BIKE LANE AHEAD

Portage county is planning to install bike lanes

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Search for New Provost Will Soon Be Over

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The search for a new provost is well underway and choices have been narrowed to three candidates. The provost has many responsibilities such as appointing all faculty, deans and academic staff. The provost is also in charge of approving new majors, reviewing existing programs and determining when it is appropriate to hold special funding opportunities for things like modernizing labs or further developing programs. The provost plays a big role in deciding what programs will be offered, who will work on campus and how much they will get paid.

“We’re looking for somebody who is visionary and who understands why that’s important to the university,” said Bernie Patterson, the chancellor at UWSP. “We’re looking for somebody who is collaborative, creative, energetic and understands issues important to us, like diversity.” All three candidates will be brought in to interview before a committee at the end of April. The job was posted last November and phone interviews were conducted in February. The committee is made of 12 members, two of which are students. The rest are faculty and staff from various departments across campus. After interviewing each candidate, the committee will make a recommendation to the chancellor who will then make the final decision.

The three choices right now are the interim provost Greg Summers, Otto Chang and Robert Knight. Summers has worked on campus in various positions for the past 12 years and has been interim provost as well as vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs for the past two years. Chang is currently a dean at Purdue University in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Knight is the associate vice chancellor for Undergraduate Studies at UW-Eau Claire.

Before Summers took over as interim provost, Mark Nook was provost. Summers stepped up to interim provost two years ago when Nook was asked to be interim chancellor. It is the job of the provost to act as chancellor should the current chancellor be absent, resign, or be asked to step down. In selecting a person for this job, the committee is not only searching for the new provost, but also someone who could potentially act as chancellor in the absence of Patterson.

“It’s been a real privilege to work in the position and to make a difference for students here and to move the university in a direction we need to be going,” Summers said. “I think having a knowledge of the campus is something that is important, so knowing not only who we are as an institution but also having a sense of how we might need to change.”

Each of the candidates will be appearing on campus for an open forum before the end of the month. Each will make a brief presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. Summers will have his forum on April 17 at 10 a.m., Chang on April 22 at 10:30 a.m., and Knight on April 24 at 10 a.m. The forums will be held in room 374 of the Dreyfus University Center. All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

April 6
3:43 p.m. - Officers reported that a Dodge Neon in parking lot Q had its tail light smashed out and had damage to the side of the vehicle.
8:16 a.m. - An officer requested a grounds keeper to come to parking lot F because someone had thrown garbage and made a huge mess.
6:10 a.m. - Someone called Protective Services on one of the Emergency Blue Phones stating that he just wanted to say good morning, that he had been drinking, and he was on his way home. 1:45 a.m. - Fire alarm triggered in room B112 in the Science Building, Fire truck dispatched.

April 5
11:41 a.m. - An individual called Protective Services to report a group of loud people pulling trash cans through the street and causing damage to property near parking lot Q. She requested extra patrols in the area.
6:01 p.m. - The Stevens Point Police Department reported that they received a phone call from a concerned female stating that she smelled marijuana coming from a room in the Suites.

April 4
6:55 p.m. - Campus faculty member called saying he saw some students climbing trees outside of Knutzen Hall and they were getting desperately high and asked an officer to investigate.
1:12 p.m. - Stevens Point Police Department reported an attempted break in at 2001 Main Street, suspect was described as a white male in his 30’s wearing a dark grey sweatshirt with a purple backpack and a clean shaved head.
2:05 a.m. - A male called protective services claiming that he was in parking lot Q and was being chased by a group of other males behind Partners Pub.

April 3
10:46 p.m. - Burroughs Hall staff member called to report that he found marijuana in a room.
12:05 a.m. - Resident from May Roach Hall called a second time to report the same smell of marijuana coming from the east wing, this time the smell was stronger. An officer was sent to investigate and did not find any evidence of the substance.

The Pointer is a student-run newspaper published weekly for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The Pointer staff is solely responsible for content and editorial policy.

No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

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 Pointer
Portage County Looks Out for Pedestrians

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Portage County is currently undergoing a planning process to help improve biking and walking conditions for pedestrians. The county has been gathering information on areas that could use improvement or change by publically posting an interactive map where users are able to indicate the routes they use the most often, and point out any issues they feel need attention. The map was developed by Tool Design Group out of Madison and is built on Google Maps. The map can be located on Portage County’s blog for County-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning’s site, www.portagecobikedepplan.wordpress.com.

“All the comments and all the information is going to be utilized by our consultants,” said Sarah Wallace, Associate Planner. “They are going to review everything that is input—all the comments, questions and concern—and that is going to be part of our identification of route, destinations and needs. It is one more way for public involvement.”

The county has held meeting in the past where citizens could come in and discuss these issues, as well as mark their biking and walking routes and issues they’ve encountered on a large paper map. They hope that the convenience of this online map will draw in more feedback.

“The planning process is going to identify infrastructural and the urban area very specific facilities, whether they are on-road accommodations, offshoot accommodations, shared use paths, bike lanes, intersection redesigns or sidewalks,” Wallace said. “They are going to be very specific recommendations with timelines. And they are also going to specific funding mechanisms for that.

After the consultants, a group from Madison made up partly of Tool Design, complete their recommendation, it will be up the City Planning department to figure out how and when they want to implement the suggestions. The funding will come partly from money they were awarded from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, as well as a 20 percent match from the County budget.

The county also hopes to gather information through a bicycle and pedestrian count on May 7 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The count will be conducted by volunteers standing at various intersections around the county.

“We as a society do traffic counts for vehicles,” Wallace said. “Those traffic counts on roads filter into the equation of funding criteria for design, based on the volume of the vehicle traffic. We do not do bicycle and pedestrian counts, so it’s hard to understand or get information for what you would specifically want. So we started doing the bike and pedestrian count so we would have a better handle on the amount of use that we are currently having.”

They have been trying to count the same intersections for a few years so they can identify trends or patterns in traffic. If they were to do a redesign or reconstruction, Wallace said that information would be loosely tied to the bicycle and pedestrian count.

The Effects of Divorce on Adult Children

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Graduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are holding a psychological study to investigate the effect parental divorce has on adult children.

Christopher Brundidge, a graduate student working on the study, knows divorce is an important and well-discussed topic.

“There have been many studies completed dealing with divorce between two individuals and how it can potentially affect the family structure and any children involved,” Brundidge said. “It is especially important to study this because a difficult experience such as divorce could either change a young child’s life and his or her perceptions of family structure.”

Brundidge believes that studying the effects of divorce on adult children is unique.

“Our study, however, deals with a much less represented population in similar divorce literature. It is not only important to study this population because of the lack of representation in the literature, but it is also important because being an adult adds completely new dimensions to relationships between children and parents,” Brundidge said. “Having less dependence on a parent can create a variety of different perceptions, expectations and raise many different questions than a dependent youth might have.”

According to Dr. Sylvia Mikucki-Enyart, an assistant professor in the Division of Communication and leader of the study, gray divorce—divorce in people over the age of 50—is an increasing trend.

Mikucki-Enyart said it seems that more adult children are going to be coping with parental divorce.

“As the trend grows it becomes more important to study the effects divorce has on adult children,” Mikucki-Enyart said. “Understanding their relationships and communication with their parents during and after the divorce can provide researchers and practitioners with guidance for how to help these individuals and families cope with the massive change.”

College students fall into the demographic of adult children when facing their parents’ divorce. While students may no longer live with their parents, Brundidge explained how divorce can still have a profound psychological effect on the student.

“College students are individuals who are beginning adulthood and learning how to become independent. Scenarios such as divorce can greatly impact an individual and even more so in a college environment,” Brundidge said. “Our hope is that our research will provide individuals in this population more insight and information on various elements of divorce such as uncertainties, conflict, emotional support and loneliness.”

Brundidge has been surprised by some of the initial results of the study.

“They seem to be more vulnerable to the loss of their parents,” Brundidge said. “They are more likely to report difficulties in their relationships and communication with their parents.”

Brundidge said that he has been surprised by some of the initial results of the study.

“Though my peers and I are in the initial phases of data collection, we have been surprised by the amount of emotion that individuals still possess despite already being an adult in addition to the separation from their parents,” Brundidge said. “The level of complexity that exists when one is an adult dealing with their parents getting divorced is extremely insightful, and I myself personally did not imagine some of the scenarios.”

Students at UWSP are welcome to participate in the study if they meet certain criteria according to the release in the Campus Announcements email. To be eligible for participation, students must meet three criteria: They are currently 18 or older; they were 18 or older when their parents divorced; and they must have been living on their own, independently of their parents at the time of divorce.

Any interested students who fit these criteria can email Mikucki-Enyart at uwspdivorcестudy@gmail.com or visit www.mikucki-enyart.com.
Sprouting Healthy Kids

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The Helen R. Godfrey University Child Learning and Care Center has received $1,500 as part of a $100,000 grant to develop garden beds with fencing in order to encourage the use and production of local food for children.

The program and grant, called Sprouting Healthy Kids, was created through the Security Health Plan and targets children of all ages. The program focuses on health-related issues from planting seeds to harvesting.

"The grant is for teaching kids healthy lifestyles, and that's something we try to teach the kids here. We try to teach families too, so we're hoping families can be a part of this, and it will become something bigger. It won't just be a garden. It will be children learning to grow gardens so they can take that skill and do it at home," said Rachel Hansard, a teacher at the child care center.

In the summer, the child care center also cares for grade school children who will be a big help in the gardening process.

"When children see that what they're doing makes a difference they get a feeling of accomplishment," Hansard said.

The children will be learning through hands-on experiences.

"It's going be a whole process so they can see it from start to end. They're going be harvesting it and we're going be cooking stuff, so they'll get to see healthy meals that we'll be using as snacks. There are all different kinds of things you can do to teach healthy eating," Hansard said.

Stoner Teaches Class About Sexual Diversity in Televison

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This summer, the Division of Communication will be offering a new online course focused specifically on primetime television's portrayal of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals.

"There are various periods that television and film have gone through," said Assistant Professor of Public Relations Andrew Stoner, who will be teaching the course.

"Essentially, we're going to look at a historical perspective on some of the earliest portrayals of gays while also contrasting them with current representations."

Ultimately, the class will critically analyze the level or type of influence television has on societal issues and specific issues related to being gay in America.

According to Stoner, the course will be particularly beneficial to students as its subject matter is relevant in today's society.

Stoner said, "We haven't resolved all the issues with race and gender, but we still have a long way to go in regards to sexuality and sexual orientation, so it is a civil rights issue that is ever before us."

Additionally, Stoner said that as this course will not focus only on entertainment genres of television. He said there are multiple connections to be made to existing areas of study.

"I think it would appeal to people across a variety of spectrums, not just those focused on mass media," said Stoner. "I think this class can open up perspective and gives students examples and ideas about how to critically analyze the things they see and also understand history."

Popular series such as "Will & Grace," "Ellen!" and "Bewitched" are just three of many recognizable programs that students will examine throughout the course.

Professor Rhonda Sprague, who is both the associate dean and head of the Division of Communication, made clear that she is in strong support of this addition to the curriculum.

Sprague said, "I love the idea, it's a very under-studied area, and it is very timely. I think it's the kind of course that can draw a wide audience from the campus community while also reaching out to a larger population."

Julie Schneider, who serves as the advisor for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Gender and Sexuality Alliance, shares Sprague's enthusiasm.

"I was really happy to see that class come up on the time table. Oftentimes, I think gender and sexuality is something that is ignored in the curriculum, so this is a whole class based around something as contemporary as LGBT characters in television is awesome. I'm glad that the comm department is that forward-thinking to include a class like this in their curriculum," Schneider said.
Softball Team Not Satisfied With Early Season Improvement

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With only half of their games completed, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point softball team already has as many wins this year compared to all of last season.

The Pointers own a record of 15-5 after their trip to Florida during spring break and their first taste of conference action last weekend. Last year, the team ended with a 14-24 record with only three conference wins.

"It shows how hard the girls worked over the offseason," said Head Coach Jill Millis. "They really took it to heart and wanted to improve." Millis also points out that the team is still not satisfied with just being better than last year.

"I tell them that we surprised everyone where we were last year, but that’s not good enough. We want to keep pushing and pushing to see what we can do," Millis said. "The players just want to win." The improvement of the team hit a climax last weekend when Jones tossed the sixth perfect game in UWSP softball history.

"It was very cool and very exciting," Jones said. "I’m really glad that I got to share that with my teammates." Jones only tallied five strikeouts and went on to say that without the defense backing her up, the perfect game wouldn’t have been possible. "I couldn’t have done it without them." Millis was thrilled to witness Jones's performance. "She was incredibly efficient," Millis said. Jones averaged only nine pitches per inning according to Millis. "She didn’t mow them down, but she did a great job of hitting her spots and getting the hitters to hit her pitch," Millis said.

Millis also said that it was interesting to see the team participate in the perfect game superstition. "Nobody said anything while we were in the dugout," Millis said. The team’s hitting and fielding has also improved.

Senior third baseman Katie Shuller said that the team has improved their hitting with runners in scoring position. "Most of the time we have been able to bring runners in instead of leaving them out there." With only half of their games completed, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point softball team already has as many wins this year compared to all of last season.

Freak Injury Strikes Pointers Baseball

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It’s an injury that has caused some pitchers, such as Adam Wainwright, Stephen Strasburg and Pointers baseball alumnus Jordan Zimmermann to miss almost a year of their careers. That was the situation in a better perspective." Shuller said.

"I think that we have a great team this year. Everything that doesn’t look good right now is fixable," Shuller said.

Wainwright, Stephen Strasburg and Robert Griffin III, among others. While they may not get to pitch this season, Nelson and Seidl both stay very active with the team. "They are still very much a part of our baseball family," Bloom said.

"I cannot play out on the field with them but still support them from the dugout and during practices, lending a hand whenever it is needed," Seidl said.

"It’s huge for pitchers to pitch with confidence when they know that their defense has got their back and they don’t have to strike everybody out," Millis said.

"We need to be consistent on both sides of the ball," Millis said. "Our defense has improved, but has been inconsistent. When our defense has been inconsistent this season, those have been the games we’ve lost."

Discipline at the plate is also something the team is working on. "We need to become more disciplined and not swinging at pitches out of the strike zone," Jones said.

"We need to swing at good pitches, not at pitches that the opposing pitcher wants us to chase," Millis said.

They have some work to do, but Shuller is confident in the team’s ability to make adjustments and continue improving.

"I think that we have a great team this year. Everything that doesn’t look good right now is fixable," Shuller said.

"Yes, we surpassed where we thought we would be," Millis said. "We’re making huge improvements in this team. "We’re making huge strides from last year," Jones said. "It’s a great outlook on things to come for this season."
UWSP Cheer and Stunt Team Takes First Place at Nationals

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Cheer and Stunt Team took first place at the Cheerleaders of America Ultimate Nationals Tournament in Orlando, Fla. over spring break.

"The first day we had an okay performance, but I knew it could be better. We had a couple falls, which always affect your score a lot. But the second day they did amazing," said head coach Sue Poeschl.

Senior Austin Loveless agrees with Poeschl.

"We went to Florida and competed against a team from Kansas, and we weren't really sure what to think of them since it's a two-day tournament, but we were told after the first day that it was very close," Loveless said. "Day two was one of those things where we were trying to make sure we were in the zone, and we ended up doing really well with our routine."

According to Poeschl, who was recently inducted into The Cheerleading Hall of Fame, the team's final performance was undoubtedly their best of the entire season.

"I waited for that kind of performance all year. We'd always been close to it, but finally it happened," Poeschl said. Senior Staci Schneider said that winning this competition was the highlight of her college cheerleading career. Schneider attributed much of this victory to Poeschl's coaching.

"We knew throughout the season what we were capable of. Being a senior, it was the best feeling and the perfect way to end my senior year," Schneider said. "Sue really turned the program here at Point around and made us a lot more competitive."

Still, Poeschl insists the team's success stems from their unrelenting commitment to the sport.

"The kids are fantastic to work with. They're hard workers, they want to do good, and they really put their heart and soul into it," Poeschl said.

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Like Loveless and Schneider, freshman Reann Dvorscek was also pleased with the way the team performed in Orlando.

"The most fun part of nationals was probably just hitting that clean routine. It's really an indescribable feeling. It's total euphoria," Dvorscek said. "For college teams, you don't see a lot of teams out of your own state, so it was sort of a nice way to see what's out there and how we compare to those teams," Dvorscek said. "It really shows what we're capable of, and hopefully we'll only get better throughout the year."

Poeschl is equally optimistic for the future.

"We're hoping that next year we'll go someplace else, and there'll be a lot of competition," Poeschl said. "I think we're going to be a team that people are going to look up to in the state. I don't know if we're there yet, but that's the point we want to get to. We want to be the team that everyone wants to sit and watch."

Students interested in becoming a member of the UWSP Cheer and Stunt team are urged to attend tryouts for the upcoming fall semester on April 27 and 28. For more information, contact Sue Poeschl at sue.poeschl@yahoo.com.
It has come to my attention that most students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point think that all there is to college cooking is Easy Mac. If they want to go out to eat, their only options are Toppers and Taco Bell. I want to change that. There is so much more to cooking than microwaving powder. Since coming to Stevens Point, I have had the pleasure of discovering a small town filled with endless local and flavorful restaurants and culinary experiences. Good food is here! Don’t settle for anything less.

Such a culinary experience occurred last week Friday at the Student Association of Nutrition and Dietetics’ First Annual Bite-n-Bake event that you can make: Sweet Potato Breakfast Casserole Recipe

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish.


3. In a separate pan, sauté or steam the spinach with garlic until it is wilted. Allow this to cool.

4. Combine mozzarella cheese, onion, spinach, garlic, cottage cheese, eggs, basil, salt and pepper in a large bowl. Stir. Spoon mixture over sweet potato crust.

5. Bake for about an hour. Cool 5 minutes before serving.

Note: This recipe will make a lot of servings. If you want to make a smaller amount, you can always cut the ingredients in half.
Taylor Schenk from Hartford, Wis. and Matt Schramm from Franklin, Wis. have lived together for eight continuous semesters while attending the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

The two, now-seniors, met at their freshmen orientation in the summer of 2009. Schenk decided to attend UWSP because of his desire to study Natural Resources, while Schramm choose UWSP for its pre-physical therapy degree. Although their reason to attend Point was different, the school helped cultivate a friendship worthy of applause.

At the time, neither of the nervous freshmen had roommates, and when their guide asked the group to find a partner, the two turned towards one another.

"We happened to be standing next to each other and we introduced ourselves," Schramm said.

After spending the day together, Schenk decided Schramm "seemed like a decent guy," and Schramm figured Schenk wasn't "crazy or anything." They filled out their roommate forms that day.

What happened next surprised both individuals. Their almost-random room assignment turned into a lasting relationship.

When they moved onto the first floor of Watson, they got to know one another pretty quickly.

Schramm admits he was a little nervous when first moving in but makes it seem like it was love at first sight. Even with the little time the two had spent together Schramm said, "I didn't feel like he was much of a stranger."

Schenk mirrors that idea and said, "We both have almost the exact same traits, except I can hunt and cook better. It's almost like we are twins, it's scary how much our minds think alike sometimes."

The two both enjoy the outdoors, guns, hunting, and fishing. Schenk encouraged Schramm to change his major to Natural Resources which allowed them to walk to and from classes together. Anyone that knows them would notice how similar their personalities and laid-back attitudes are.

"We can relate to each other a lot. From similar interests to types of family, we have a lot in common," Schramm said.

One could say their personality's just, click. Schramm says they learned to trust one another pretty quickly which is what made them such good friends. He described an event that happened in their dorm room freshman year.

"He [Schenk] loves to throw knives at cardboard, pizza boxes or packages from home, etc. He would always ask me to hold up the 'target,' and one day I caved in just so he'd stop asking me to do it. Thankfully it was a thick cardboard box," Schramm said.

Four years later the two pair up to pull pranks on their other roommates and start to playing Russian roulette with a Nerf gun to solve any arguments that may arise.

Their favorite meal to cook together is a nacho supreme dinner. Although delicious, Schramm is disgusted by the "horrendous smell" Schenk can sometimes produce, and tends to monitor his diet.

As Schramm deals with Schenk's odors, Schramm has learned to do the dishes Schramm never does.

Both individuals have a few odd habits, but they both accept one another and their faults.

Schramm admits to asking Schenk to be his roommate at freshmen orientation and believes he is the male in the relationship.

"I'm older, more experienced in the ways of the world, and I'm more of a man," Schramm said.

They argue like a married couple because Schenk believes that Schramm would be lost without him and Schenk said, "I'm more manly and a better hunter and cook."

Whether Schram or Schenk is considered to be the man in the relationship depends on who you talk to. Regardless the roommates spend a lot of time together.

"We have created a lot of memories here at UW-SP to say the least," Schramm said.

The memories will not be forgotten as the pair comes to acknowledge their time spent as roommates will soon come to an end. They will be living together for the Fall 2013 semester, but plan to graduate in December and haven't made any living arrangements after that.

Regardless of living situations and no matter where life takes them after graduation, Schramm said, "we will be lifelong friends."

Lose your roommate? Nominate them for Roommate of the Year! Email us at pointer@uwsp.edu

Winter is on its way out, but it will be back! So the world is calling and it's time to make plans to go see it!

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Spoken Word Poet Electrifies The Encore

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An ecstatic audience packed the Encore Tuesday night to see the internationally renowned poet Andrea Gibson perform. Her performance was a part of Pride Week at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Gibson is a renowned activist poet for queer issues.

"And she's for more than just the queer community; she's all for human acceptance," said junior drama major Lindsay Paquette.

Gibson opened her set with the poem "I Sign the Body Electric, Especially When My Power's Out" and from that poem on set a precedent for the mix of anger, and beauty that create her fearless poetry. Through her poems, Gibson hopes to spread a message of hope.

"The hope will come with what people do with it... the poem never ends," Gibson said.

Throughout her performance, Gibson encouraged the audience to ask any questions they might have about her work. When asked what her process is like for writing a poem, Gibson said that she needed to be alone about her work. When asked what her process is like for writing a poem, Gibson said that she needed to be alone.

"It's important to her messages," Paquette said. "because it's one step closer to getting us all to love one another."

Don’t Knock It ’til You Try It

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No matter their social status, gender, race or demographic, all players of Magic: The Gathering, a fantasy trading card game in which players fight on a fantastical ethereal plane, have the same thing in common. Someone invited them to come over and play, and they were enamored with the community and friendships formed by the game.

Jordan Sisson, a student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, got into Magic because his friends play.

Anthony Warzalla, a Stevens Point native, got into Magic because his girlfriend plays.

Juan-Diego Hernandez, a senior at UWSP, learned how to play Magic in the lobby of his dorm.

Sam Braatz, a UWSP student and employee at Galaxy Comics, got into Magic when he was an 11-year-old stuck in the middle of the Pokemon craze. Some of his preteen friends who he still plays Magic with to this day, taught him how to play on a fieldtrip when they were supposed to be doing something else.

"Magic is easily the most popular trading card game at Galaxy Comics," Braatz said. "We run Magic tournaments four days a week and have a thriving community of players that show up to play. There is also a huge Magic community in Stevens Point that exists outside of Galaxy comics. There are gaming clubs, communal groups that meet at Taco Bell and a huge number of casual enthusiasts that play with their friends."

Braatz plays as an outlet for creative and competitive urges and says he would not play if not for the people involved with the scene.

"I have met so many awesome people because of this game," Braatz said. "I also find Magic to be intellectually stimulating. It is kind of like playing chess except there are thousands of different pieces to play with instead of six," Braatz said.

If Magic is anything, it is complex. There are thousands of cards and nearly infinite combinations to put into a deck that a player may use. No two games are ever alike.

"I think Magic is very comparable to a sport," Braatz said. "Magic is a game, and ultimately the goal of any game is to win. But within the bounds of this goal are people who play the game at all levels of competitiveness, from casual pick-up games with their friends to globetrotting sponsored professionals. The typical reasons that people participate in a sport—for competition, personal growth, fun, the community, to hang out with their friends—are all valid reasons I have heard others use to explain their continued interest in Magic: the Gathering."

The game is similar to sports and music in the way it draws people together.

"Like in music, you don't know everybody, but because of the music you bond. When you're experiencing something you're all into together, you start to bond when you normally wouldn't," Sisson said.

Hernandez believes this is because others have marginalized the game.

"I think that people have that negative stereotype because they usually jump to conclusions without actually stopping to try and understand what the game is really about," Hernandez said.

- Many students are incredibly passionate about this game, just as passionate as students are about the Packers, their favorite band or their major. While an outsider looking in may not understand the complexities of Magic: The Gathering or the immense story behind it, one thing consistently stands out: the enthusiastic, welcoming, kind and fun community that surrounds it.
It’s Time for a Bagel Revolution

SAMANTHA FELD
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I grew up on bagels. When I was a baby, my grandma gave me frozen bagels to cut my teeth on. When I was 7, every birthday party I went to started with bagels. The morning after my high school prom, we went out for bagels. Most Saturday mornings began with my beloved “Once upon a Bagel” deli. Upon seeing the owner, I said a prayer to make me his daughter so I could get bagels for free! (This dream never came true, but he did give me a free t-shirt once!)

For a Jewish girl from Chicago, bagels are an extremely important part of my culture and my soul. These flawless pieces of bread defined my childhood. When deciding whether or not to eat a bagel, this thought process was instilled in my mind from an early age. Are you sad? Go eat a bagel. Going through a break-up? Go talk smack with your friends in a deli over some bagels and schmears. Do you just need to experience old Jewish men fighting about the Cubs? Go eat a bagel!

Upon moving to Wisconsin, my local deli with authentic bagels has become but a memory and a freezer full of bagels from home, which I don’t eat unless I’m on the verge of a nervous breakdown or my friend just fixed my flat tire.

Now this brings me to my next point. Wisconsin, it’s time for a heart to heart. I’m going to just be honest. Your bagels are horrible.

I’m going to give a quick background on bagels to help define what makes one truly authentic. The word bagel comes from the Yiddish “beygel,” itself taken from the German “beugel,” meaning ring or bracelet. Eastern European immigrants arriving to the United States brought the bagel with them to the Lower East Side of New York where they were baked and sold on the streets stacked on sticks.

Now for the anatomy of the perfect bagel. Bagels are not the rubbery steamed imposters that I have experienced throughout this state. A real bagel is made of simple ingredients: high-gluten flour, salt, water, yeast and malt. Its dough is boiled, then baked, and the result should be a caramel color, not pale and blonde. A bagel should weigh four ounces or less and should make a cracking sound when you bite into it, not a whooshing sound.

So now tell me, Wisconsin—how and why are your bagels so big? They tend to be seven ounces at least (which is more than twice the size of what a real bagel should be). The Union of Bagel Craftsmen (this is a real thing) is going to come after you, Wisconsin. All I am asking is that you think before you bake. So this is my battle cry—let’s protest the Wisconsin bagel!

Time: When the moon is in the seventh house and Jupiter aligns with mars. Our fight songs: “Let the Circle be Unbroken” and The Girl Scout Friendship Circle song.

FIGHT ON REAL BAGEL.

Photo courtesy of Samantha Feld
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Life

By Jonathan Seymour
**ALBUM REVIEWS**

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**Generationald – Heza**

One of these weeks, I will be allowed to grace all you readers with a raving, positive review of a band that I have loved for a long time once again. Unfortunately, the end of my chop-busting review streak does not come this week. With the release of their third full-length album, Heza, Generationald have brought a very different album from the engaging, hooky guitar riffs that marked their very successful first two albums. Founded back in 2008, the duo has become known for blindingly bright, catchy pop that warped its way into your brain and set up permanent shop. Heza, however, brings a very new formula to the table, showcasing a largely pacified sound reminiscent of the boom of ‘dream-pop’ groups hailing from California. The album features fuzzy, synty-ey underbeds that lend a relaxing, ambient theme to much of the album’s overall tone. In many ways I found the changes made the album much more filled with forgettable tracks, but really helped to make the albums leading tracks stand out much more effectively.

Regardless of my opinions on the sonic changes the band has undergone since the album that brought them to the spotlight, on the whole Heza is a very listenable album. The track flow together seamlessly, making it a great soundtrack to a lazy day when you want to pretend spring came long ago. Specific tracks that really caught my attention include intro track “Spinoza,” outro “Durga II,” and the jangly, poppy track that really made me realize I was listening to a Generationals album, “Put A Light On.” It also bears mentioning that while I feel this album mark a small downturn for the group, the sheer appeal of the style of the Generationals make the album worth more than a listen. Hopefully future albums will see a return to the powerhouses of pop perfection we’ve come to love, but if Heza is the low point we see in the Generationals career, then we’ve got a spectacular discography to look forward to.

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**Lil Wayne – I Am Not A Human Being II**

As the title would lead us to believe, Lil Wayne wants us to know that he is not a human being. But with the release of “I Am Not A Human Being II”, rather than showcase his out of this word talent, Lil Wayne has proven to be as human as they come; consumed by the very vices that have brought down man since the beginning of time: money, sex, and drugs. Juxtaposing Lil’ Wayne’s 2013 release with previous work such as the “Tha Carter III”, which garnered both critical and commercial praise, is like viewing Lil’ Wayne’s career through the lens of a “Lost” character. In the alternate universe, Wayne finds himself at the top of his craft, winning the ears of both radio-friendly listeners and Hip-Hop aficionados alike. In present reality, Wayne finds himself in a drug-induced haze that turns the once-promising musician in to a shell of his former self. Sadly for Wayne and his fans, there is no magical island, and redemption at this point seems unlikely.

When Wayne isn’t summoning women for sexual gratification, he finds himself lighting blunts before tracks and screaming through the entirety of others. On “No Worries”, the screaming seems to be hallucinogen-induced, and on ‘Hello’ Wayne seems to simply be responding to the rock-n-roll heavy production. In either case, the result tends to be more head-ache inducing than anything else, and it gives the feel that “I Am Not A Human Being II” is comprised of recycled tracks from Tunechi’s 2009 “Rebirth”. Sprinkled throughout the mess that is “I Am Not Human Being II”, are moments where listeners get a glimpse of what made Weezy great. On “R.A.F” Wayne enlists 2 Chainz for the chorus, and while it consists heavily of what ultimately amounts to audio pornography, it’s the sad height of quality for the album, complete with a shout-out to his “Trunkfit” clothing line and a G.O.O.D Music “I Don’t Like” reference. Wayne’s “Love Me” pretty much epitomizes the album, but with Future and Drake’s smooth R and B voices on the hook, and Wayne’s knack for creating smash-hit singles, the album’s third single is an undeniably pleasing listen for all the wrong reasons.

Since Lil’ Wayne’s stature in the game is so astronomically high, Tunchi’s likely got the die-hard following that will make “I Am Not A Human Being II” as commercially successful as any Hip-Hop release this year. But in Wayne’s case, numbers do lie, and with any more mailed-in performances like “I Am Not A Human Being II”, Weezy is liable to not just alienate but rather destroy the fan base that’s made him one of the biggest draws in not just rap, but music.