

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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SGA Elections Results

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Following a month of campaigning for presidential and senatorial elections and months of discussion to discover the views of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus concerning the Green Fund and Tobacco Referendum, the Student Government Association election process has come to a close.

The team of current SGA executive members Ryan Specht and David Boardman received the majority vote and will be taking office for the upcoming academic year as president and vice president of SGA respectively.

"It's a privilege for us to continue serving the students and university, and we are honored to do so in our new roles as president and vice president," Specht said. "We want to actively represent all students and student organizations, through continually gathering feedback."

As of now the team is focusing on training for their new roles in the organization and starting conversations with leaders across campus asking what to work on over the next year. Working with the current SGA leadership to ensure a smooth transition is the main concern for the rest of the semester.

"Much of our platform is the continuation of many projects we have been working on and we are honored the student body is giving us the opportunity to see these through," Boardman said.

Such projects include work with the Green Fund, seeing the

completion of the Health and Wellness Study, institutionalizing support for diversity and inclusivity, and the Tobacco Referendum.

With 73 percent of the vote, the Green Fund referendum passed and \$12 will be allocated from segregated fees towards that fund according to the SGA Election Committee.

"The new structure and bylaws will go into effect next semester. Between now and then the focus is on hiring our Environmental and Sustainability Director, who will then start outreach and more education on the new fund," Specht said.

Currently no substantial projects can begin this semester. The funding students voted to allocate will officially begin in the fall of 2013. The new director position will oversee the allocation of funds and SGA is looking for students who are interested in sustainability to fill the position.

The total number of respondents for the Tobacco Policy Preferential Referendum was 1118. Students were given four options for the referendum and the result is based on the opinion of the student body. With regard to tobacco policies on campus, the student body preferences are, in order: tobacco free campus, smoke free campus, designated smoking areas on campus, and maintain current policies.

"The referendum is considered the binding opinion of the students, so SGA need not pass any further legislation through the Senate," Boardman said. "We are now waiting on the referendum that will go through faculty and staff which

will be happening in the coming weeks."

Once the referendum goes through faculty and staff, the results of both the student and faculty vote will be sent to Chancellor Bernie Patterson, who will determine the final policy and timeline. His decision will greatly be influenced by the recommendations of the student body and faculty members.

According to each team, the election experience for both Specht and Boardman and their opponents Michael Howard and David Rawley was beneficial both personally and professionally.

"It was great meeting so many new and interesting people, providing me with a better understanding of this campus as a whole. I feel a lot more connected with the school and its students," Rawley said.

Rawley explained that he is unsure if he will run for office again. Both Rawley and Howard wish Boardman and Specht the best as they take office, leading UWSP into the future.

"One of the biggest things we enjoyed was going to the student organizations and residence halls and hearing what the concerns of these groups are. This is something we plan on making a part of SGA culture is to do more outreach to represent the students," Specht said. "The experience was great and we are really excited to get to work."

Students with questions concerning the results of the election, Green Fund, or Tobacco Referendum can email SGA at sga@uwsp.edu.

THE POINTER

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Students in Support of a Tobacco-Free Campus

KYLE FLORENCE

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After a recent student referendum initiated by Student Government Association, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student body has voted for a tobacco-free campus.

"The vote has come in and it appears that the number one vote is for the campus to go tobacco free," said Assistant Director for Building Services Mike Zsido.

Zsido explained that as a majority of the student body has voted for the campus to move in a tobacco-free direction, it is now up to Chancellor Bernie Patterson to come to a final decision.

"If the chancellor decided for the campus to go tobacco free, and ultimately it is his decision, the campus and all campus grounds would be tobacco free," Zsido said. "Any chewing tobacco and any smoking products would not be allowed on campus."

According to Jeff Karcher, Director of Safety & Loss Control, this referendum will hopefully serve as a launch pad to create a healthy atmosphere across the UWSP campus.

"We're trying to foster a culture of wellness on campus. We don't want to make this into a big rule issue with two sides. We hope that eventually it becomes mutually understood by both parties that there simply isn't any smoking allowed on campus," Karcher said.

Zsido expressed a similar outlook.

"We are a wellness campus and we should be using a wellness model," Zsido said. "People's ability to breathe free air is hindered when people are smoking at entrances to buildings or certain places where people have to walk through the smoke. Everyone has the right to breathe free air, and hopefully this will take care of that issue on campus."

Given the results of this referendum, it is not surprising that many students are pleased with the likely possibility of a tobacco-free campus.

"People who don't smoke shouldn't have to inhale secondhand smoke," said Amanda Esser, a senior elementary education major. "There's plenty of places off-campus they could go to smoke--and now they may even be more motivated to stop smoking."

Conversely, there are those who

are skeptical. Scott Halperin, who is also a senior and a regular smoker, is one such individual.

"I can understand why people would want to do it with the secondhand smoke and all those things, but I think it's a smokers right to smoke on sidewalks and public property," Halperin said. "I don't really know how they're going to stop every smoker from smoking."

Karcher maintains however that this not UWSP's ultimate goal, and that this referendum will not serve as a means to police students and faculty members personal habits.

"A lot of people don't realize that there are some people out there who are effected by even a very small amount of smoke. There is a population out there, who have respiratory issues for example, where even a slight exposure to smoke can have very negative effects--we're concerned for those individuals," Karcher said. "We're not trying to regulate everyone's individual life decisions, but we do feel it is reasonable and prudent for the campus to move in a smoke-free direction."

SGA UPDATES

The UWSP Student government 2013 election results are in and the results are as follows:

Candidates Ryan J Spect and David H. Boardman won the Presidential Election vote with 82% of the votes over their opponents.

With 73% of the vote, students also voted highly in favor of the "Green Fund" increasing segregated fees by \$12 next year to support capital projects and green initiatives.

Students also voted on the Tobacco Policy Preferential Referendum, by the preferential voting system, leading the vote was Tobacco free campus. Smoke free trailed in second, designated-smoking areas was third, and the least preferable option was to maintain the current policy.

We would also like to congratulate the newly elected senators to represent the College of Professional Studies; Laurie Van Putten, Lee Bartnik, Charlie Greiber, and Parker Smith. Jake Szeligowski, Natashia Powell, and Leah Aeby will represent the College of Fine Arts and Communication. Joseph Rohrer will represent the College of Natural Resources, and Calvin Zygowicz, Katie Cronmiller, Amber Grovogel, and Nick Myers will represent the College of Letters and Science. There were also numerous write-ins for each college, who will be contacted within the coming weeks.

We thank everyone for a successful election, and should there be any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact SGA in our office or through e-mail.

UWSP Ranked No. 9 in Midwest

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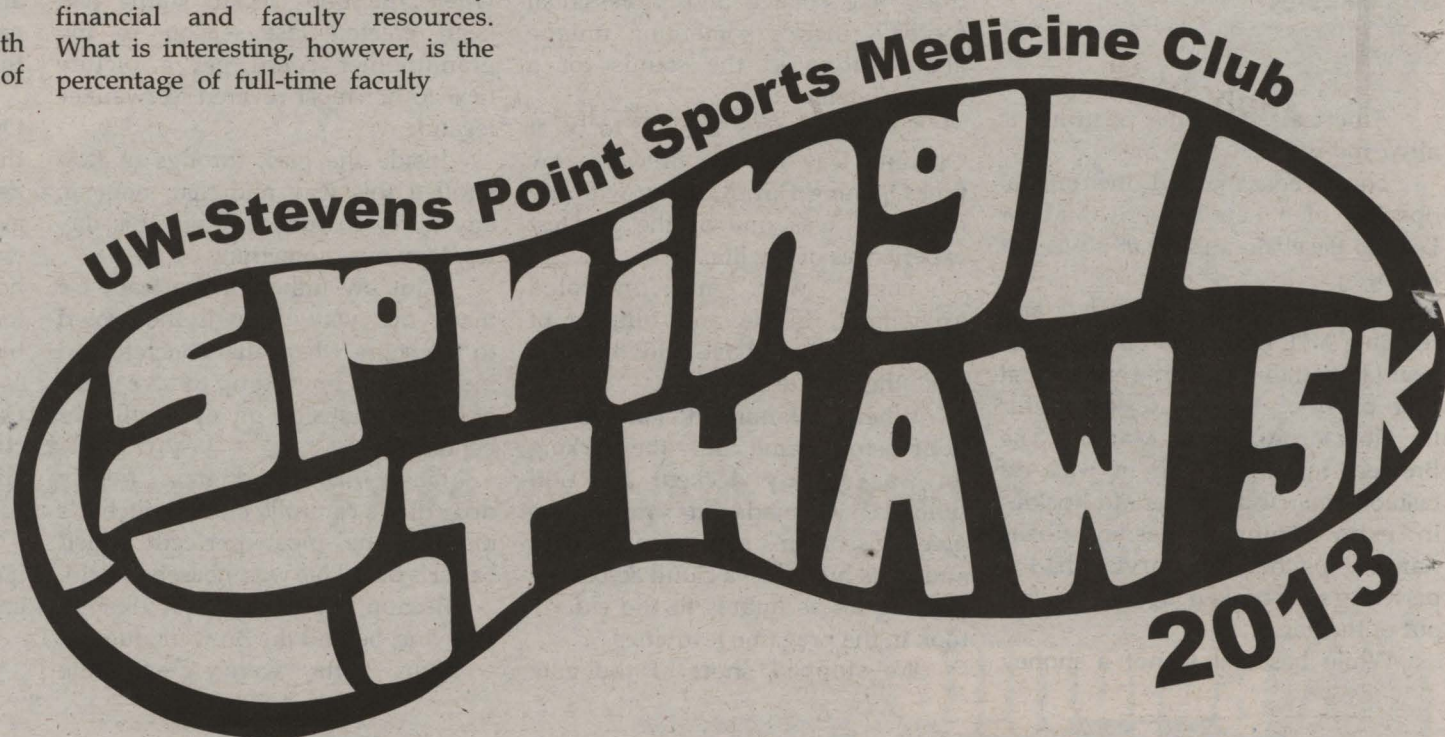
According to U.S. News Best Colleges Ranking, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point was ranked no. 9 among schools like UW-La Crosse, the University of Northern Iowa, and UW-Eau Claire. These were the only three UW schools to appear within the top ten.

UW-La Crosse ranked no. 2, with an average freshman retention rate of

86 percent and an average graduation rate of 69 percent. UW-Eau Claire, ranked at no. 5, has an 83 percent average retention rate and 64 percent average graduation rate, compared to UWSP's 79 percent average retention rate and 60 percent average graduation rate.

Ratings were also based on factors such as ACT score selectivity, financial and faculty resources. What is interesting, however, is the percentage of full-time faculty

among the three UW schools. According to the rankings, UWSP's faculty is 96 percent full-time, compared to UW-Eau Claire's 95 percent and UW-La Crosse's 91 percent.



4 SPORTS

Pointers Baseball Performs Well in Florida

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Head coach Pat Bloom's Pointers baseball team finished with a record of 5-3 in Florida against tough competition. The teams the Pointers played currently have a combined 58-29 record.

According to Bloom, at least a couple of teams they played could make the Division III College World Series this season.

While Stevens Point waits for its opportunity to play again, they can look back on what they accomplished in Florida.

"We saw a little bit of everything down there," Bloom said. "I've learned

that at the beginning of the year, you have to expect the unexpected. It's really hard to anticipate how everyone is going to play."

One of the positives from Florida that Bloom pointed out was the team's offensive production.

"The hitters swung the bats well in most of our games," Bloom said. "We were able to string up a lot of runs in some games."

The Pointers scored a total of 70 runs in Florida, or almost nine runs per contest.

Sophomore pitcher J.P. Feyereisen is excited to see what this team's offense can do during the season.

"I think this year will be a fun year to watch our team," Feyereisen said. "We are going to have the power from our hitters to bang the ball

around the park and put up more than ten runs a game."

Sophomore infielder Riley Spetz also liked what he saw from the team in Florida.

"Overall, I think we're off to a good start," Spetz said. "We have a lot of guys all over the diamond who can pull their own weight, and our coaches do a great job putting a competitive line-up on the field."

The main problem for the Pointers in Florida was finding consistent pitching. The Pointers pitching gave up an average of 5.875 runs per game. In comparison, last year UWSP allowed 3.21 runs per game.

"Our pitching and fielding left something to be desired. We gave up too many walks and didn't get into good pitching counts," Bloom said.

"I hope that we can regroup. We do have a very good pitching staff."

Senior pitcher Jake Herbst knows that the pitchers and even the hitters can perform better.

"We just need to be more consistent with our performances from both our pitching staff and our hitters," Herbst said. "We just need guys to get comfortable with the roles that they have."

With some pitchers struggling, others were asked to step up. That is exactly what sophomore Nick Prebelski did in Florida. Prebelski pitched 5 and 2/3 innings, allowing only one run and striking out six batters.

"He definitely positioned himself to where we are confident in using him in a late relief role," Bloom said.

Now the Pointers wait for the snow to melt for them to show their stuff to the conference opponents. Feyereisen believes that this team will surprise some people in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

"I think the potential of this team is being overlooked by most of the conference and nation because of the loss of Cam Seidl," Feyereisen said. "If we can sync our offense and pitching together, our team has a very good chance at making a deep run into the playoffs this year."

The Pointers were scheduled to play St. Norbert College last Sunday and UW-Oshkosh this Wednesday, but both games were postponed due to the baseball field's current conditions.

UWSP's next scheduled games are part of a double header against UW-Platteville Friday and Saturday that has been moved to UW-Whitewater's facilities. The Pointers next home game is set for next Wednesday with a double header against UW-Oshkosh.

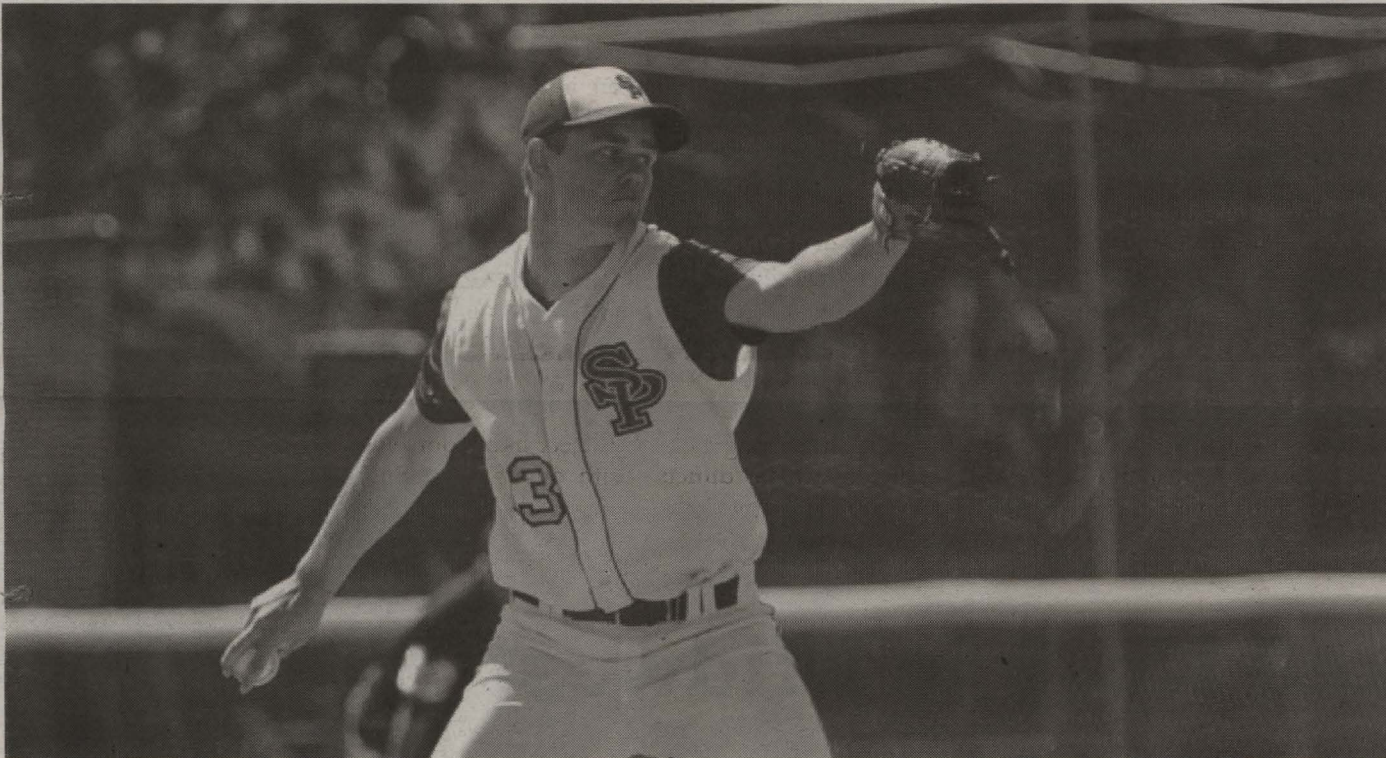


Photo by Jack McLaughlin

The Pointers next scheduled games are part of a double header against UW-Platteville Friday and Saturday.

Opening Day-A National Holiday

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Commentary

America's favorite pastime is alive and well.

This week marked the official opening of a new season of Major League Baseball, and what a week it has been.

Sunday: Wisconsin native and reigning NFL Defensive Player of the Year J.J. Watt threw out the ceremonial first pitch of this MLB season for the Houston Astros on. Monday: The Brewers fought to win in walk-off fashion against the Colorado Rockies in extra innings. Tuesday Texas Rangers pitcher Yu Darvish had a perfect game broken up on the last out of the game.

While baseball is not a money

draw like college and professional football, there's something unique about sitting in the stands for a baseball game.

I was fortunate enough to be at Opening Day for the Brewers—my first Opening Day, Monday with my family. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life.

There was an unrivaled excitement, inside and outside of Miller Park that I have seldom felt at any other venue.

When my family and I arrived an hour before game time, the parking lot was already packed, and still filling as we made our way to the gate. Wisconsin's state scent of beer and brats hung like a cloud across the parking lot as infants to the elderly took in the pregame festivities.

We stopped short of the gate

where the Bob Uecker statue had been erected last season so my grandmother could get a picture next to her most revered Milwaukee legend.

Inside the park throngs of fans strolled this way and that, none in any hurry to rush through this day lest they miss something.

With my father in the lead, we made our way through the crowd to the stairs where this concrete and metal Mecca opened up to reveal one of the greatest sites my eyes will ever behold.

Finely manicured grass, freshly drug dirt, a carefully crafted pitcher's mound, the most perfectly lined batter's box. This was a baseball field.

Section 112, Row 9, Seat 18. First base line, behind the Brewers dugout.

Our seats were great, the

atmosphere was great, the game was great. As close to a perfect day as I think you can get.

But what makes days like Opening Day special are the little things. The beer you have with your dad. Listening to your mom swear along with everyone else in the sellout crowd after the other team hits a homerun. The way your grandmother looks wearing your two-sizes-too-big hat to keep the sun out of her eyes.

Baseball is our game, and Opening Day is our day. It's our day to skip class, skip work, skip responsibilities and focus on the truest of pursuits; happiness.

Monday: I sought out pure happiness, and I found a baseball game.

It's Time To Talk About It

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Let's talk about sex. Let's talk about all the good things *and* the bad things. This month, let's learn what's acceptable and what's not.

The month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month not only among the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point campus but throughout the United States. Campuses across the nation are raising awareness for sexual assault to empower individuals to take a stand for the survivors and help them know they are not alone.

"Sexual assaults are happening on our campus, but very few are being reported. In fact, during a four-year period, there was not a single reported sexual assault on our campus," said Kate Carson, the executive coordinator of the Women's Resource Center.

Carson notes the word "reported," acknowledging that few individuals report assault for various reasons.

"Either UWSP is a magical haven where there are no sexual assaults occurring, or we have a

serious problem with under-reporting, which could be caused by a climate in which it is taboo to admit to having been assaulted or that the reporting procedures are unknown or too uncomfortable," Carson said.

Designed to raise public awareness about sexual violence, Sexual Assault Awareness Month has and will continue to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. The Women's Resource Center is seeking to foster a culture that empowers everyone to identify and fight rape culture—a culture in which images, language and other everyday phenomena validate rape and portray rape as inevitable.

Formerly known as the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Coalition, the Promoting Awareness / Victim Empowerment of UWSP is also working to raise awareness.

"Sexual Assault Awareness Month at UWSP is important because it helps to create a safe environment where we can begin to shatter the silence about sexual violence, connect victims to resources on and off campus, and promote dialogue about the meaning

of consent," said Jamie Chariton, the president and executive director of Promoting Awareness / Victim Empowerment of UWSP.

Statistics show that one in four women and one in five men will be the victim of sexual violence in their lifetime, and many of these assaults occur before the victim reaches the age of 20.

"9 out of 10 victims know their perpetrators, and many victims will keep the violence a secret their entire life," Chariton said.

The Women's Resource Center is collaborating with UWSP's Promoting Awareness Victim Empowerment, the Portage County Community Response Team and the Zonta Club of Stevens Point to co-sponsor a variety of programs throughout the month of April.

One of the month's events, Take Back the Night, is a night dedicated to ending sexual violence in all forms, including sexual assault, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The purpose is to empower everyone to feel safe in the community while highlighting the realities of sexual violence.

"The Women's Resource Center has been holding this event annually on the UWSP campus for many years. We have done numerous things in the past, but this year we are planning to hold a rally with speakers, performances and a march," Carson said.

This year's Take Back the Night comes shortly after the UWSP campus has experienced three attempted abductions and/or attacks on women in less than a year.

Other events occurring throughout the month include a screening of the film "The Invisible War," three different sessions of self-defense courses and the "Vagina Monologues."

Starting at the beginning of next week, there will be a "Tree of Hope" on campus with teal ribbons on it to show support for survivors, which will be up all month.

Through Sexual Assault Awareness month, UWSP will join the nation in hopes to raise awareness on the unacceptability of sexual violence and help the survivors of sexual violence realize that they are not alone.

Students Head to Panama City Beach to Share Faith

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Many students like to escape the cold of Wisconsin during spring break for a warmer place in the country to relax, tan and party. A group of students at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, went south this spring break for another reason: to participate in a Christian conference and share their faith with other students at Panama City Beach, Florida.

The conference was called Big Break and was sponsored by the Campus Crusade for Christ, an international Christian organization.

Aaron Messier, a senior at UWSP, went on Big Break. He explained that the purpose of the event was to teach young Christians how to spread their faith and to initiate spiritual conversations with others, then give them an opportunity to share with other people on the beach.

The event sees many students returning year after year. Rebecca Sutherland, an English major at UWSP, has been three times.

"I went my first time at the encouragement of my friend Whitney Carlson, and I had such a great time that I've gone back every year," Sutherland said. "It's a totally different sort of atmosphere than usual CRU or church. It's both personal and unifying."

Students are taught not to talk about their own beliefs but to listen to others.

"The real purpose was just to listen and understand the individual's perspective on what spirituality, faith, and religion all meant to them. If they were interested, I'd share my perspective, but the real goal was to listen and understand where they were coming from and where they were at spiritually," Sutherland said. "It's amazing what you can learn about a person when you stop talking and

really listen."

While talking about a subject like religion can be difficult with others, Sutherland enjoyed this aspect of the event.

"My favorite part of Big Break was actually going out on the beach and talking with people. I love listening to others' stories and sharing if the opportunity arises. Meeting new people and gaining new perspectives is a real passion of mine," Sutherland said.

These students understand that their decision to go south not to party but to talk to strangers might sound odd to other students.

"Personally, I'm not really sure what non-CRU students would think of Big Break," Messier said. "To be honest, I can see them as thinking it's a little odd just for the fact that we are going to an area that is well known for partying and 'fun,' and we are refraining from drinking and instead

are talking to people and not partying ourselves."

Sutherland understands that talking about religion can bring awkwardness, but she thought it was enjoyable.

"Well, I suppose it might feel a little awkward for some students as religion and faith are some of the 'taboo' topics of our culture," Sutherland said. "But hopefully Big Break would open up the opportunity for students to see that it is possible to talk about such issues without it being weird or tense."

While some Campus Crusade for Christ students may not have attended a typical spring break, they still love to enjoy the sun and warmer climate of the south.

"It's all done in sunny Florida on a sandy beach," Sutherland said. "Sounds like a win to me."

COMIC

Life

By Jonathan Seymour



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Taking a Look at the Visions of War

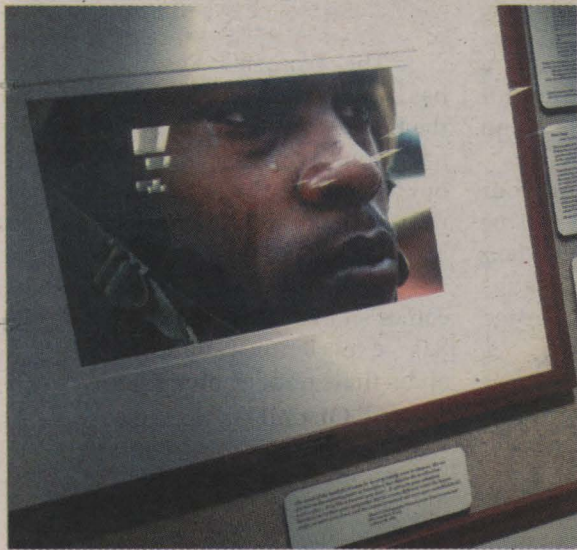


Photo by Samantha Feld

The photographs in 'Always Lost: A Meditation on War' is a reminder that the effects of war are personal and ongoing.

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Visions of War is a series of veteran-focused exhibits and workshops that honor the men and women who have served in the military. It is a collaboration between the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and Mid-State Technical College that has been going on for the past two years.

The program aims to give student-veterans and other members of the university and the central Wisconsin community a chance to think about their war experiences and to use art to express themselves.

Leslie DeBauche, one of the coordinators on the committee for Visions of War, said a whole range of

departments and colleges help to fund the activities for this year.

"This year the program includes an exhibition called 'Always Lost' that includes photographs of all the service women and men who have died in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," DeBauche said.

Ann Whipp, another member on the committee and the Veterans Coordinator on campus, says that the "Always Lost: A Meditation on War" exhibit was initially created by students at Western Nevada College.

"It consists of over 30 panels of the names and photos of all the military members killed in Iraq and Afghanistan since 9/11," Whipp said.

Additionally, there will be photographs from David Lesson, a 2004 Pulitzer Prize-winner, and Cheryl Diaz Meyer. There will also be literary work from Professor Swirczek's creative writing classes, veterans and their families, the Lone Mountain Writers group and other Northern Nevada writers.

"This exhibit reminds us that war is very personal and affects us all," Whipp said.

The display is located in the Dreyfus University Center next to the Laird room until the closing ceremony on Thursday, April 25 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

During Visions of War, there will also be a visit from Nate Lewis of Combat Paper. Lewis helps veterans use their uniforms to make paper and then make art with the paper.

"We will be making journals out of the pulped uniform paper, and also veterans and other participants will have the opportunity to make art or anything out of the paper that is made the week that Combat Paper is on campus," DeBauche said.

Also on campus will be Lovalla Calico from Warrior Writers. Calico and two other members of her organization will work with student and community veterans to write about their experience of war.

Nancy Schaperkoter, the director of Student Support at Mid-State Technical College, said the writing and art workshops support artistic exploration and expression and are open to all veterans, service members, military families and members of the community.

"Warrior Writers support and empower veterans through creativity, wellness and open dialogue between veterans and the civilian community in order to promote connection, understanding and healing," Schaperkoter said.

Warrior Writers also offers prompts to encourage the sharing of stories, opinions and ideas about various military issues and experiences. The workshops empower veterans and military families to release bottled-up thoughts and emotions through writing and art.

"We have also invited award-

winning film-maker and vet Kyle Hausmann-Stokes to campus," DeBauche said.

Hausmann-Stokes will show his film and speak on "Paradigm Shift: Iraq, College, PTSD, and How I Found Therapy through Filmmaking." Hausmann-Stokes always wanted to pursue a career in film but joined the army out of high school and was disturbed by the lack of support from civilians back home. He now has his own professional film company, Blue Three Productions, where he creates content that addresses veteran affairs.

"For me, the purpose of these events is to offer our veterans different ways to process their experiences and promote healing. The 'Always Lost: A Meditation on War' exhibit is a reminder that the effects of war are personal and ongoing with the loss of our children, parents, neighbors and friends," Whipp said.

Whipp believes that Visions of War is important because it informs people about the human costs of war through the exhibit and offers different ways for people to process war's effects.

"We have included several receptions for people to gather and communicate about what they have seen and heard through Visions of War and about their personal experiences and thoughts about war," Whipp said.

Events are free and open to the public and will be held throughout the month of April. Two of the writers' workshops are reserved for student and community veterans. The third workshop is open to all.

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UWSP ELECTS THREE-TOED-SLOTH AS NEW MASCOT

KFLO

In response to student demand, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has decided to change their mascot from the time-honored pointer to the lesser-known three-toed sloth, in an effort to rejuvenate school spirit.

"The pointer has diligently served as the face of UWSP for over a century, but it is simply time for a change," said Chancellor Bernie Patterson. "We wanted a mascot that would capture the dynamic passion and steadfast zeal of our community, and I can think of no better choice than the three-toed-sloth."

According to Patterson, this change has been in the works for nearly a decade, and was initially prompted by the student body, who found the current mascot outdated in comparison to other University of Wisconsin schools.

"For nearly a decade now we've been getting complaints that a pointer simply isn't 'tough enough' to stand a fighting chance in a division made up of warhawks, titans, and panthers. It became apparent pretty quickly that a grander symbol of power was necessary to reignite student interest," Patterson said.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Al Thompson expressed a similar viewpoint.

"This change is inarguably for the better, and I feel will foster in a glorious new era in UWSP's history. Students and faculty should all be very excited," Thompson said.

This decision was not an easy one however, as Patterson would go on to explain.

"We had a lot of options when deciding what the new mascot would be," said Patterson. "The tortoise, jelly-fish, and

bottle-nosed dolphin were all very viable options, and all of these possibilities were researched extensively before we came to a final decision."

Thompson acknowledges this fact, admitting that originally he had not been fond of the idea of having a three-toed sloth representing our university.

"Originally I was not amused by the possibility of a sloth, mainly because I've always been fond of bottle-nosed dolphins," Thompson said. "However, I have come to realize the subtle beauty of the three-toed sloth, and it's admirable, care-free outlook."

Similarly, it would seem the student body is equally thrilled with this long-awaited update. Brian Ironmonger, a senior sprinter for the UWSP Track Team, said he could not be happier with the change.

"I have always thought sloths were cool animals, and now I get to be one," Ironmonger said. "I can't wait to show people just how fast this sloth can be."

Kristin Brockman, a senior dance major and self-titled 'sloth-aholic', is also excited.

"The three-toed-sloth is one of the most regal and underappreciated animals in the animal kingdom. I'm glad that this majestic creature will finally get the recognition that it deserves," Brockman said.

Students can expect to see new three-toed sloth logo's across campus as early as next fall semester. In addition, a live sloth, aptly named 'Stevie' in honor of UWSP's previous mascot, will be present at all future home athletic events, as to provide athletes with inspiration and support.

"This change was inevitable, and I feel will spur a new wave of school spirit for years to come. I am proud to be a sloth, and everyone else should be as well," Patterson said.

[APRIL FOOL'S]

Too Pointless to

ADAVI

Last week Founder and Chief Executive of Facebook Mark Zuckerberg announced via profile post that he acquired the popular social media site Twitter for over \$105 billion on Tuesday. #swag

In his post Zuckerberg wrote that he was alarmed at the number of people using Twitter instead of Facebook. This alarm was expounded during Spring Break 2013, when college students around the country were tweeting pictures and blurbs about their experiences in Florida, punctuating each one with "#PCB."

"The idea of 'trending' is something Facebook could really benefit from, and it's something we're behind the curve on. We believe it's something we need in order to stay relevant," Zuckerberg said.

After acquiring the photo sharing medium Instagram a year ago, Zuckerberg wrote on his profile page "This is an important milestone for Facebook because it's the first time we've ever acquired a product and company with so many users. We don't plan on doing many more of these, if any at all." #YOLO

Users of Twitter will notice a few drastic changes to the website's functionality. Both friending and following will be socially expected of all users among their friends, and pokes will have to be performed as hashtags. #poke #poke

This is the first transaction of its kind to be handled solely on the web. Zuckerberg has been posting to Creator and CEO of Twitter Jack Dorsey's Facebook wall since January, asking if the website was up for grabs. Dorsey responded with numerous tweets. Initially, he had no interest in selling Twitter, but eventually accepted the idea.

"What up, Zuck? How much were we talking?"

Zuckerberg bought the social media website using a PayPal account, ensuring no face-to-face communication between workers from both websites in order to maintain the antisocial

lifestyles of everyone involved. #ratchet

After the merge of Facebook and Twitter users of the former will have to get used to writing in clusters of 140 characters. Freshman international studies major Sara Carlson at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point said she could care less who is controlling the media.

"As long as this whole thing doesn't affect my sad song lyric status updates or my ability to upload pictures of my kitty wearing cute sweaters and costumes, then I'm totally fine with it," Carlson said as she broke up with her boyfriend and immediately changed her relationship status.

Mitch Wilson, a junior majoring in public relations warns Zuckerberg not to overstep his bounds.

"All I'm saying is he better leave Reddit alone," Wilson said. "I use Reddit every day, and it's perfect the way it is. I would hate for the website to change, and I can't imagine it being absorbed like Instagram and now Twitter #checkyourself."

Some Facebook users, however, do not want to embrace the changes. Junior political science major Kyle Ericson does not think should be forced to reduce his Facebook posts to only 140 characters.

"I thought Dorsey was nuts when he first introduced the idea, but now it's being imposed on me and everyone else who enjoys using Facebook. In order to really express myself and explain what's going on in my life, with my family and friends, I need more space, more opportunity to really get my thoughts out for everyone to see. 140 characters is just not enough. Just not enough."

A complete merging of the websites can be expected in the coming months.

"The changes will be made gradually, to ease the billions of people using both sites to get used to the new interfaces," Zuckerberg said. "I know everyone got kind of uncomfortable when I picked up Instagram, and I don't want them to worry this time. It'll be great guys. Trust me."

Have a Title

POINTER
PRIDE!

Stevens Point Nut Snatchers!

CARLOS BANKEY

As the snow melts and spring starts to bud full bloom, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus has the inevitable return of some pesky creatures, squirrels.

The Stevens Point area sees its fair share of these little critters; on average the City of Stevens Point has reported over 22,000 grey squirrels and 12,000 black squirrels live in the city each year.

"They are all over the place, one got in my trash can and tore the entire bag of garbage and through it everywhere," said Peggy Matheus, a Stevens Point native. "I cannot get rid of them. They come back every garbage day and tear my bags apart."

According to Stevens Point Animal Sanitation employee Fred Dapper, the squirrels seem to make more work than they appear to.

"I pick up about five to ten dead squirrels

on an average day. The little guys are not very intellectual rodent but they do have some redeeming qualities such as: speed, climbing skills, and their ability to remember where 90% of the nuts they bury are located," Dapper said.

Not only are they an annoyance on the road, they are also quite annoying for college students as well. Kara Doodle, a junior at UWSP, says that she has run into squirrels that have given her problems.

"One day I was walking to class and a squirrel jumped into my pocket. I always carry peanuts in my pocket for my blood sugar, he must have really been hungry," Doodle said.

These furry rodents have been as of late, causing residents, college students, and city workers problems. Some students feel that the squirrels aren't much of a problem at all. Ian Dartie, forestry major at UWSP, feels that the squirrels are neutral in his book.

"I have no problem with a little squirrel

crawling around my house, in fact I feed them on a regular basis and have a couple cousins (hamsters) as pets," Dartie said.

Jobo "the Hobo" Taylor, a sophomore ecology major at UWSP, thinks that everyone should take a step back and realize what we are doing to the environment.

"I feel that by killing or scaring natural specimen away from their natural habitat will have lasting effects on the Stevens Point area," Taylor said. "I read an article once on the city of Garwicheville Ga., stating that after residents scared the entire squirrel population away to neighboring cities had a lasting effect on how their peanut farms grow. I just don't want to see this happen to our local peanut growers," Taylor said.

When The Pointer approached the squirrels they respectfully declined an interview on their behavior.

NEAC to be Demolished to Make Way for New Parking Structure

NEWSIE NEWBIE

Citing a need to end the parking problem at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, school representatives told the press on Tuesday, April 2 that the Noel Fine Arts Center would be demolished to make way for a three-story free parking structure.

"The NFAC has always been a blight on this beautiful campus, and the students of UWSP have gone long enough paying for parking," said Albert Fernanke, a city councilman who is heading the new change. "The fact of the matter is that anyone who opposes these changes is obviously some sort of art major. We are not a school for future burger flippers but for the future captains of industry."

"Compared to the brutal and modernist structures on campus like the Collins Classroom Center, the NFAC was an uncreative, uninspired and ultimately forgettable structure. What was its purpose again?" said Fernanke.

When questioned on how we would pay for the new parking structure, Fernanke said, "With the money we will save on heating the NFAC, we will pay off the parking structure in only 10 years, but you can't put a price on convenience."

Orin Incandeza, a UWSP music major, met the new change on campus with slight disdain.

"Where will I take classes? Please don't make me ever step back in the Science Building again. It's basically a maze," said Incandeza. "I've even heard of students starving to death in stairwells, confused and alone. What even is that pendulum thing in the

lobby?"

While some artistic types may be upset, Joelle Smith, a biology major at UWSP, is excited about the new changes.

"You mean I'll have somewhere to park other than the K-Mart parking lot? That's fantastic! And they're getting rid of the NFAC? Maybe I won't have to take some stupid class about jazz to fulfill a GDR!" said Smith.

Tyron Harbringer, a business major, was also very happy with the change.

"I'm so sick of my girlfriend dragging me to operas, plays and strange jazz concerts," said Harbringer. "Hopefully, now we can go to more baseball games."

John Noel, who is the building's namesake and donated a significant amount to see the relatively new building's creation, responded to the change with a strange amount of acceptance.

"It was never really a special accomplishment of mine. I had originally wanted the building to be for wildlife majors and hold the world's largest sea turtle exhibit, but evidently it is not financially viable for the school to import fresh saltwater everyday," said Noel.

David Mandrake, an English major at UWSP, perhaps summed up the community's feelings best.

"I've always been so sick of these art majors rubbing their nice building in my face," said Mandrake. "Now they'll have to go to an ugly building just like me, and that's just what I want—equality. That's what equality means, right?"

'UWSP Confessions' Founder Charged with Treason

SIR NATHANIEL

Most students have read the infamous posts of the UWSP Confessions facebook page, some have submitted their own confessions for publication on the page with little to no thought of the consequences.

A bad move as it turns out.

On January 1 the President of the United States of America Barack Obama authorized the CIA, who has been working closely with the NSA, to set up the Facilitating a Unified Nation (FUN) taskforce.

"We've been working in the shadows collecting data preparing for our takedown of the UWSP Confessions kingpin," an anonymous CIA agent told the Pointer in an encrypted email, "it's been hard work but we got 'em"

The "Fun Crushers" as the task force has nicknamed itself originally requested the Navy Seal Team Six for the capture and extraction of the "Founder."

The Navy denied the request but offered to Tomahawk missile strike the Founder's dormitory room.

"We said no way, we wanted that punk alive for trial," CIA sources said.

After months of planning the CIA swooped in on the Founder, who was walking to class, and captured him swiftly.

"I was, like, walking behind this guy playing Angry Birds and, like, this, like, black SUV pulled in front of him and guys in black suits, like, put a black bag on his head," Student Suzy McSuzy said.

The Founder hasn't been seen since. The Pointer has been unable to collect his identity. All records of his existence have been erased.

"Don't worry about it America, we got him and he'll be found guilty

of treason. You just never mind," the Agent told the Pointer, "Oh, and, anyone logging on to the UWSP Confessions page will have their IP address traced.... I have three words for you: Surgical Drone Strike. 'Merica."



Sports

3

Farewell Stevens Point

WILL ROSSMILLER
wross460@uwsp.edu
@willrossmiller

Dear students and staff at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point:

It is with great sadness that I inform you all that I will be foregoing my senior year of eligibility to enter the 2013 NFL Draft.

I feel confident that I will get drafted, even with my limited experience playing football. I only played my senior year of high school, but I feel like my talent is at a high enough level that I can compete with the best of the best. UWSP Football Coach Tom Journell acted confused when asked about my intent to pursue my dream.

"Who are we even talking about?" Journell said. "I don't even know Will Rossmiller. I don't think we can really miss a player that's leaving if they never actually played on the team. Best of luck to the kid, but there is no way he gets drafted."

ESPN draft expert Mel Kiper gave me a 0 on the 0 to 100 scale that he uses to grade draft prospects, the lowest grade ever given to a prospect.

"Will Rossmiller may be the worst prospect to ever actually enter the draft," Kiper said. "He would be lucky to not get picked last in a pick-up football game, let alone get drafted. If a team selects him, it would be the biggest shock in NFL draft history."

But I won't let these testimonies get me down. I think that my numbers, accomplishments and intangibles speak for themselves. In high school I played tight end, amassing a total of one catch for negative seven yards. I do hold the record at Wausau East High School as the all-time leader in least receiving yards in a career.

My height and weight may not be ideal for the position of tight end at the NFL level, as I am only 5 feet 11 inches and weigh only 155 pounds. The average NFL tight end is 6-foot-3-inches and 240 pounds. I will make the move to wide receiver and try my luck there.

Surprisingly, I wasn't invited to the NFL draft prospect combine. Instead I scheduled my own pro day, held in the UWSP weight room. I posted my lifting numbers and finished my other measurables in the Multi Activity Center. The crowd was sparse for my workout, as only my agent Gus Merwin and a couple of custodians were present.

I was able to put up 100 pounds in the bench press five times. In comparison, the most reps by a receiver in the NFL combine this year was 26 reps of 225 pounds. My 40-yard dash time may also leave something to be desired. This year's top time for a receiver at the combine was 4.27 seconds. I was able to run it just a second slower, with a time of 5.27 seconds.

Vertical leap is also a key measurable at the combine. I also attempted it at my pro day. The top NFL prospect was able to jump 39.5 inches at the combine. My vertical leap was 12 inches.

I'm confident that some team could find use for me. I may not have traditional talents, but I could always help a team. I can be great at carrying water bottles to players,

and I also would help with players' confidence when they see how bad they could be.

If any teams would like to contact me about possibly coming in to show off my talents, please contact my agent Gus Merwin. You can reach him at his email, amarc543@uwsp.edu.

[APRIL FOOLST]

Photo courtesy of toyday.co.uk

The Time I Met @FrontRowAmy-A Fictional Recollection of a True Event

GUS MERWIN
amarc543@uwsp.edu
@GusMerwin

I went to the Brewers game Monday, and it was pretty much awesome.

A list of things that made it awesome: I was there with my dear parents and my grandmother who I adore. I bought a new hat. I got a new sweatshirt which basically feels like it was made out of elf hair and puppy ears. I had a beer with my father. And the Brewers won on a walk off sacrifice fly by catcher Jonathan Lucroy, my favorite Brewer.

There was another reason. A reason that is the most pure and noble reason to enjoy any day in life. I fell in love.

I was standing in line for a brat because that's what we do. I received my brat and immediately went to the condiment counter. I put sauerkraut and horseradish mustard on my brat, because I live on the edge.

When I turned around I bumped into the most beautiful brunette bombshell that has ever walked the hallowed corridors of Miller Park, Amy Williams, more commonly known as Front Row Amy.

If you're weird or live in North Korea and have never watched a Brewer game on television you might be unaware of the fact that Amy is the reason the Brewers have been reinvigorated in recent years.

If you bottled up the magic of Bernie Brewer sliding down his slide after every homerun and mixed it with a

Miller Lite and a pinch of dirt from the pitcher's mound, that would almost equal Front Row Amy.

The force of the collision sent me backwards where I banged my head against the condiment counter. As onions and ketchup and broken dreams rained down on me I remember thinking to myself, "I knew this is how I'd die."

When I regained consciousness in the third inning the first thing I saw were Amy's beautiful eyes casting a concerned gaze upon my limp condiment stained body.

"Are you okay?" I heard an angel's voice cry out.

"I think so," I said, "but my noggin hurts and I feel terribly weak from brat loss."

When the paramedics arrived they hooked me up with an IV and a new brat, as well as a helmet full of cheese fries. Amy stayed at my side the entire time, stroking my hair and keeping me updated on the score.

At the top of the fourth inning I was well enough to stand, but couldn't remember where my seats were, and my father had my ticket. Unwilling to let me out of her sight in my condition, Amy walked me back to her seat directly behind home plate.

It was a forbidden sort of love, me from Stevens Point, her from Oshkosh. Westside Story-esque. But we didn't care. It was a connection as immense and unparalleled as Cal Ripken Jr.'s streak of consecutive games played.

By the ninth inning it had been decided that I would run away with her and we would live out our lives going to

games living off food and our for each other.

Then the unthinkable happened.

In the bottom of the 10th inning with the bases loaded, Lucroy hit a deep sacrifice fly to centerfield. As Amy and I rose to our feet in celebration, she accidentally punched me in the jaw, knocking me unconscious once again.

This time when I came to I was surrounded by my family and the same paramedics that had cared for me hours before. When I asked where Amy was they simply shook their heads and told me after Lucroy's walk off hit, she had hurried over to the dugout to congratulate him.

"I would have done the same thing," I said with a sigh.

Front Row Amy's love for baseball and her devotion to the Brewers is legendary. Her positive attitude year in and year out is something each Brewers fan should aspire to. Rather than getting down on the player after a bad loss, she looks to tomorrow, her head held ever high.

Amy Williams is a Brewers fan's Brewers fan, and she will always be in my heart.

Photo courtesy of hubpages.com

AUTHORITIES AT A LOSS TO CATCH CANDY BANDIT

DETECTIVE MCQUACK

No candy dish on campus has been safe these last few months with the Candy Bandit on the loose. The Candy Bandit is wildly raiding every lifesaver or gumdrop holding dish to be found.

"I haven't had a single jellybean in weeks," Professor Snackers sobbed. "I just wish they would catch him already and put a stop to this madness."

It is not known how or when the Candy Bandit strikes but without fail, wherever there are sweets, the bandit is sure to find them. Kit Kats and Snickers disappear with surprising speed and it is suspected that these may be the Bandit's favorite candy.

Study Shows Students no longer care about studentship

SIR NATHANIEL

After a thorough study researchers have finally answered the recent trend of academic apathy. The answer?

"I don't give a shit," one student aptly stated.

In recent years professors have been baffled and disturbed by the growing number of late homework assignments and the gradual decline of test grade averages.

"I just didn't understand why we had such a problem teaching these days, it all makes sense now," Professor Dorothy Goldenbrickroad said.

Researchers from NASA who conducted the study found that over the last two years students have lost interest in higher learning.

"Lost interest might not be the best description, it's more like an interest shift," NASA specialist Dink Fink said.

The study shows that today's students put equal amount of effort into bypassing schoolwork than they would on the schoolwork itself with such online aids such as Spark Notes.

"Yeah, I mean, why can't classes just be easier? I mean, if I go to class isn't that enough? Why do work on top of that? It just seems like a waste of time. Time I could be using having sex or giving myself alcohol poisoning," said a student who wished to remain anonymous because of being in the middle of a child support battle.

After reviewing the study's results professors are starting to agree with the nameless student.

"I think what needs to happen is a drastic lowering of the bar for students, that way the average will no longer be below average," Goldenbrickroad said.

New curriculums will feature matching blocks of wood with corresponding shaped holes, in-class Youtube surfing, and drum circles.

"My exams will now just be large circles of students holding hands and talking about their feelings," Goldenbrickroad said.

"I had a five pound bag of mini Snickers," lamented Cathy Cashews, the vice chancellor of student snack affairs. "I filled up my bowl, turned around to get my coffee, and when I turned back every single Snickers was gone. The Candy Bandit didn't even leave a wrapper trail."

Local authorities are hot on the trail of the Candy Bandit and following every sugary lead they can find. The Bandit is not leaving much for them to go on though and so far, they are coming up as empty as the candy dishes.

"We are doing everything we can to bring this candy thievery to a stop," Officer Pickles said. "We will catch the bandit and when we do, we will see to it that he, or she, never sees the inside of jolly rancher wrapper again!"

Authorities suspect this could be an inside job, considering how well the bandit seems to know the campus and the exact location of every single candy dish.

"We are running background investigations and checking grocery lists of every campus employee to see who

might be hiding a sugar addiction," said Detective Twinkie, the lead investigator of these heinous crimes. "We also want to make sure that this does not spread off campus. The last thing we need is the Bandit to move off campus and cause panic among the rest of the community."

Not everyone on campus sees the candy disappearances as a bad thing though.

"Really we shouldn't be encouraging the students, or ourselves for that matter, to be eating all those terrible things," Professor Brussels said. "Having someone remove those temptations from campus if okay by me."

Professor Brussels was looked into as a possible suspect and although she has an extensive track record of fun burgling, she has a severe allergy to chocolate and was therefore removed from the suspect list.

Any signs of the Candy Bandit should be taken seriously and reported to the Candy Crime Stoppers. Authorities ask that civilians not intervene themselves if the Bandit is spotted, as it is likely that the Bandit will have a sugar high and could be unpredictable.

Until further notice everyone should be sure and lock up their mints, bubblegum, and chocolates, for no single skittle will be safe as long as the Candy Bandit is freely roaming the campus hallways.

KLUCKY

It seems as if every day there's a new 1,000 page bill to read and 24 hours of arguments to hear, and politicians around the United States, including the White House staff have finally decided to solve this problem. #AintNobodyGotTimeForThat.

The U.S. Government is making the switch from "political talk" to "Twitter speak" in the hopes of clearing up complicated subjects and saving time. Politicians have not only brought in hashtags to normal conversations and debates, but also to government documents and bills in the hopes that people will actually read them.

For example, the first half of President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act now reads: "Universal Healthcare. #TreatYoSelf." This not only saves citizens and politicians time, but it is also taking steps to help save the environment. Through this change, The White House is expected to save approximately 30,000 square miles of forests around the world.

President Obama is excited about the decision, "I think for America, it's the right

decision. #winning."

First Lady Michelle Obama is one of the leaders of the movement. "This will encourage Americans to get up and move more! They won't have to spend hours trying to figure out what's going on in their government #YOLO," Michelle said.

Not everyone is okay with this decision, however. Dr. Ben Carson is outraged.

"This is not how we should be communicating with each other. Hashtags are ruining the moral fabric of America. Hashtags are stupid

#sorrynotsorry #oops," Carson said.

Even other political leaders around the world are starting to embrace this new form of communication. Chancellor of Germany Angela

#howpoliticiansbecametwitterholics

#thankyou.pleaseeverybodyhaveaseat.#Mr.speaker,mr.vic president,membersofcongressfellowamericans#tonightthanksto thegritanddetermonationoftheamericanpeoplethereismuch #PROGRESStoreport.#applause#applause#applause#applause #ap plause#wecansaywithrenewedconfidencethatthestateofourunionis #stronger#Corporate#PROFITshaveskyrocketedtoall-timehighs, #BUTfor morethanadecade, wagesandincomeshavebarelybudged.Itis ourgenera tion'stask,then,tore-ignitethetrue engineofAmerica's #ECONOMIGROWTH:arising,#THRIVINGmiddleclass.

Merkel has

started to introduce this idea to her co-workers.

"It's a wonderful new idea. #ja," Merkel said.

Although this change was rather sudden and unexpected, it seems as if

THE POINTER

Editorial

Fearless Leader
.....Sir Nathaniel
Sunshine Coordinator
.....Klucky
Staff Hipster
.....ADavi
Bearded Man
.....GusGus
Poop Tweeter
.....Emma Street Aubin
Cat Correspondant
.....AwwPiss
Reggae Expert
.....Dan Nectar
Grammar Nazi
.....Mary Jane
Minions
.....Silly Willy
.....Shawty Krish
.....Maxxinsta
.....Detective McQuack
.....Newsie Newbie
Staff Stud
.....KFlo
Pornographer
.....Chops Behnke

Photography and Design

Yoga Instructor
.....Sam "Bagel" Feld
Page Masters
.....GARGULAKI
.....Sparkles

Business

Mad Man
.....Q
Guy No One Ever Sees
.....Mountain Man
AP Style Enthusiast
.....Dr. Bunker Hill

U.S. Government Embraces Hashtags

most citizens have or will embrace this new form of communication. Like any change, it might take a while. Obama expects the

movement to take approximately five years until it's fully recognized by all and even suggested that everything will be written in Twitter speak.

THE POINTER?

APRIL FOOLS, 2013

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[APRIL FOOLS]
ISSUE
TURN OVER FOR
REAL STORIES.