

the. pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

February 21, 2013

pointeronline.uwsp.edu

Volume 57 | Issue 18



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2 NEWS

Wisconsin Bids Against Skyward

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Skyward Inc., a school software company founded in Stevens Point in 1980 that has grown into a worldwide business, is protesting the system of bidding that awarded a large contract to Infinite Campus from Minnesota.

The contract is worth \$15 million but has the potential to be worth as much as \$80 million over the next ten years. The chosen company will run the student information system for Wisconsin schools.

Skyward, which serves more than 1,600 school districts worldwide, filed its official complaint with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction on Friday. The department will review the bidding and evaluation procedures, which Skyward said were unfair, to ensure each company receives an equal chance at the lucrative contract.

In a Feb. 15 press release, Skyward stated that there were discrepancies between the Wisconsin Department of Administration reviews and its own findings.

One of their points is that Skyward will cost the state \$14.5 million less than Infinite Campus over the ten-year span of the contract. Skyward argued the Department failed to recognize this because of a flawed cost-analysis system employed by the department. Skyward said that the decision to switch to a new vendor would also reach tax payers, since 90 percent of the implementation costs are going to Wisconsin school districts.

Skyward also argued that the software vendor which was chosen received inflated scores in 73 different cases, some as high as double the possible amounts given on the scor-

ing matrix used to grade the vendors. Skyward also said that it received deflated scores in areas where it clearly exceeds requirements and said it even had its scores changed from the initial tabulation.

Skyward said that a committee member was removed from the selection committee after perceived bias against the chosen vendor, even though an independent observer selected by the department claimed no bias was observed.

All of this leads to an uncertain time for Skyward and its 270 Wisconsin employees. The company has even threatened to leave the state if the awarded bid remains unchanged. If the bid stays the same, Skyward also has the ability to appeal directly to the Department.

Skyward was projected to grow to over 600 employees worldwide.

Many are upset at the prospect of Skyward leaving the state because of the perceived unfairness of the contract bidding process, especially considering the jobs leaving the state.

"As the state spends hundreds of millions of dollars to promote business development, it makes little sense to chase hundreds of good-paying jobs away," said State Senator Julie Lassa (D) in a statement on her website. "His [Gov. Scott Walker] administration's decision to give the Statewide Student Information System contract to a Minnesota company and bar Skyward from continuing to sell this product to school districts in Wisconsin is mind-boggling. Governor Walker and his administration should be holding Skyward up as an example of a Wisconsin entrepreneurial success story, not blocking the company from selling one of its products in our state."

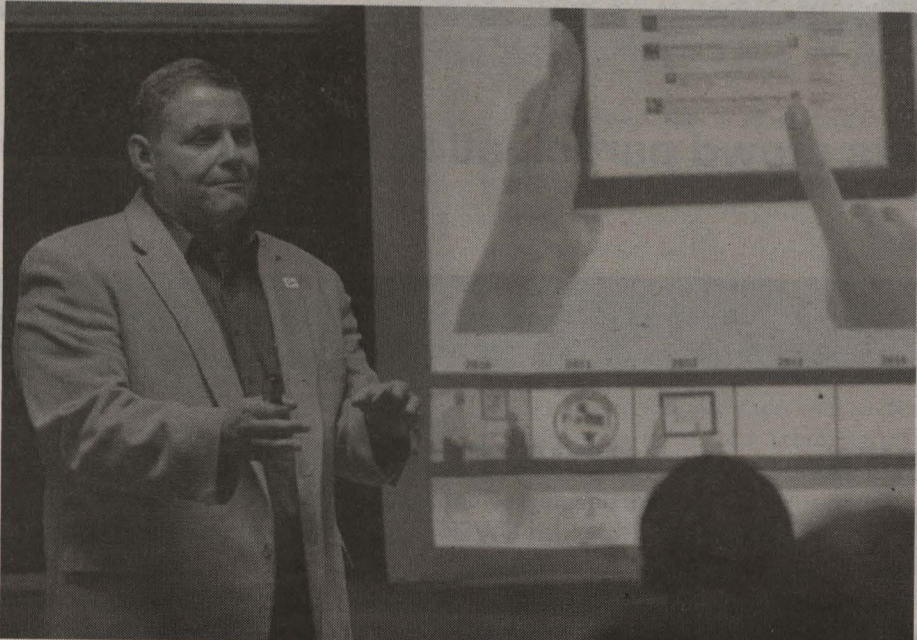


Photo courtesy of uwsp.edu

In November, CEO Cliff King came to speak to students at UWSP about his success at Skyward.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Feb. 16th

9:22 p.m. - Grounds crew called to report a group of students playing in the HEC building after hours. They were asked to leave several times and had agreed to leave but only moved to different parts of the building.

8:12 p.m. - Theater employee called to report an individual wandering around the NFAC screaming and causing a disturbance. She requested and officer be sent to diffuse the situation.

Feb. 15th

9:35 a.m. - Male called requested that PS come and help him jump-start his car, also saying that he would need help moving it to be able to do the jump. PS said they would send an officer to assess the situation and help if he could.

Feb. 14th

11:46 p.m. - Someone was found hunched over in their white Chevy pickup truck with its license plates covered up by snow. PS went to investigate the individual's wellbeing.

Feb. 13th

10:54 a.m. - Staff from Residential Living called stating that a student saw a car with its trunk open and the alarm going off. The student also saw a silver car pull away from it as he approached it.

Feb. 12th

1:13 p.m. - A male was reported to have passed out near the lower level entrance to Debot. Caller thought the male was unconscious but had had no further information other than it looked like it he had an injury of an unknown nature.

Feb. 11th

8:49 a.m. - Employee from Dining Services called to report that a toaster had started on fire. He was able to put out the fire but he just wanted to report the incident and state that the extinguisher would need to be checked.

Feb. 10th

12:22 a.m. - PS were on the lookout for a student who had been seen trying to kick out the window of a state vehicle.

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

Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to *The Pointer*, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to *The Pointer* becomes the property of *The Pointer*.

Annual Fight Night Comes Out Swinging

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This past Saturday, bar-goers in downtown Stevens Point were offered the opportunity to throw back more than just drinks. The annual event, aptly nicknamed "Fight Night" by students and residents alike, returned to Club 956.

"It's crowd-participation kick-boxing. You do not receive any form of compensation for participating, and it is strictly regulated and completely voluntary," said Tim Schertz, the owner of the establishment.

According to Schertz, fights take place every Saturday night through the months of February and March. Anyone willing is welcome to partake, and participants must sign up between 10 and 11 p.m. Eight participants are selected each night, and they are matched by size, weight, and physical stature. Before each match begins, participants are fitted with an array of protective equipment to ensure their safety.

"Everyone has shin protectors, groin protectors, head protectors, and everyone gets a fresh mouth guard," Schertz said. "Heavier gloves are used to soften the blows, and there is always a licensed paramedic on sight."

In spite of these precautions, however, some University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students are still not convinced of the legitimacy of Fight Night.

"It doesn't seem very safe," said Molly Santkuyl, a senior early childhood education major. "I don't think that putting drunk people into a metal ring and having them fight each other is a very smart idea."

Director of Student Health Services Jen Sorenson shares a similar outlook, maintaining that concussions and other similar injuries associated with repeated blows to the head are an unavoidable risk.

"Concussions are obviously a concern, but we also need to worry about second-impact syndrome," Sorenson said. "An initial concussion can cause damage and cognitive problems, but if you get another injury within a short timeframe after that, you can actually have significant additive effects to the original cognitive impairment."

Schertz is adamant, however, that safety is his number one priority.

"I always assess participants' level of alcohol consumption—if you're intoxicated, you will not be allowed to participate," Schertz said. "If, for any reason, I feel that one participant is far superior to the other, then the match is stopped. If you ever get a bloody nose or bloody lip or anything like that, the match is stopped. If at any point you are knocked down, the match is stopped."

Alicia Casey, who is also a senior at UWSP, said she feels the fighting is not specifically what is dangerous, but rather the message it sends to spectators.

"I think that it provokes violence in the audience. The fact that most of the people watching are drunk—I think it could cause situations to escalate a lot faster," Casey said.

Claire Kirschoffer, a graphic design major, agrees.

"It sounds slightly unsafe if people were to get drunk later and attempt to have a rematch with someone outside of the ring or make a negative decision due to alcohol consumption afterwards," Kirschoffer said.

This apprehension, however, is not apparently shared by all.

"The public is requesting it to be here on a regular basis," Schertz said in reference to "Fight Night." "People always want it to come back because it is a fun promotion that everyone can participate in."

Seth Nelson, a paper science and engineering major, said that he

has always enjoyed attending.

"It seems fun with a reasonable amount of safety," Nelson said. "I guess something could go wrong, but I see no more risk than any other kind of intramural event."

Steven Kling, a UWSP senior, also has no issue with Fight Night returning to Stevens Point.

"I think it is a great idea to get people into the bar and boost business," Kling said. "I personally went to the fights this past Saturday and was thoroughly entertained."

Zach Brandenburg, a for-

over what was legal and what wasn't. It was pretty obvious that safety was his main priority, other than providing fun entertainment for everyone."

Nevertheless, Sorenson remains skeptical.

"Fighting generally ends badly. Protective gear or not, alcohol consumption or not, there is always the risk of injury," Sorenson said.

Regardless of personal stance however, Schertz assures that Fight Night is both safe and here to stay.

"People come to participate thinking that this is an Ultimate

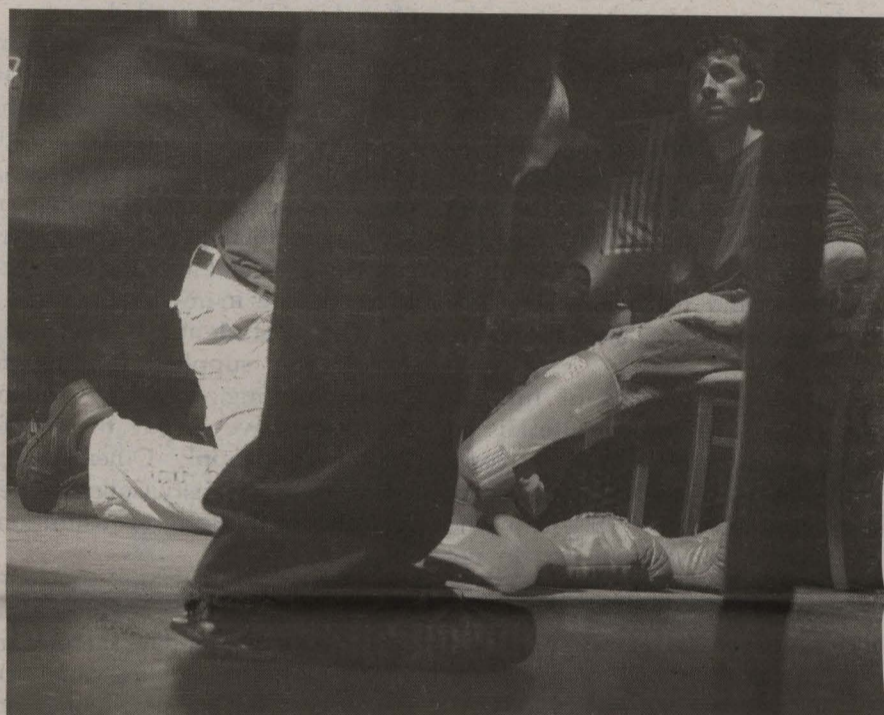


Photo by Sam Feld

Before the match monitors assist boxers in putting on their shin guards and headgear.

mer UWSP student and resident of Wisconsin Rapids, participated in Fight Night last Saturday, and made it clear that he did not regret his decision.

"I felt that the fights were conducted in a safe way," Brandenburg said. "Before we fought, we had to meet with the bar owner, and he went

Fighting Championship-style event, and it's not. You need to wear the gear, and there is no grappling, no elbows, no going to the floor and no wrestling," Schertz said. "It's good fun. It's for entertainment, and it's not meant to be any more than that."

Job Fair Attracts Students and Businesses

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will be hosting Central Wisconsin's Collegiate Job Fair on Tuesday, Feb. 26 in the Laird room of the DUC from noon to 4 p.m. The job fair is also being sponsored by UW Marshfield/Wood County, Mid State Technical College, and UW Marathon County.

This is the 12th year that the Collegiate Job Fair has been going on and is a way for students to interact with employers offering intern and career level opportunities.

Lorry Walters, the associate director of Career Services, thinks that this is a great way for students to

connect with employers throughout Wisconsin who are interested in hiring graduates and continuing students.

"There will be 55 different employers there for four hours, and it's not just central Wisconsin. There will be people from throughout the state coming from Milwaukee, Madison and the Fox Valley, and we also have employers coming from Minneapolis," Walters said.

Students from other universities are also encouraged to come.

"It's for our students, but it's not limited to them. It's open to currently enrolled students and students who have graduated. We bring in employers who know that that's the target population and tell them that it's for intern and career level

opportunities," Walters said.

After the job fair, Career Services will also be holding Alumni Speed Networking. This is an opportunity for students to interact with UWSP alumni and make connections with people who are working in several different disciplines. It will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Alumni Room of the DUC, and the cost will be \$3 at the door.

"It's a first-come, first-serve type of event, where students will each get to talk to the different alums for a few minutes. An RSVP is required, so students should sign up now," Walters said.

The keynote speaker will be Nora Boomer, who graduated from UWSP in 2003 and is now working in Human

Resources at Ministry Health Care. Others joining the event will include: Holly Busse, who graduated in 2002 and is now a second grade teacher; Susan Heikkinen, who graduated in 1965 and is a business owner in interior Design; and Grant Winslow, who graduated in 1989 and works at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

Walters enjoys interactions with students and being able to help them, but she also enjoys interactions with her fellow employers.

"Being able to connect those two populations is special and rewarding, and this event is one way I can do that. It's neat to be able to get people thinking about what they want to be doing after college," Walters said.

Tutoring and Learning Center Strives to Meet Student Needs

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The Tutoring and Learning Center, located in the basement of the Albertson Center for Learning Resources, has expanded its hours and programs in an effort to support the university's goal of making sure that student are able to complete all of their courses and graduate in a timely manner.

The Tutoring and Learning Center is a peer tutorial group, offering academic assistance in the writing labs in 42 majors and minors from over 130 trained student tutors. Tutoring is offered in several different forms: one-on-one tutoring; group tutoring; and the latest addition, supplemental instruction. Tutors help with writing papers, lab reports, using computer software and even with letters of complaint and personal statements. Most of the services offered are free to students.

"We have pockets of funding that cover one-on-one tutorials in math, science, accounting and some econ classes," said Maureen Giblin, director of the Center. "Students who are on the low-income list do not have to pay. Non-traditional students, students working through the Vets club, and students of color do not have to pay — turns out that very few students actually have to pay the fee."

For the few students who do not fall into one of the funded categories, there is a \$9 charge for a one-hour session in math and science tutoring. Last year, out of the 2,248 students who were tutored in the Center, only 75 had to pay for one-on-one tutoring.

"When you come in here, you can expect to learn more than just the facts from a study guide," said Joey Collard, a forestry major who has worked in the Center for four years. "You'll find new ways to learn, new ways to study, and new ways to apply that knowledge."

Students that are hired as tutors must have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher and complete a 300-level writing emphasis education course. Students are brought in from many different majors so that help can be offered in all areas needed.

"My favorite thing about working down here is that I get to take what I learn in the classroom and help other students get incorporated into the discipline," said Devin Christensen, a master consultant in the writing lab. "It's more than just teaching them content. It's about teaching them how to be students in my field."

The Student Government Association supplies funding for group tutoring, meaning students no longer have to pay the \$10 fee that used to apply. Other funding comes from Diversity College Access and also in the form of institutional support.

"We did get some money for extended hours. We are now open until 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. That funding came from the provost. It's one-time money, and we are now hoping to make that permanent so we can stay open."

Giblin stated that Center has been full. Even with the extended hours, the demand keeps going up. There has been a 24 percent increase in individual tutoring in the last

two years and a 59 percent increase in-group tutorials.

Some of the extra funding also went to cover one-on-one tutoring for students with learning disabilities, the Reading in the Disciplines program, and the new supplemental instruction program, where the tutor attends lectures with the students and meets with the students twice a week to discuss the material.

"We choose classes with the highest D's/fail/withdraw (DFW) rates," Giblin said. "We get that list from Records and Registration. It has data that is collected all the time on campus, and we can identify what courses have the highest risk. Any class with a DFW rate of 20 percent or higher — those are the classes that we target for supplemental instruction."

The Center received funding for that program for this and next year but hopes to get continued funding for the program. As Giblin pointed out, most of that funding goes directly into the pockets of students in the form of salary.

"We are one of the largest student employers on campus," Giblin said. "We have wonderfully talented people on this campus."

The Center was recently voted the best place to work on campus.

"The Center is a beautiful gathering of all the best and brightest on campus," Christensen said. "Often times, really intelligent folks work down here, people who are super nerdy like me and who really love school work. Really, I think that was the biggest attraction."

SGA UPDATES

Next week is Inclusivity Week, coordinated by our Inclusivity Director Mark Moua, with the BSU Soul Food dinner kicking it off Sunday, February 24th at 5:00 p.m. in the Laird Room. The 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the Alumni Room there will be an inappropriate questions panel, with a wide variety of students answering any questions and clarifying stereotypes. A campus wide Safe Zone Training will be held on Thursday lead by Ryan Specht at 6:00 p.m. in the DUC Alumni Room, and the week concludes with the HaSEAAC Conference "Traditional and Modern Hmong Arts" on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the Legacy Room.

Hey are you still looking for a place to live next year? Come to the Spring Living Option Fair, Wednesday, February 27th 5-7:00 p.m. in the DUC Laird Room. It is a great opportunity to meet with landlords, and talk to our lawyer about landlord and tenant concerns.

The new SGA newsletter was also published this past week, spotlighting different executive board members and events. The Pointer Pulse was received with mixed reviews, but was an improvement from last semester. If you have any questions or input for further issues please direct it to our Communications and Public Relations Director Rachel Siebers.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact SGA at SGA@uwsp.edu or visit us in our office 052 DUC, and don't forget to like us on Facebook.

Stevens Point Brewery Undertakes Fourth Expansion in Four Years

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As the demand for handcrafted beer continues to grow across the United States, Stevens Point Brewery has announced its fourth major expansion project in the past four years.

The \$2 million undertaking is scheduled for completion by May 1 of this year and will increase the brewery's brewing capacity from 120,000 barrels to 150,000 barrels. The expansion will include the addition of a second brew kettle, a new automated grain-handling system, and 16 more unitanks for fermenting and aging beer.

"We want to increase our capacity," said Julie Birrenkott, Director of Marketing at Stevens Point Brewery. "We want to make

sure that we can supply all of our wholesalers and that consumers can get the beer they want."

According to Birrenkott, this expansion was both necessary and inevitable.

"We need to do this. We're expanding geographically, and we've got new wholesalers calling in every day. This is just the next step that we have to take to increase the distribution of our product," Birrenkott said.

Joe Martino, the Stevens Point Brewery Operating Partner, expressed a similar point of view.

"Our sales growth shows no signs of slowing down, so it's just good business to capitalize on our momentum in the marketplace and continue to invest in our brewery," Martino said.

In addition to an increase

in product, Pointers can also expect a change in the way their beer is packaged. The new state-of-the-art can packer line will grant the packaging department four-pack and six-pack production capability.

"Beer in cans, particularly craft beers, is enjoying solid growth, so when the new can packer is operational, we'll be ready to offer all can-package configurations, from four-packs to six-packs to 12-packs to 24-packs," Martino said.

Carolyn Graboski-Bauer, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student and lead tour guide of Stevens Point Brewery, has worked at the brewery for almost four years. Much like her superiors, she is excited about the upcoming renovations.

"I have witnessed a huge growth in the popularity of our products and brands — this expansion

is definitely necessary if we wish to keep up," Graboski-Bauer said.

Due to the expansion, the brewery will not be offering tours March 1 through May 1. In spite of this, Birrenkott still advises both students and residence to visit Stevens Point Brewery.

"It's an up-close-and-personal view of a historical landmark in Wisconsin," Birrenkott said. "We're one of the top three oldest breweries in the whole country, and we've got original buildings and façade and things from the turn of the century. It's just something you don't have in every college town, and it really makes us unique."

For more information on the Stevens Point Brewery, visit www.pointbeer.com or call 1-800-369-4911.

Getting to Know Daron Montgomery

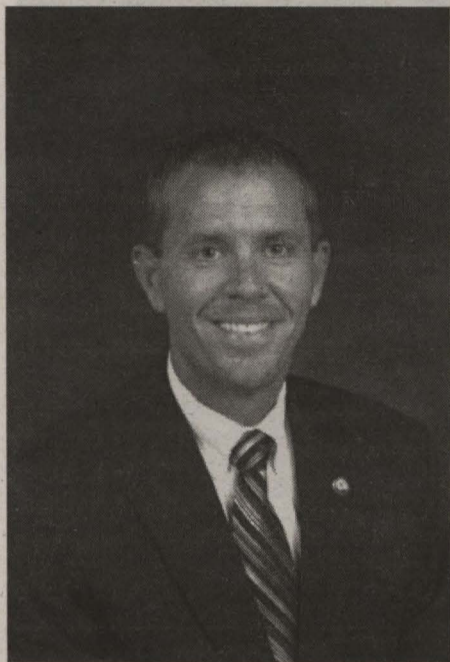


Photo courtesy of sports information

Director of Athletics, Daron Montgomery

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Daron Montgomery's passion for the St. Louis Cardinals and March Madness is only matched by his love for his family and the athletic department at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Daron Montgomery, 39 years old, is only in his second year as Athletic Director at UWSP, but he has certainly made his presence felt.

Montgomery has played a big role in bringing the Women's 2014 Final Four to Stevens Point and bringing in a new Pointers logo.

"It's a logo that we believe is a Division I logo," Montgomery said.

Montgomery was born in Hollywood, Florida. He graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne University in 1995 with a degree in sports management.

He then worked with the Hickory Crawdads, a minor league baseball team, as a Director of Ticket Operations. After two years with the Crawdads, Montgomery decided to attend Ball State University where he would get his master's degree in athletic administration.

After graduating from Ball State, Montgomery took a job with the University of Detroit Mercy, where he would reach the position of Associate Senior Athletic Director.

Montgomery held the second-in-command position for four years. He left Detroit and came to Stevens Point as the new Athletic

Director.

Montgomery now calls Stevens Point home, along with his wife, Karen, and three children: Bailey, 6 years old; Izzy, 4; and his son Jack, born this past December.

Being an Athletic Director is very demanding, can require a lot of hours and take away time with family, but Montgomery does a great job of juggling family life and his work life.

"I don't mind putting in 60-70 hours a week as long as I can have my family there sporting Pointers gear, cheering us on," Montgomery said. "You can't do that at many jobs."

Montgomery also explained that his wife was very supportive. However, it is always a challenge.

"It's always a challenge, but I take a lot of pride in trying to not just be a good Athletic Director, but a good dad," Montgomery said.

Montgomery uses his 13 years of experience from Detroit Mercy's athletic department job to help in his current position as Athletic Director.

"Building relationships is very important," Montgomery said. "You need to get to know your fans, alumni and donors, but also your athletes and coaches. I've

also learned that you have to be a coach of coaches as an athletic director. Every coach is different and you have to learn how to coach each one."

So what is the most challenging part of the job? Montgomery said that resources and communication are a challenge, but they do not outweigh the best parts of his job.

"The fact that I get to bring my daughters to watch women play sports is my favorite part of the job," Montgomery said.

Montgomery attends as many games as he can and understands the importance of his presence at games. He enjoys going to all of the teams' games, but he has a favorite event.

"Bailey and Izzy love going to men's and women's hockey games because they get to go right up to the glass and pound on it," Montgomery said. "If I had to pick my favorite, it would have to be men's and women's hockey."

He works a lot to keep this athletic department running, but Montgomery wants one thing clear.

"The success of our program starts with our coaches and players," Montgomery said. "They are great representatives of this university."

WIAC Celebrates National Girls and Women in Sports Day

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The 27th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day was held February 6th. The purpose of Women in Sports Day is to promote awareness and support for females who are currently competitive in sports and to grow the women's game.

Stacey White, the head women's volleyball coach, says it is a day to reflect on women who have worked so hard to pave the way for females to have the opportunity to participate in sports.

"Sports is such a big part of my life, and I could not imagine my life without it, so I think this day really helps remind women how far we have come in sports and how fortunate we are to have these opportunities," said White.

Ann Ninnemann, the head women's hockey coach, thinks it is a great way to encourage females to be a part of sports.

"Athletics and sports can offer many life lessons women won't get elsewhere. Competition, independence, work ethic, teamwork

and leadership are a few key examples to what women can learn and develop while participating in sports," Ninnemann said.

White would agree.

"I enjoy seeing each individual grow in areas outside of their sport as a result of the confidence and skills they gain through their participation in volleyball," White said.

Women's volleyball participation has been increasing each year with the success of the U.S. women in beach volleyball and hard court volleyball in the past decade.

"Volleyball's popularity has also increased as well, making it a very fun sport to be involved in," said White.

Participation in women's hockey has also increased.

"The women's game of hockey has definitely grown over the years. The quality of the game has also improved. On the other hand, there are many people out there who don't give their children the opportunity to play the game because 'it's too expensive.' Hockey is a great game for both males and females to participate in and learn many core values that will last a lifetime," said Ninnemann.

Annie Wetter, the women's faculty athletic representative, says that since she was a kid, women's involvement in athletics has grown tremendously.

"Women are showing that they're as competitive and interested in athletics as men. They enjoy the college and life experience just as much and benefit from it," Wetter said.

Wetter also serves as a resource for student athletes who feel pressured balancing academics and athletics.

"Some students that aren't involved in sports don't realize how much of a challenge it is to balance out athletics and academics. I'm here for students to talk to when they have scheduling conflicts or when they feel pressured," Wetter said.

White believes that women's sports will continue to grow in its popularity. Wetter hopes that someday women won't need a special day to be noticed and that Women in Sports Day will just be a reflection of history.

"I think Women in Sports Day has made a difference in bringing awareness to sports on the women's side and has helped people appreciate how far we have come and the direction we still need to go in the future," White said.

Ninnemann agrees.

"I encourage more people to get involved and raise awareness that women's athletics still has room to grow and improve with continued support and advocacy," Ninnemann said.

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Baseball and Softball Teams Start Practice

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Spring doesn't appear to be coming anytime soon, but both the baseball and softball teams have been practicing in the Multi-Activity center since early February.

Both teams get about 12 hours a week to practice. While the indoor practices may not be ideal, the teams are excited to be back playing the games they love.

"Indoor practices are fun right away because everyone is excited to get started right away after the four-month break after our fall season," said team captain Jacob Herbst, a senior pitcher.

The excitement does eventually wear off, as some challenges that come with practicing indoors.

"I would say that space is the biggest challenge," said Pat Bloom, head coach of the baseball team. "It's impossible to replicate a real field."

It's also difficult to simulate fly balls for both teams. "It can sometimes be a challenge to get a good pop-up without hitting the ceiling or other objects that are hanging up there," said Michelle Jones, a senior pitcher for the softball team.

However, dwelling on the negatives of indoor practice doesn't help anything. "You have to look to

find advantages because it's reality," Bloom said.

"Some good things about practice are that we do not have to worry about bad weather," Herbst said. "Another good thing is that there are two cages inside for the hitters instead of one outside."

"We are lucky here at Point that we have an indoor facility that we can use," Jones said. "It is a large enough space where we can do almost everything that we need to."

"Our first six games this weekend are indoors in a dome, so it is beneficial to be practicing in a controlled environment," said Bekah Rennieke, a junior on the softball team.

Head softball coach Jill Millis also likes to take advantage of the classrooms that come with indoor practice.

"An advantage to being inside is that we have easier access to classrooms for watching videos and going over things on the white board," Millis said.

Bloom explained that indoor practice also helps him be efficient and think of drills to work in the space. "You try to find some of those diamonds in the rough when you know you're not in an optimal climate," Bloom said.

Bloom may find the indoor



practices challenging, but he is always appreciative of what facilities are available for the team.

"We are grateful of what we have with the Multi-Activity center," Bloom said. "It's not as limiting a factor as it is at other schools."

Bloom said that their facilities actually give them an advantage over other teams because of the quality of facilities.

Indoor practices may not be ideal, but the athletes accept that they are a part of playing spring sports in Wisconsin.

"Given where we live, indoor practices are inevitable," Rennieke

said. "I wish we could be outside all year, but indoor practices allow us to focus on the fundamentals of softball and getting stronger."

Usually, the teams won't be able to get outdoors to practice until after they get back from their spring break games. Last year was an exception, as both teams were able to get outside before they went down to Florida.

The softball team opens the season this weekend with six games in the Superior Dome in Marquette, Michigan.

The baseball team won't see action until March 10th, in the Metrodome against Gustavus Adolphus.



Photo by Mitch Capelle

ABOVE: Pitcher Kenneth Chiu throws a pitch during the 2012 season. The Pointer's first home game of 2013 is Saturday, March 30 at home versus St. Norbert.

BELOW: The Pointers will begin their 2013 season in Marquette Michigan, versus Lake Superior State University on February 24th.

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CWES: Where Students Become Teachers and Everyone Learns



Photos by Casey French

One function the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station serves is as an outdoor classroom for students of all ages. The Central Wisconsin Environmental Station also maintains Sunset Lake and a wide variety of hiking trails.

SARAH MCQUEEN
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When someone mentions environmental education/interpretation (EE/I) you may tune them out before they even get to the end of saying their major.

It could bring to mind long nights

of studying, science courses, and so on. What might not come to mind though, is spending time on a 200-acre spread based on glacial Sunset Lake, surrounded by tall aspens, firs, and pines.

That is exactly what the EE/I major or minor requires: spending time at the Central Wisconsin



Environmental Station (CWES), a learning and teaching facility used by students of all ages.

For students in the EE/I major, there is hands-on experience to be gained at CWES, an experience like no classroom can offer. At CWES, students take on the role of teacher and help educate elementary-aged students on survival strategies, lumberjack and logging history, birds and many other things that pertain to nature.

"I loved that I had the opportunity to teach out at CWES," said Andrea Szczepanski, a biology major and EE/I minor. "There aren't a lot of undergraduate programs that do teaching like this, and I believe it helped me greatly. I feel much more prepared for the real world, in which I hope to become a naturalist or educator at a nature center, state park or zoo."

Students are required to put a fair amount of work into their lessons, personalizing and planning before they teach them. Lessons are an hour long, but one student, now teacher, might have to teach up to four different groups in a day.

Not everything is straightforward learning though. Sometimes, there are campfires, songs and skits. Yes, that's right. Singing just might be part earning an environmental degree.

"I liked having the chance to do a variety of lessons," Szczepanski said. "Sometimes, I would be talking about animals, which I am more comfortable with, while other times

I would be talking about lumberjacks or general laws of nature, which I was not very familiar with. I also had the chance to work with a range of students, from kindergarten to ninth grade."

The Lumberjack Olympics is one of the creative ways used to help young students understand of logging works. There are stations set up where students can see if they have what it takes to be a lumberjack. They even get the chance to try their hand at using a crosscut saw.

However, there are challenges involved. As a temporary teacher, the instructor must make the young students listen and participate. Slightly akin to student-teaching, there is no experience like taking charge of a lesson and making sure that everyone gains from it.

"I also think that CWES benefits all the elementary students we teach," Szczepanski said. "Even if it is just for a day or a few hours, I feel like the children learn a lot about a world they might not be that familiar with. I am glad to be one of the people to help the youngsters understand or at least be aware of how their actions can affect the environment we live in."

CWES offers more than just an outdoor classroom, though. They also maintain Sunset Lake, one of the cleanest lakes in the area, where people can go to swim, boat or fish. They have hiking trails, an archery range and courses such as map and compass training or forestry education.

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Using Your Smart Phone “inClass”

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School-related applications for smart phones are climbing the charts. One of the many is the free app inClass.

“The app allows you to upload your class content, the instructor and the time blocks of your class schedule,” said Keith Lester, a Health Promotion and Wellness student. “It also allows you to insert homework assignments and important dates in your phone as a reminder.”

The app allows students to use their cell phones to manage their schedules and keep track of tasks without having to write in a planner. It also includes unique note-taking

features, such as video notes, audio notes, and photo notes, and is programmed to know which class the notes belong to since it is matched to the time of your schedule.

“It is a great tool for management on the go because it is always with you. Most people always carry their phone,” Lester said.

However, Lester found the app to be more of a hassle. Entering his assignments and checking due dates took just as long with the app as it would a planner.

“Although the reminder system on the phone is nice, it’s not the same as being able to check off things on a daily planner as you finish them,” Lester said.

After using the app for a week,

Lester returned to using a paper planner.

“The app is impractical in the sense that most professors are rather against you trying to put something in your phone because they don’t know the difference between texting and entering assignments,” Lester said.

Although many professors do not mind the use of phones in the classroom, many require students to treat the classroom like an airplane: phones off and stowed away.

No, the phones’ electromagnetic radiation won’t mess with a classroom like they would an airplane, but smart phones can be a distraction to both student and teacher during class time.

Nicholaus Collenburg, a media studies student, thoroughly enjoys using his phone as a planner, but he also finds it difficult to use during class.

“The problem I have is that it is awkward to take my phone out in class and type the notes in the phone. It feels as if I am being rude to the professor,” Collenburg said.

Despite the potential classroom inconvenience, Collenburg finds the app a helpful organizational resource and recommends the app to students with smart phones.

“I would hands-down use the app rather than a planner. I have had planners, and I just stopped using the planner, and it stayed empty,” Collenburg said.

Nursing Degree Approved for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

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A Bachelor of Science degree in nursing has been approved by the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents for the Stevens Point campus and is set to begin classes starting in the fall of 2013.

Like most majors, the nursing degree will consist of roughly 60 credits. Some of the courses offered are clinical courses, meaning that students will work in actual clinical settings to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be a registered nurse.

“Since this is a clinical program of study, students, once they’ve met graduation requirements, sit for a state licensing exam,” said Director of Nursing Carole Paulson. “Once they pass this exam, they can legally practice nursing.”

Paulson explained that the degree program has been in development since 2007, and a high level of interest has been generated by many students and various technical schools in the area, including Mid-State Technical College.

“Students in the associate degree nursing programs at these locations can continue on to the bachelor’s level without missing a beat. Further, they can work and go to school part-time on a schedule that meets their needs,” Paulson said.

Unlike the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, who have full nursing programs granting baccalaureate degrees, Stevens Point is offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) comple-

tion program. Prospective students are required to be licensed Registered Nurses (RN) holding the associate or diploma degree in nursing.

Current nursing faculty will be teaching courses within the degree, and additional faculty members will be recruited to offer more courses when the program starts.

The School of Healthcare Professions hopes to offer courses face-to-face, in addition to taking hybrid or online courses. The university is also working closely with the Partnership for Thriving Communities Initiative.

“This is a move by UWSP to become more connected to the community and its needs, to become a relevant link in approaching solutions to community issues and improving the lives of individuals,” Paulson said.

The BSN completion program will help RNs in the area raise their education and skills to a baccalaureate level and help enhance the quality of healthcare given to patients in the area.

The nursing degree is still news to many students who are currently pursuing a degree in pre-nursing. Students Kera Schill and Alyssa Richlen expressed their thoughts on the new program.

“I didn’t hear about this at first. This is new news and it makes me happy. I think it is good for the campus and will help bring more students to Stevens Point,” Schill said.

Similarly, Richlen explained that she is glad it will open up more opportunities to students. Nursing can be a competitive field, and it is at times difficult to be accepted into a

good program.

“We are all very excited to be approved to implement the BSN Completion program for RNs and are hard at work to make this happen,” Paulson said.

For more information on the nursing program visit www.bsnathome.com or email Dr. Mary Moss, Director of Nursing at MSTC, at mary.moss@mstc.edu personally and professionally.

For Reck, it is a means to connect with a large audience with a broad range of interests and a way to promote information.

“It’s another way of getting people together with the same interests or ideas, and different departments use these communities differently,” Reck said. “The topic can lead to so many venues, and people seek out interactions. It’s another information medium that is becoming so much more inclusive. We are in a community and want to share the knowledge.”

Reck is an active member of a Facebook group called #SocialPointers. The group is made up of faculty and interns that run the social media sites for various departments on campus. Sharing new trends and techniques in the social media world is a common topic.

On a more personal level, Verhagen wants to use social media platforms to interact with individuals she normally would not be able to meet. Concerning sites like Chat Roulette and other instant messaging websites, Verhagen explains that she is interested in meeting unique individuals.

“I get to experience different things that I’ll probably never get to be a part of,” Verhagen said. “I meet these people and learn about a lifestyle that I don’t know much about and have not lived and that is really interesting to me.”

Verhagen continues to speak with a few of the individuals she has met online. She has built a friendship with them and has even met one of them in person.

Some experts, though, argue that there are implications that go along with interacting in such a way online.

“The Catfish video demonstrates a fairly new phenomenon where people are constructing whole identities using the pictures, relationships, experiences, information and connections of people they don’t even know,” Stoner said. “If we think about it, how many times have we okayed a friendship with someone we don’t know just on the basis that they know someone we know?”

Online communities and culture can be a great source of information, but some experts would argue that users should proceed with caution, based on events that where people are hurt by others pretending to be something they are not. However, at the end of the day, people are still connecting and interacting.

“To me, it begs a big question. We call it ‘social media’ but has it, in fact, made us at all any more social?” Stoner said. “If it has, can we even trust the people we’ve connected with? Are they who they present themselves to be if we never personally interact with them in person?”

Professor Publishes Poetry Collection

JUSTIN SULLIVAN

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English Professor, Pat Dyjak, will read from her new poetry book, "Symphony for the Cutters," on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Noel Fine Arts Center, room 221.

Dyjak, who has been writing since she was eight years old, said that her poems reflect a journey of childhood abuse at the hands of her family as well as her own act of cutting. She states in her book that it is an act of hurting oneself and is "often thought to indicate frustration, pain, an inappropriate coping technique or refusal to adapt to insupportable or hostile situations."

"It [cutting] made me feel good. That I was alive, present, that I exist," Dyjak said.

Although Dyjak dislikes the idea of poetry as a form of therapy, poetry helped her deal with the tragedies of her childhood.

"It gives you a way to create understanding and order," Dyjak said. "Poetry has saved me."

"Symphony for the Cutters" was published by Kattywompus Press out of Ohio. Dyjak met Sammy Greenspan, the editor-in-chief, at a workshop and decided to submit her manuscript, which was quickly pulled from the queue.

"She's a great editor, a very good poet and a wonderful human being," Dyjak said of Greenspan. "I am honored that I'm one of her stabled poets."

Two of the poems in the book were written entirely by memorization and without composition. This was a requirement of a workshop Dyjak

participated in, which stressed oral presentation as opposed to the traditional method of passing out copies of a piece.

While trying to recite in that workshop, Dyjak initially had difficulty getting past the first two lines, which dealt with her family struggles.

"I was finally able to put down this pain from an abusive childhood," Dyjak said. "You start realizing the stories you're living in are just that—stories. There are many, many people out there with families not good for them."

Dyjak separated from her family in 2007.

While Dyjak stressed the helpfulness of writing in her life, she also said that teaching was immensely important.

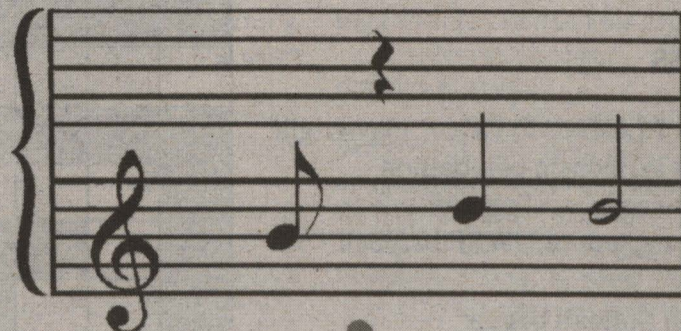
"I feel really lucky I get to teach poetry. This is fantastic," Dyjak said. "I love teaching, all the energy in the classroom. There are so many students here—fiction writers, poetry writers—who need nurturing, who need challenging."

Dyjak says the support for creative writers at UWSP is great. She cited the poetry stuck to the walls on the first floor of the Collins Classroom Center as an example of the university's commitment to the arts.

"Art helps people get through life. Art helps people survive. We have to make art—get our voices out there, a little bit of our souls out there," Dyjak said.

Dyjak is always working on new material and will be using her new book as a promotional tool.

The poetry reading is a free event and is open to the public.



Symphony for the Cutters

P. R. Dyjak

English Professor Pat Dyjak will be doing a reading from her new poetry book, "Symphony for the Cutters," on Thursday at 7 P.M. in NFAC 221.

"How I Learned to Drive" Takes Audience on an Unexpected Ride

AARON KRISH

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UW-Stevens Point's Theatre and Dance Department closed their production of Paula Vogel's "How I Learned to Drive" under the direction of Professor Jeffrey Stephens this past Saturday.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play was written to seduce the audience by taking them on an unfamiliar ride and have them, in Vogel's words, "view the world in a new and unexpected way."

"Since I started here at Point, I've taught the play both in Script Analysis and Theatre Appreciation. The more I taught it, the more I realized we needed to do it because after discussing it in class, we need to see something move from the page to the stage," Stephens said.

"How I Learned to Drive," as explained by Jordan Krsnak who played Uncle Peck, is a memory play,

a coming-of-age story and a love story. Through a series of scenes flashing back and forth in time, Li'l Bit, played by Kate VanderVelden, reveals the nature of the relationship between the two characters.

"It's about a man who deeply loves his niece, a girl's personal journey as she navigates the complex road of life, and the inappropriate, uncomfortable, unnatural—yet still loving—relationship between the two," Krsnak said.

"The structure of the play is disorienting by design," said dramaturge and English professor, Laurie Schmeling. "Sad, irreverent, provocative, and often surprisingly funny, it is an intentionally discomfiting play."

The structure of the play is mostly non-linear because it is a memory play. The production crew wanted to format the show in a way that gave the impression of a memory. The tone and clarity of any given moment

can shift suddenly.

"We felt it was important that the entire production reflect that fluidity, that it not be encumbered by overly realistic design elements. The stage is bare—just a series of ramps and playing spaces defined primarily through light," Schmeling said.

Krsnak explained that the cast and crew did everything they could to create a specific interpretation of the show itself, one that was uniquely their own but staying true to Vogel's script and how she envisioned it.

"Educationally, the structure of the play offers unique challenges and rewards to student artists," Schmeling said. "Most importantly, it opens up important discussions about familial relationships, about the way our popular culture eroticizes young children, about the ways forgiveness can empower us, can help us heal—a whole host of deeply human issues."

Krsnak and Schmeling agreed on what they would like the audience

to take away from this production. They both explained that, if anything, they want audience members to leave with something to think about and something to talk about.

"I do think it's possible to make an emotional connection to a text just by reading it, but for a play to really colonize your head and heart, I think you need to see it move from the page to the stage and you need to trust it and not be afraid of it, whether because of the performance challenges or because of the subject matter," Schmeling said.

"I gained a lot from performing in this production," Krsnak said. "This play is a dream for an actor. It's provocative and poignant, it's challenging, it's beautifully written, and it's all about the acting. This has been an amazing and beneficial opportunity, one I'm very grateful for."

CROSSWORD

The answer to all the questions
can be found in this weeks issue!

3. "How I Learned to Drive" playwright
4. Upset Wisconsin corporation
5. Event hosted at Club 956
6. Team captain of UWSP baseball team
7. Month Softball begins
10. Abbreviation for Natural Resource Learning Center
13. Last issue's front story
14. Name of educational smart phone app
15. New major at UWSP in fall

1. Last name of the Associate Director of Career Services
2. Name of The Pointer's Editor-in-Chief
7. Times Point Brewery has expanded
9. Life comic artist
12. Symphony of _____

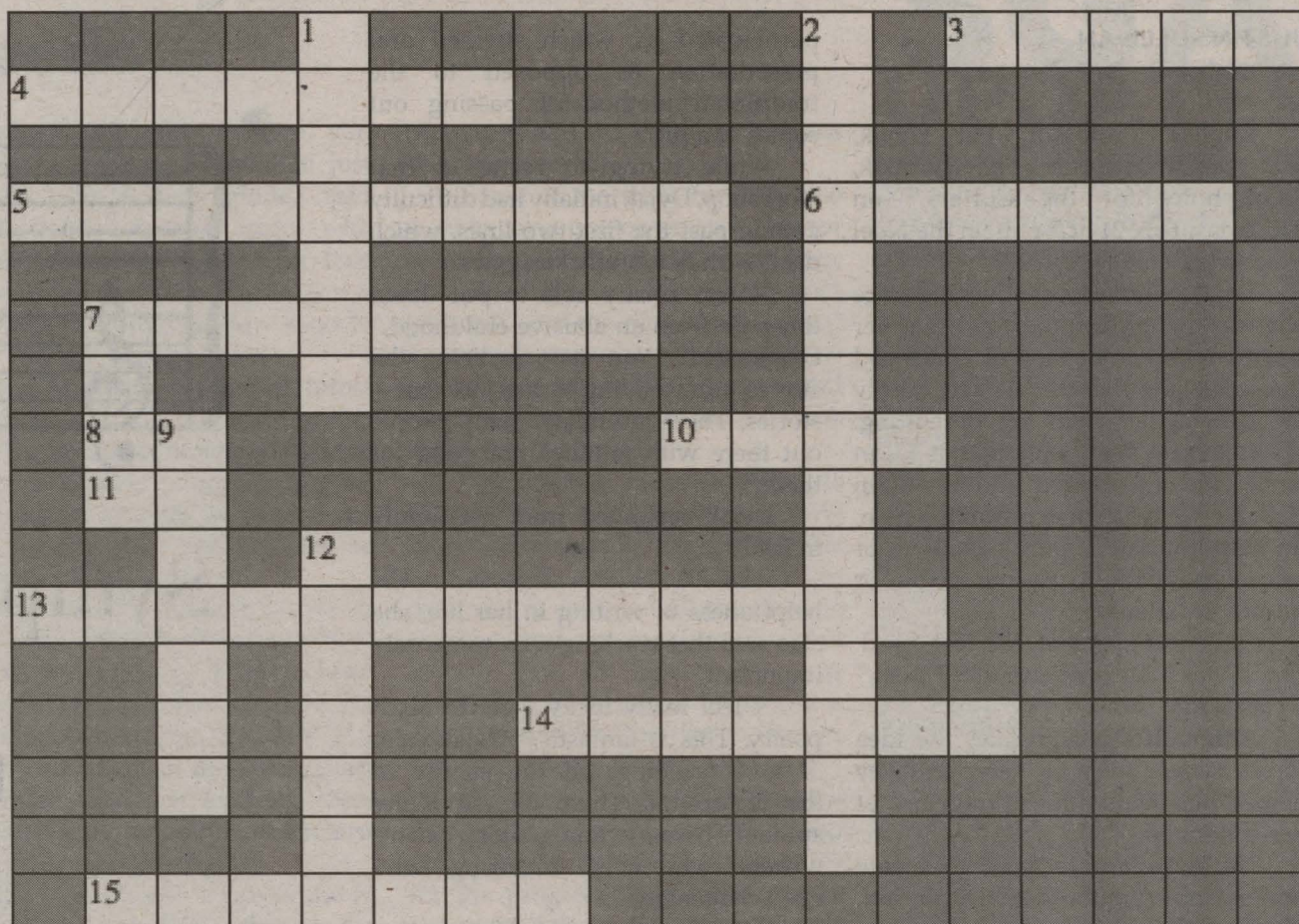


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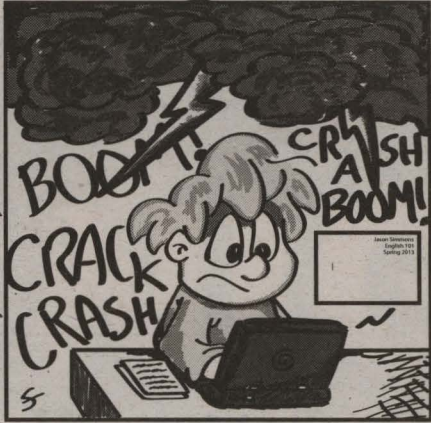
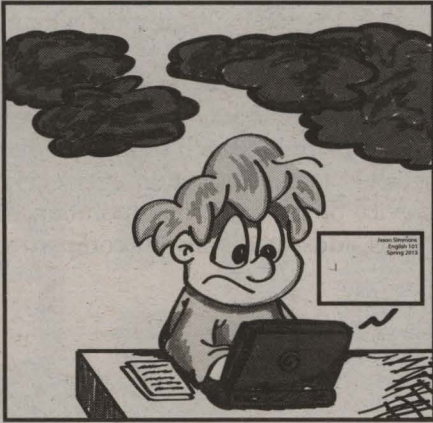
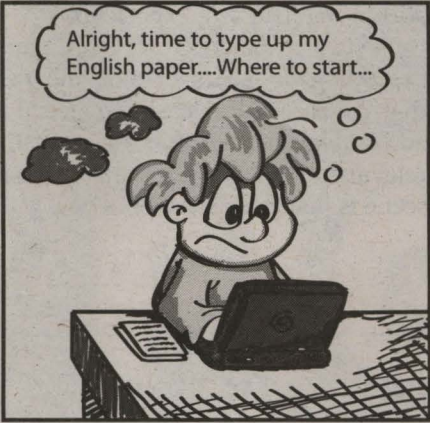
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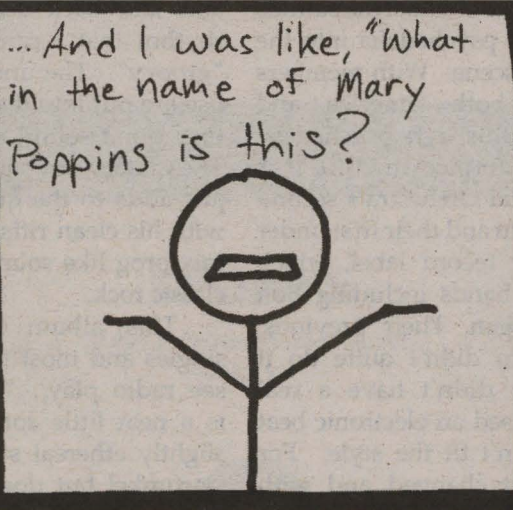
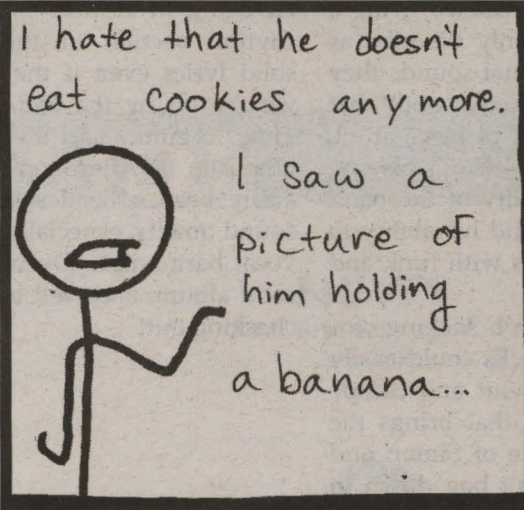
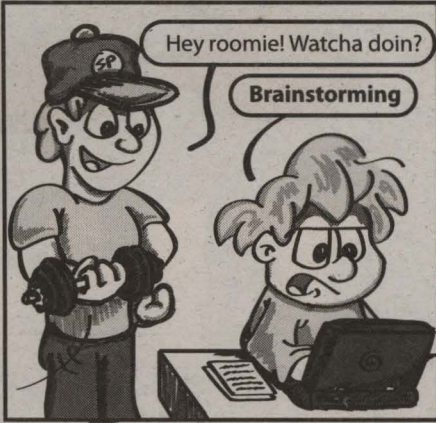
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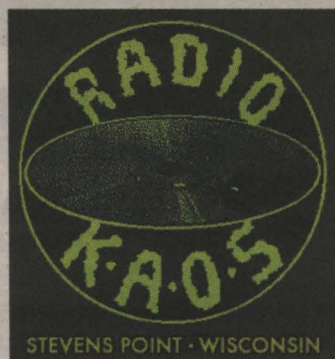
COMICS

Life



By Jonathan Seymour





Yo La Tengo – *Fade*



DAN WATERMAN
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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

The Indie Rock band "Yo La Tengo" released their 13th LP entitled *Fade* back in January. *Fade* is the band's 13th CD they've released since their formation in the 1980's. This New Jersey band is obviously comfortable and experienced when it comes to recording.

Yo La Tengo begins the album with the track "Ohm". Ohm paints a hypnotic picture; combining an intricate percussion section (cowbell and all) with a fuzzed out guitar that sensibly layers distortion over every crevice of the song. Incorporation of horns adds credibility to comparing

the song with something The Beatles might have done back in the 1970's.

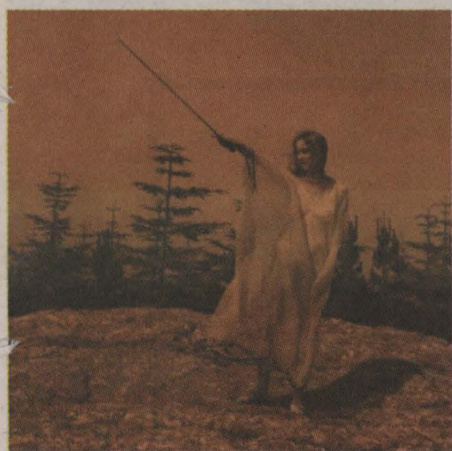
Ira Kaplan (lead guitarist) is brilliant throughout the album. He combines elements of jazzy smoothness with a distinct raw grittiness that would be difficult for anybody to duplicate.

Every song from *Fade* has a different feel. They experiment with song structure, time signatures and genres throughout the album. After previously receiving criticism for their "monofeeling" past releases, *Fade* combines quicker paced songs such as "Paddle Forward" and "Is That Enough" with psychedelic anthems like "Before We Run". Before We Run does a delightful job in setting a listener down where they began.

Yo La Tengo is slowly but surely refining and updating their sound. *Fade* is far more delicate than their 2006 release "I'm Not Afraid of You and I'll Beat You're A**". The album in its entirety is better thought through; it has dips and peaks which add to the listening experience.

With a majority of the band exceeding 50 years of age, the fact that they are still releasing material is admirable; the fact that they are still relevant in today's alternative music scene is just the cherry on top.

Unknown Mortal Orchestra – *II*



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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

Sounding like a blast from the past, Unknown Mortal Orchestra is a band that is able to channel the sounds of 60's and 70's psychedelia into the modern music scene. With members hailing from both America and New Zealand, this lo-fi psychedelic rock band was formed in 2010. *II* is Unknown Mortal Orchestra's second full length album and their first under the Jagjaguwar record label, which includes other bands including Bon Iver and Foxygen. Their previous, self-titled album didn't quite do it for me. They didn't have a real drummer but used an electronic beat maker that didn't fit the style. For this album that changed and with it they were able to have a more

responsive rhythm which definitely shows. They have such a smooth and laid back style mixed with a rhythm that I can only describe as "groovy". The unusual sounds they use are put into the songs subtly that they don't sound out of place at all. The guitarist Ruban Nelson's playing just adds to the quality of the band with his clean riffs and his ability to mix prog like sounds with funk and classic rock.

This album isn't lacking for singles and most tracks could easily see radio play. "Swim and Sleep" is a neat little song that brings the slightly ethereal style of Simon and Garfunkel but doesn't bog down in itself. The progressive guitar licks

as well as the pulse keeps a sense of purpose to the song. "So Good At Being In Trouble" shows off the rhythm section of the band, has solid lyrics even if the chorus does wear a bit by the end. "One At a Time" is funky and awesome. "The Opposite of Afternoon" could have easily been a Beatles song with its sound quality, especially in their cool vocal harmonies. Overall it's a very solid album, and well beyond worth checking out!