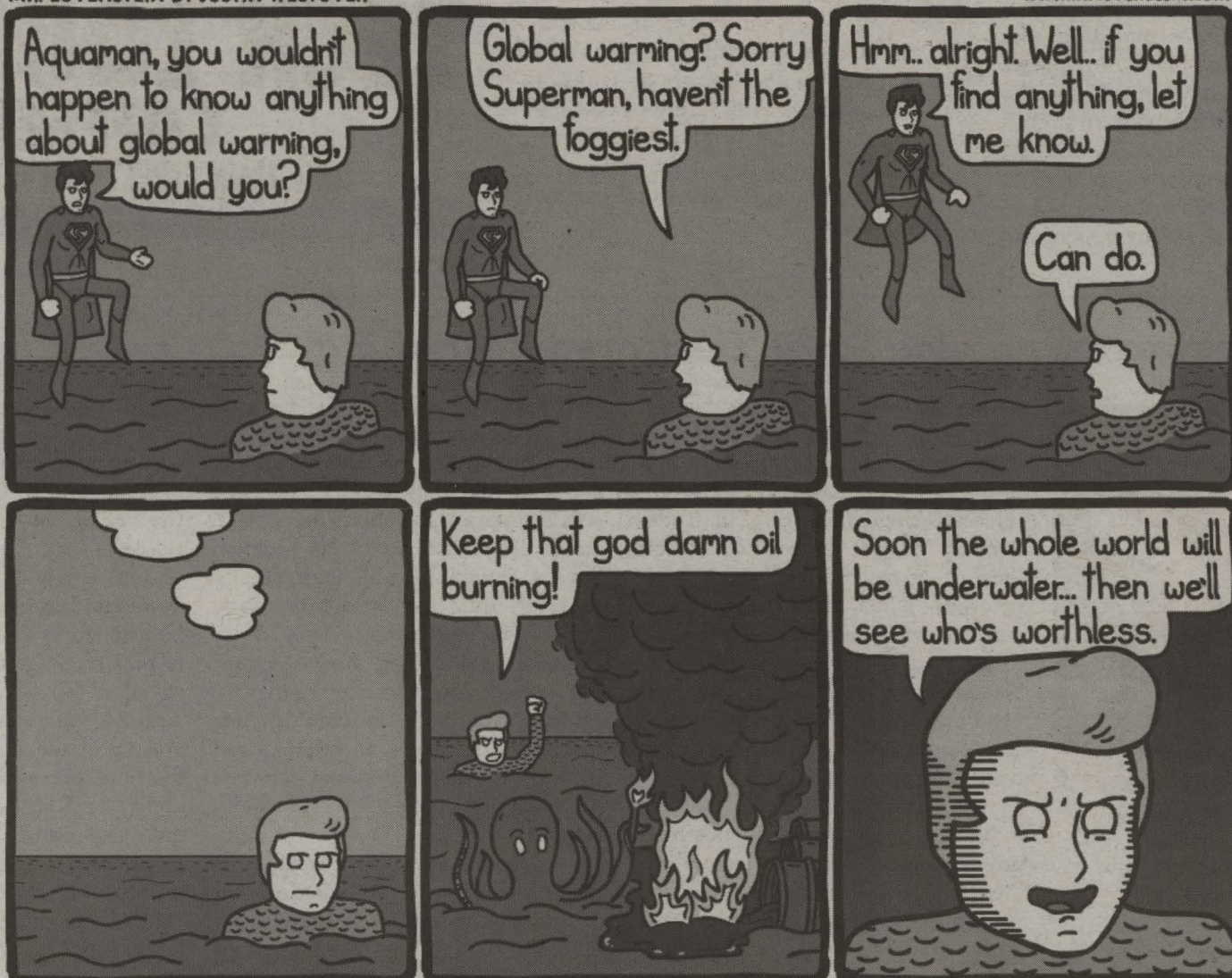
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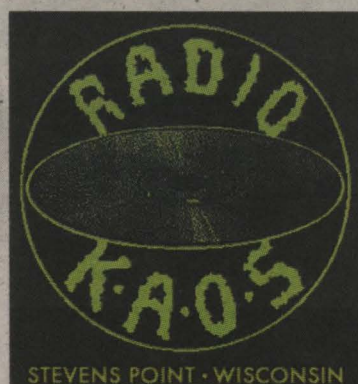
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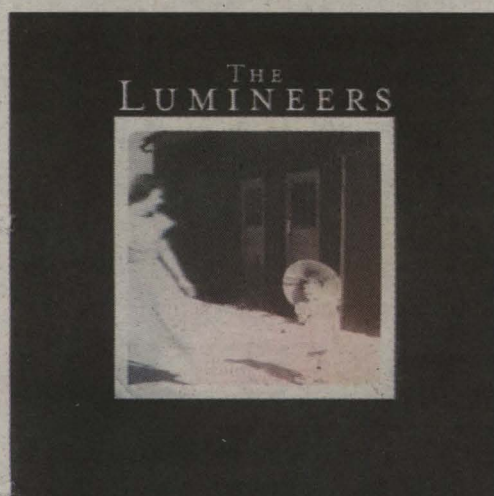


ALBUM REVIEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Self-Titled Album by The Lumineers



KYLE FLORENCE
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ALBUM REVIEW

Apart from its stunning natural beauty and John Denver, Colorado now has something else to brag about—the three-piece folk rock band The Lumineers, whose debut self-titled album was released early last spring, and recently peaked at number 11 on the Billboard Top 200 chart. Group members Wesley Schultz (guitar, lead vocals) and Jeremiah Fraites (drums, percussion, mandolin, backing vocals) began writing music together in the autumn of 2005 in Ramsey, New Jersey, before relocating to Denver. It was here they met Neyla Pekarek (cello, mandolin, piano, backing vocals), who would become the final addition to the trio, through a Craigslist ad. The three began writing and practicing together regularly, and by 2011 had gained a considerable amount of recognition throughout the Denver area, and

settled-in comfortably under the direction of the artist-friendly Dualtone Records. For almost a year, The Lumineers would stay one of Colorado's best kept secrets, until their song "Ho Hey", which would also later become their first single, was aired in the season finale of CW's 'Hart of Dixie'. This would prove the match that ignited a firestorm. Virtually overnight the track leapt to the top of download charts and radio rotations, has since sold over 935,694 copies, and has been praised by many distinguished media outlets as "the best song of 2012." Now, nearly a year later, the bands popularity has only continued to balloon.

And upon listening to "Ho Hey", it becomes clear why. The track is infectious; a cheery sing-along that will surely become a staple at weddings for years to come, and sits very comfortably on 'repeat'. Don't let the catchiness of this track fool you however; it is unlikely that the Lumineers will be added to the ever growing list of one-hit-wonders any time in the near future. Their self-titled debut is a testament to mainstream folk, and has much more to offer than "Ho Hey." Schultz croons brightly over a chorus of hand-claps and driving folk guitar on the equally catchy "Big Parade", only to counteract this bliss with the haunting melancholy wails of "Slow it Down." The relentlessly hopeful "Charlie Boy" proves to also be a toe-tapper, and fans of Mumford & Sons will surely appreciate the trio's tasteful use of Mandolin. From the looks of things, if you haven't heard from The Lumineers yet, don't worry, they'll find you.

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Sleepmakeswaves – ... And So We Destroyed Everything



MITCH SLUZEWSKI
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ALBUM REVIEW

Sleepmakeswaves began in 2006 when a post was put up on

Myspace looking for members to start a band in Sydney, Australia. Two years later Sleepmakeswaves broke onto the post-rock scene and released their first EP "In Today Already Walks Tomorrow." From there they began touring Australia, where they had already developed a cult following, but also used the tour to gain some international attention. Sleepmakeswaves has played with headliner bands such as Mono, Boris, and Russian Circles as they made their Australian rounds.

Stylistically the band follows in the footsteps of other post-rock powerhouses like Explosions in the Sky, Mogwai, and Sigur Ros. Sleepmakeswaves uses cleaner guitar riffs than is common for post-rock giving it a sparkling quality

which soars over the wall of sound that is very common for the genre. A major hiccup for many in this genre is that bands can't keep the energy going throughout the album. Bands like Sigur Ros and Mogwai have a tendency to let their energy trail off, but that is not an issue for Sleepmakeswaves. They do a great job of attaining this with their slower and more minimalist songs by compensating with complex rhythms played underneath or other tricks to keep the music moving forward (think of the intro to the TV show House).

"...And So We Destroyed Everything" is the band's first full length studio album. It was released in 2011, but has just been released in the US (2012). The album isn't

as hard in nature as the previous EP's but I feel they found a happy medium. Unlike Explosions in the Sky, Sleepmakeswaves doesn't make the wall of sound as big of a focus, but rather it's focus is on the guitar riffs and interplay of each part. For better or worse, I feel the album is meant to be listened to as a whole, but if I had to pick tracks to recommend I would say that "In Limbs and Joints", "... And So We Destroyed Everything", and "A Gaze Blank and Pitiless as the Sun" are good examples of their ability and style. Overall this is a great new band. I like their style and energy and can see them continuing to improve. If you have a chance to check them out DO IT! You will not be disappointed.