the DOINTEI University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

February 28, 2013

pointeronline.uwsp.edu

Volume 57 | Issue 19



Fox Theatre under new management page 4

INSIDE

NEWS

SGA Presidential Campaign starts page 2

SPORTS

Civil unrest in athletics pages 5

POINTLIFE

Therapeutic puppies page 7







@uwsp_pointer

SGA Presidential Campaigns Start

AARON KRISH

akris821@uwsp.edu

Candidates for the presidential election for the Student Government Association were announced, and campaigning started following last week's senate meeting.

Running for office of president and vice president are freshmen Daniel Rawley and Michael Howard. Their opponents are current SGA executive board members Student Life Issues Director Ryan Specht and running partner Interim Legislative Issues Director David Boardman.

Each team has a month to campaign and reach the student body before the general election on Friday, March 15. While each duo has different views concerning the student body, all four candidates intend to serve the student body of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"As relatively new students to UWSP, we have a fresh, unbiased approach to the current issues facing this campus," Rawley said. "We have gathered many different opinions from our fellow students on what they would like to see changed. We must provide them with an explanation of what a Howard-Rawley presidency would look like."

"Each generation of campus leaders needs the preceding one to help develop it to its fullest potential, and in the office of the presidency I can work to not only better this campus today, but to also grow leaders to continue a strong tradition of student leadership for years to come," Specht said.

Howard/Rawley Platform

Howard and Rawley's plan is to focus on many on-campus services such as snow removal and parking issues. They seek to raise awareness of the SGA bike rental program, inspect dining services policies and support a green fund for the campus.

Concerning the construction of bike overhangs in certain areas around campus, Howard and Rawley explained that it would both save students money and encourage year-round sustainable transportation. The support for a green fund could further sustainability and help the campus seek greener pathways for implementation.

The pair would also focus on the removal of snow and ice during the winter months to further ensure the safety and cleanliness of the campus.

Parking at UWSP is one of the most affordable services offered by the university but continues to be inconvenient to Howard and Rawley. They would establish a task force that would include members of Parking Services, faculty and students to

discuss and implement changes to fix the ongoing problem.

Finally, the duo will look at and review current policies of Dining Services to ensure that students are provided "with a more efficient and economical way to purchase food on campus," according to their platform.

Specht/Boardman Platform



Photo courtesy of Ryan Specht

SGA Presidential Candidates Ryan Specht and David Boardman

Specht and Boardman wish to continue working on current SGA legislation in their current positions and expand on many others if voted into office. Issues include the general education program, services offered by the university, campus safety and inclusivity and diversity.

The team is for the establishment of a green fund for which students have the maximum control and input on to "solidify the university's commitment to environmental and sustainability issues."

Similarly, they also plan to dedicate time increase the promotion of existing health and wellness programs on campus, while also looking at new initiatives like the Healthy Communities initiative for a healthier campus.

They also wish to ensure a smooth transition into the revised general education program by offering support to advising resources, as well as the continuation of current academic programs like the Tutoring-Learning Center and Health Services. They wish to ensure students are getting the academic and personal help they need.

Both SGA members wish to welcome a diverse population onto the UWSP campus to maintain a liberal arts education, as well as ensure the improvement of campus safety to maintain a welcoming and stable campus environment.

Finally, Specht and Boardman intend to work with local, state and federal leaders to keep tuition from rising. They look to find alternative solutions to maintain the quality of service that the university offers to its students.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Feb. 23rd

1:10 p.m. - Allen Center staff called Protective services to report the smell of smoke coming from the basement of the building. They were unable to open all of the doors to investigate the cause. No alarms were triggered and no smoke was visible, just the sell was present.

3:27 a.m. - Male individual called stating that he wanted to check up on his friend who he hadn't seen in quite some time. He said they had been out drinking but wouldn't say how much they drank.

Feb. 22nd

2:21 p.m. - Campus staff member called to request an officer to investigate a possible drug usage. The officer on duty said he had things of higher priority and could not go, staff member was called back an informed there would be no investigation. He said "Ok."

Feb. 21st

11:26 p.m. - While conducting a follow-up in the DUC an officer overheard the ATM alarm going off with a credit card stuck in the machine. He brought t back to the PS office.

9:30 p.m. - Protective Services got a call from the university's security company saying the burglary alarm went off at the Schmeekle Reserve Center.

9:00 a.m. - A student got stuck in the LRC elevator. Electrician was called to fix it.

Feb. 20th

8:57 a.m. - A student called saying that she nearly passed out earlier in the day and asked if Protective Services could give her a ride to health services. PS told informed her of their transportation policies but suggested she try to get a ride from a friend.

12:03 a.m. – Hansen Hall staff called to report their office door was vandalized.

Feb. 19th

10:45 a.m. – Parking attendant reported someone grabbed his ticket machine out of his hands and ran away.

Feb. 17th

2:52 a.m. – City dispatched an ambulance to a Suites room for a male who was believed to have alcohol poisoning. He was reported to be conscious and breathing.

THE POINTER Editorial

Editor-in-Chief	
	.Nathanael Enwald
Managing Editor	K-lab - Lucebeau
News Editor	Kaitlyn Luckow
TNEWS Editor	Andy Davis
Sports Editor	
,	Gus Merwin
Pointlife Editor	F 6: A 1:
	Emma St. Aubin
Layout Editor	Sara Rebers
Online Editor	Manager a reder of
	Dan Neckar
Copy Editor	
	Mary Anne Hinkle
Reporters	Will Rossmiller
A	Kyle Florence
	Aaron Krish
	Rachel Pukall
	Sarah McQueen
	Justin Sullivan
Multimedia Report	
	Kyle Behnke

Photography and Design

Photo Editor	
	Samantha Feld
Page Designers	
	Kassandra Gargulak
	Ally Gosda

Business

Advertising Manager
Andrew Quaschnick
Business Manager
Michael Bergman
Faculty Adviser
Dr Steven Hill

Editorial Policies

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

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

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*.

Will Green Get the Vote?

SARAH MCQUEEN

smcqu643@uwsp.edu

Various member of the Student Government Association have collaborated to begin a program that will provide funding for an environmental and sustainability movement on campus while simultaneously providing a way for people to share their ideas on this

"When we were looking at sustainability on campus and how it's done, we identified two areas that could be improved," said senator for the Student Government Association, David Boardman. "One, there is not an adequate funding source for sustainable capital projects and investments on this campus. Two, we obviously have a lot of different interested parties on sustainability and a lot of ideas and experts out there on this campus. But there is really no central structure or place for them to come together and collaborate on those ideas and projects."

The University of Wisconsin-

Stevens Point currently dedicates about \$15,000 annually to sustainability projects. That money is overseen by SGA and goes to educational programs, funding speakers and other projects.

"When you look at a lot of capital projects, it's really not a lot of money to implement effective projects," Boardman said. "That is only under SGA's control, and it doesn't really account for all the other parties on campus that have sustainability in mind"

With the new green fund, the amount of money available would increase by about \$100,000. The funding would all come directly from segregated fees, which would work out to about \$12 per student every year.

"We looked at the amount of funding that other UW system comprehensives had for green funds, and it turned out that two other colleges that had really strong green funds, UW-Eau Claire and UW-Lacrosse," "Both had funds that were right around 1.2 to 1.5 percent from their student segregated fees that went towards a dedicated sustainability fund," said Mackenzie Walters, who is regional field organizer at UWSP.

The fund is set up in two ways. There will be a Green Council and a Steering Committee. The Green Council will be made up of anyone who is interested in sharing ideas on improving sustainability on campus. From the Green Council, members will be elected to sit on the Steering Committee. The committee will have some students, a member from SGA, a member from residential living and a Sustainability Coordinator, who has yet to be hired. The Steering Committee will determine how the funds will be utilized.

Part of the requirement for investing these funds in any project is that they must be able to prove money spent will be made up within 16 years. For example, if they want to improve efficiency of a heating system in a building, they must prove that they will save the money spent by lowering utility bills.

"While this is definitely a project we are passionate about, we really believe that it should be a mechanism for the students at large to pursue their sustainability goals," Walters said. "So we haven't hard-written any projects into the bylaw, so to speak. The big hope would be lowering the university's carbon footprint."

If the referendum is passed, it will last for five years. After those five years, it will have to pass students' votes again in order to continue.

Provided that the SGA senate votes for the green fund to go through, the referendum will be issued to students in the election on March 15-21. The election is done via email, and the referendums will appear along with ballots for choosing SGA officials. Walters stated that students should reach out to SGA even before the vote with any concerns or opinions they have on this issue.

If the funding gets a majority vote from the students, the program will begin in the fall semester.

Inclusivity Week Promotes Understanding Across Cultures and Genders

ANDY DAVIS

adavi481@uwsp.edu

Today marks the middle of Inclusivity Week, a series of events that intend to promote inclusivity within the student body and create an understanding of other races, cultures and sexual orientations.

The week was organized by Mark Moua, Inclusivity Director through the Student Government Association, with the help of Diversity and College Access. Moua said the week is meant to promote student involvement and student organization events.

There are four events that compose Inclusivity Week, two of which have already been held.

"I didn't want the week to be crammed with events," Moua said. "It's spread out so students will have the opportunity to go to at least one."

The week began on Sunday, Feb. 24 with the Soul Food Dinner hosted by the Black Student Union in the Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center.

Moua said that the dinner focused on family and the feeling of togetherness. Former union president and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumnus Chamario McMichael has worked as the head chef of the dinner for five years.

"I think Inclusivity Week is a symbol that expresses to students it's okay to be different, now let's unify," McMichael said. "We need to change the climate on campus to a positive state."

On Monday, Feb. 25, the

Inappropriate Questions Panel was held in the Alumni Room of the university center, which Moua and McMichael both attended. Moua said the questions spanned topics such as race, gender and sexual orientation.

"It was a big step and it is a sign that this campus needs more education," Moua said.

McMichael said the questions panel is something,"we should have more often, even in the residence halls. They could spark conversations about diversity within the halls and promote cultural awareness. The questions may be inappropriate to some, but to others they're just curiosity. I wish more people would have come."

Tonight at 6 p.m. in the Alumni Room, Safe Zone Training will be hosted by the Gender and Sexuality Alliance. The training session is open to all faculty, staff and students, according to the alliance's Administrative and Institutional Support Director Allie Schjoth. She said it will spread awareness of LBGTQA issues and teach attendants how to create a safe and welcoming environment.

"I hope students will come out to show their support for one another and recognizing diverse groups on campus," Schjoth said. "We're definitely excited to participate in Inclusivity Week."

The Hmong and Southeast Asian American Club will be hosting the Traditional and Modern Hmong Arts Conference in the university center Laird Room at 11 a.m. The club's Vice

President Yia Lor said that the aim of the conference is cultural education and awareness.

"The conference benefits Hmong and non-Hmong students," Lor said. "It educates non-Hmong students about a culture they don't belong to, and offers Hmong students more information about their own culture."

The conference will have different sessions with speakers on a wide range of topics. Each session will be about 50 minutes long with 10-minute breaks in between for students to choose topics that interest them, according to Lor. There will also be entertainment and a meal catered by Chef Chu's, Lor said. The conference

will be the last event of Inclusivity Week.

"We need to make inclusivity part of our campus climate. We need a safe zone for all LGBTQA, feminists, cultural groups, everyone," McMichael said. "It bothers me that we almost have to force these events on the student body."

Both Moua and McMichael said that this week is about students stepping out of their comfort zone and immersing themselves in experiences that will put them in situations where they stand to learn something.

"It's all about breaking the mold," McMichael said. "It's all about unity. We're all Pointers."



Photo by Casey Frence

Attendees fill the Laird room for the Black Student Union's annual Soul Food Dinner was held this past Sunday.

Mandatory Attendance: A Necessary Evil?

KYLE FLORENCE

kflor654@uwsp.edu

As winter's icy grasp tightens around Stevens Point, students may find themselves feeling less inclined to leave the comfort of a warm bed and attend class.

Unfortunately for many however, this is not an option as attendance is often mandatory.

Though the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Registration and Records homepage advises students to "attend all your classes regularly," class-specific attendance policies are left entirely up to instructors. Taking this into account, it is not surprising that many have enacted mandatory attendance policies.

Jeff Snowbarger, a lecturer of English at UWSP, is an advocate of mandatory attendance policies and believes they are necessary to ensure that learning takes place within the classroom.

"Attendance policies can be helpful in laying a foundation of expectations for student participation given the various classes," Snowbarger said. "Some classes will differ depending on the

amount of participation they require to accomplish the goals of the class, but for the most part, attendance is a big part of the education process."

Professor of political science John Blakeman also believes that mandatory attendance is useful but acknowledges the fact that, ideally, it shouldn't be necessary.

"Students need to be mature and come to class as much as possible," Blakeman said. "I recognize that life sometimes gets in the way—students get sick, or non-traditional students have sick kids at home, what have you—but the reality is that I think students should treat college like a job. In the work force, you only get so many sick days per year."

UWSP students also seem to have mixed feelings in regards to mandatory attendance policies.

"When attendance is mandatory, I definitely feel more obligated to attend. It's part of your grade, and I don't want to lose points just for not showing up to class," said Kelsey McNamee, a junior psychology major.

Josh Weigand, a senior communication major, agrees with McNamee.

"I get the reasoning behind

mandatory attendance. After all, you're paying to be here, and it is your grade," Weigand said.

Katie Bragg, also a junior, mandatory attendance is what keeps her consistently attending classes in the first place.

"If attendance wasn't mandatory, a lot of times I probably wouldn't go," said Bragg.

Samantha Nehls, a sociology major, understands the reasoning behind mandatory attendance policies. However, she doesn't agree with them.

"I feel like if I'm paying for my tuition, I should be able to decide whether I go to class or not. It makes sense in high school, but not in college," Nehls said.

Contrarily, Snowbarger is unyielding.

"I hold pretty firmly to a pretty strict attendance policy because I believe it matters. For the most part, my attendance policy is given to provide expectations for [students] to achieve the goals I have for them as students in the class," said Snowbarger.

SGA

As the SGA elections are fast approaching, this is your opportunity to stay informed. Tuesday March 5th there will be a presidential and vice presidential debate held in the DUC theatre at 6PM. With questions monitored by SGA's finest, there will also be an opportunity for students to submit questions for the candidates. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the candidates and learn their position on different campus and statewide issues.

Senator seats for the SGA general assembly will also be determined by this election with availability based on the proportionate representation of each UWSP College.

The ballot for the spring elections also has the tobacco referendum through which students will be able to rank by preference the following: a smoke free campus, a tobacco free campus, or no change to the current campus policy.

Official elections will be sent out electronically March 15th at 8AM and close March 21st at 4PM so let your voice be heard and don't forget to vote!

As always, we welcome students to come voice their questions or concerns in our office at 052 DUC or e-mail us at SGA@uwsp. edu

Arts Alliance Buys the Fox Theater

RACHEL PUKALL rpuka 198@uwsp.edu

The Fox Theater, located downtown on Main Street, was recently donated to the Arts Alliance of Portage County.

The Theatre property, which was owned by the Sanders family, was transferred to the Arts Alliance in hopes that something could be done with the building. There was no financial transaction. The family thought that the property might be better handled by a non-profit group.

Elizabeth Aguillera, the Executive of Administration and Development, says that the Arts Alliance was happy to work with the Sanders family.

"A separate group and new LLC was created to manage the Fox project. The Arts Alliance facilitated the transfer to this group," Aguillera said.

The purpose of the group, called the Fox Theatre LLC, is developing concepts and ideas for the use of the space and finding the resources necessary to bring the building back to reasonable shape.

Gerald McKenna, the former dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication and the head of the board of the Fox Theatre, says that the new board will manage the space and develop programming based on community needs.

"We are trying to determine what the space can be used for, and that is a large task because you have to have financial support to continue every year, but first, you need to find the resources to repair and bring the building back into shape," McKenna said.

The theatre has been in the Sanders family since its start in the late 1890s, first as an opera house and then as a movie theatre. It was used as a movie theatre until 1985, when the stage was taken off the back to make way for the Stevens Point mall.

"At this stage, we are doing a full review of the condition of the property before we can admit the public. We are also considering what the space could be used for," McKenna said.

Leslie DeBauche, a professor in the division of Communication, hopes for the Fox Theatre to become a self-sustaining arts space for our area.

"I teach film, and I love silent

movies made before 1927. My dream is that the Fox would occasionally be able to show vintage films with live music. It would be wonderful to show the great old films in this wonderful and acoustically rich space," DeBauche said.

The Arts Alliance would also like to see the building used as a public space where art and cultural events take place.

"We thank the family for donating the property, and we will do all we can to make the space useful and usable in the years ahead. We have a lot of work to do in examining the property and in seeing that it can be used in the best possible way," McKenna said.



Lack of Space Sparks Unrest Among Club Athletes

KYLE FLORENCE kflor654@uwsp.edu

While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point continues to validate its reputation as a Division III powerhouse, the increased focus on our universities National Collegiate Athletic Association-certified athletics has some students crying foul. More often than not, they say, NCAA sports are given precedence over intramurals and club sports in practice times and the use of on-campus facilities.

Ed Richmond, Head of Campus Activities and Recreation, explained that this method of distribution has been standard for some time.

"There is a priority of use that was adopted a number of years ago that listed academics as priority of use in the buildings, then athletics, then intramurals and club sports, so that's sort of the pecking order," said Richmond.

To some however, this reasoning is insufficient. Brian Schmidt, a senior and head of the UWSP Men's Soccer Club, is unhappy with the way space is utilized among the university's club sports, NCAA-certified sports and intramurals.

"My main grievance is our lack of gym time and space," Schmidt said.

"We are often pushed in to the early morning hours, sometimes as early as 1 or 2 A.M., and this practice schedule can make it very difficult to stay on top of things academically."

Similarly, Schmidt believes that the Men's Soccer Club, as well as many other club sports, would great-

ly benefit if NCAAcertified athletics were not given precedence to use on-

campus facilities.

"If more gym times were available during the week, instead of athletics always getting it Monday through Friday, we would be able to hold practices at more reasonable times and in turn be more effective as a club and probably have more new members joining," said Schmidt.

Richmond recognizes these flaws, attributing them to a lack of space.

"Over the years, we've worked in that priority-of-use order, and we've had to follow that, so what we've tried to do is maximize the space as much as possible," said Richmond. "The big thing is our programs have been growing, so now we're at the point where our facilities are no longer efficient enough."

According to Richmond, UWSP is currently exploring several options to alleviate such conflicts in the future, one being the possible addition of a new health and wellness facility.

"A study was completed in October 2011, and what that study

varsity sports," Klapper said. "Other than that, club sports are a great thing and very competitive at the division III level."

Kim Jobke, a forward for the

Kim Jobke, a forward for the UWSP Women's soccer team, shares a similar outlook.

"I think club sports should be treated just as well as NCAA-certified sports because it is still a commitment, and they are still affiliated with the school, but the fact of the matter is that at times one may have to take precedence over the other," said Jobke.

"Our NCAA-certified sports are what bring money into the school and why a lot of students come to Point. Plus, there are stricter conditions and regulations around these sports. I think it goes both ways, and the school should try to figure out a way to make each as fair as possible within reason."

Richmond agrees.

"In these types of situations, students are always the first priority. If you want to have an athletic program, then you have to have the space to support that program," said Richmond.

"The big thing is our programs have been growing, so now we're at the point where our facilities are no longer efficient enough." - Ed Richmond

showed is that we have a lack of recreation and fitness space, and if we want to move forward, we may have to possibly build another area to make up for that lost space," said Richmond.

Though this issue is pressing to

Though this issue is pressing to some, others believe that the current system is functioning fine.

Mitch Klapper, a senior linebacker for the UWSP football team, believes that NCCA-certified sports should take precedence over club sports but acknowledges that club sports are still very relevant to the university.

"I feel that NCAA athletics should take precedence over club sports when it comes to practice, scheduling and event planning because they are

Pointers to Host Round One of NCAA Tournament Saturday

WILL ROSSMILLER

wross460@uwsp.edu @willrossmiller

Despite an early exit in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville last Thursday, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is still pegged to host a NCAA tournament game this Saturday.

The Pointers are set to play the Eagles of Northwestern College of St. Paul, Minn. The Eagles have a record of 21-6. Like Stevens Point, they also won their regular season conference title.

Unlike the Pointers, the Eagles also won their conference tournament. The Pointers were poised to claim the WIAC tournament, holding the #1 seed, but just didn't play their best basketball.

"We played below our expectations," said Kent Dernbach, assistant coach for the Pointers. "We lacked intensity on the defensive end and just were not able to make the proper adjustments."

"Platteville is a very good team, and they just played better than us that night," said senior guard Jordan Giordana. "We can't dwell on that loss, and now we just have to move forward and look to play better."

Stevens Point ended the season with a 21-4 record overall, 12-2 in conference. The Pointers were undefeated at home until their recent defeat to UW-Platteville.

The Pointers hope to capitalize on home court in their first round matchup.

"It's huge of us to get that home game," Dernbach said. "That's why we play the numberone strength of schedule. We also know that this Northwestern team will be tough."

It will be a matchup of the offensive-minded Eagles, averaging 78 points per game, and the defensive-minded Pointers, holding opponents to under 60 points per game.

The Eagles are led by three seniors, Wade Chitwood, Lance Westberg and Tom Gisler, who have each averaged double-digit points per game.

Northwestern's game is reliant on the deep ball. They have 646 attempts from beyond the arc, converting on 41.5 percent of them.

To put that in perspective, the Pointers, a team that shoots plenty of threes, have attempted 158 fewer threes this season, for an average of almost six fewer per

The Pointers also have their fair share of talent to match up against the Eagles. This week it was announced that five Pointers garnished All-WIAC honors, and head coach Bob Semling won the WIAC Coach of the Year.

Trevor Hass and transfer student Clayton Heuer, both juniors, earned All-WIAC Team honors. Joe Ritchay and Austin Ryf, both sophomores, were WIAC Honorable Mentions. Giordana received the All-Sportsmanship honor.

The talent is there, and coach Dernbach knows it. 'We have all of the pieces. We just need to get to that level," Dernbach said. "We need to have a good week of practice and play that Pointer basketball on Saturday. If we do that, we're tough to beat."

The Pointers' performance has been even more impressive, considering their leading scorer from last season, Tyler Tillema,

has been sidelined for most of this

Tillema will not be able to come back this season and will take a medical redshirt, allowing him to be eligible to play next season.

"It's been extremely difficult,"
Tillema said. "There were many
instances where I really felt like
I could help the team if I was
healthy, but this has allowed me
to view the game from a different
perspective sitting on the bench."

Everyone is asking around Stevens Point, "How far can this team go?" Both the players and coaches believe in their team.

"I am very confident in this team," Giordana said. "We have had a lot of different guys step up this year to carry the team on different nights, and I know the coaches will do a great job with the scouting report and getting us ready to play."

Go out and support the Pointers Saturday night in the Quandt Fieldhouse. Tickets are \$4 for students. "We really hope to get that great Pointers basketball atmosphere," Dernbach said.

Clapp Capping Off Incredible Ride with Pointers

WILL ROSSMILLER wross460@uwsp.edu @willrossmiller

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's swimming and diving team won their 14th straight Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships this past month. Senior Joey Clapp is a big reason for their success.

Clapp, the team captain, was part of three relay teams that took first. He also won three individual events. The six wins add to an outstanding career at UWSP.

Clapp has been honored as an All American 11 times and named first team nine times. He has won 20 WIAC titles and was named MVP of the swimming and diving team the past two seasons.

"It has been an exhilarating experience," Clapp said. "I achieved goals that I did not think were possible, and I couldn't have achieved them without the support from my coaches and teammates."

Clapp has also performed in the classroom. This year he won the WIAC Max Sparger Men's Swimming



The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point men's swimming and diving team won the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Conference Championships this past month.

& Diving Scholar-Athlete Award and has been on the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll three times.

Al Boelk, head coach of the swimming and diving team, is going to miss Clapp swimming for his team. "It has been a lot of fun working with Joey over the years," Boelk said.

Clapp is from Faribault, Minnesota. He came to UWSP following his brother, Willie, who had just finished up his career at UWSP.

"I wanted to swim competitively, and my brother was a strong influence on why I came here," Clapp said. "The swim team here felt like a family that I wanted to be a part of. I got the opportunity to meet a lot of my future teammates while watching my brother compete at meets."

Clapp's success was not without hard work. When he came to UWSP, he had never participated in a real weight-lifting program.

"I came in very thin. I didn't know much about lifting or how to train in swimming at a high level," Clapp said. "Lifting weights has been a huge part of my success in swimming.

Four years of swimming has also proved to test Clapp's ability to stay healthy. "I have had my ups and downs, and my biggest problem was staying healthy," Clapp said.

However, his ability to overcome his injuries in the sport is a big reason for his accomplishments.

"Joey has had some pretty serious shoulder issues over the years, and it staggers me how he minimized his problems and just dealt with them on a daily basis," Boelk said.

Boelk said that he is impressed with the continued hunger Clapp possess for swimming. "It makes me happy to see him still passionate

about the sport after all these years,"

Boelk said.

"A career in swimming can burn out the strongest of minds. It can be a grueling sport psychologically, simply due to the intense training volumes and season lengths."

So what's next for Clapp? After competing at the NCAA Division III championships in late March, Clapp plans on joining the coaching staff.

His career isn't over yet. He still has one more meet to cherish in his career at UWSP. "I will miss competition the most. I will also miss the camaraderie and being a part of the relays," Clapp said.

from 9 pm till 6 am

STUDENT SPECIALS

HAM AND CHEESE OMELETTE

\$6.99

Comes with choice of potato, choice of pancake, muffin or toast, and beverage.

SHAREABLE SAMPLER

\$6.99

Includes chicken strips, onion rings, mozzarella sticks, 1/2 cheese quesadilla, and beverage.

THURSDAY BURGER SPECIAL

\$6.99

Includes beverage.

UWSP Students, show your ID for 10% off!

Open 24 Hours Every Day ((e)) Wifi Available

143 Division Street North Stevens Point, WI 54481 715-341-5044



Photo courtesy of sports information

Senior Joey Clapp was a part of three relay teams that took first at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships.

POINTLIFE

Studying With Kids

KAITLYN LUCKOW

kluck791@uwsp.edu

Every day, senior elementary and special education major Kerry Palmer, wakes up early to make the 1.5-hour commute to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point from Wisconsin Dells. She goes to class, education practicum and work. After the school day, she heads home to hang out and take care of her four

Being a student and a parent has its benefits and challanges, which UWSP addresses.

For example, attending school and being a parent at the same time adds a new level of stress to everyday

"All I can say is that it can be challenging. I think the biggest struggle is to maintain balance," said Stacy Lavongsa, a senior English education major and mother of four.

Palmer agreed that balance was a challenge to returning to school, but the advantage of being a parent is that she has already learned how to balance life.

"You just go. Most parents would say that's how they do their lives," Palmer said. "I've set a goal for myself to finish college, so I just do it. You just make it happen."

Thomas Houting, a senior communications major and father of

a two-year-old son, echoed Lavongsa and Palmer's thoughts. Due to scheduling restrictions, he's unable to participate in extracurricular activities that would help build his resume.

"You need to spend as much time with your child as you can," Houting

For Palmer, although scheduling is an issue, it isn't the biggest challenge. "My kids have been my life. That's not the change for me. It's going back to school after 18 years."

Going back to school and having a family can be a lot to handle at once.

"I've seen first-hand how many students with children struggle financially to pay for child care when they are trying to be focused on their education and not able to work as much as they would to make ends meet," said Becky Helf, the director of UWSP's Helen R. Godfrey University Child Learning Center.

About 55% of the children that go to the learning center, located in Delzell Hall, are children of students that go to the university. The program is supported by UWSP Student Government Organization through segregated fees, which allows for student's rates to be lower.

The program at the center is the only nationally accredited program in the Stevens Point area by the National Association of the Education of Young Children of having a highly educated



March 5, 2013 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dreyfus University Center University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Who Should Attend:

- Business Owners
- Marketing Professionals
- Students
- Anyone Responsible for Social Media Efforts in Their Organization





University of Wisconsin

Stevens Point www.centralwisconsinsocialmedia.com

715-346-3838 OR 800-898-9472

"The staff at the center do a fantastic job educating these young children and making the most of what they have," Helf said.

However, because of this, the cost is higher.

'Even with the support from SGA, UWSP child-care rates for student parents are still one of the highest in relation to other UW campuses of similar size," Helf said.

The program is also the only one in the UW System that is still housed in an old residence hall building.

"They [the children] question why they can't go outside to play because they are unable to see out any window to know if it's raining," Helf said. "Two toilets are shared by approximately 35 children. Strictly speaking about the facility, it is beyond unacceptable!"

Although there are hardships involved with being a student and a parent at the same time, the benefits override the stress.

"My children know first-hand

how I feel about the importance of education because they see it by my example of going to school," Lavongsa said. "What's not to love about that?"

For Houting, having a child is motivation for his education.

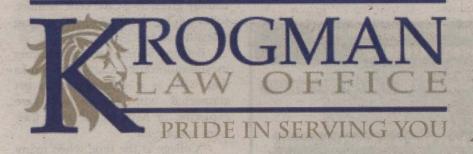
"It's an added responsibility other than homework. You have a real and present reason to do well in school."

For all of the parents, it's a collaborative effort.

"They [my children] help me as much as I help them," Palmer said.

One of Lavongsa's favorite things about being a parent and a student is that her children's education can be an interactive experience.

"My oldest son [who attends Princeton college] just told me that you can actually take acetaminophen for hurt feelings, and it will help alleviate the pain just as you would for a headache!" Lavongsa said. "Doesn't that sound crazy? He is passing along what he is learning at college just like I do to him and his siblings.



We provide compassionate, responsive and effective legal services in Central Wisconsin.

Conveniently located in Downtown Stevens Point, we offer affordable rates, free consultations, and a focus on your unique legal issue. Contact us today to and gain a partner who will help you navigate the legal process and find legal solutions.



(715) 295-0027

1052 Main Street, Suite 102 **Stevens Point, WI 54481**

Zach Krogman

zkrogman@krogmanlawoffice.com http://www.krogmanlawoffice.com

Dogs Helping out at Delzell

SARAH MCQUEEN smcqu643@uwsp.edu

A college student has to learn to cope with many changes and challenges while transitioning into adult life, such as acclimating to a new environment and leaving behind family, friends and even pets.

Stacey Gerken, director of the campus counseling center, understands that some students who come in for help with these issues might need something different than the conventional hour spent talking through their stresses. This is where Sam, Gerkens's large Munsterlander dog, steps into the picture.

Sam is a certified therapy dog and has been coming into the counseling center with Gerken for the last two

and half years. Sam comes in only occasionally, mostly when Gerken receives requests for him, and spends time students who come to the center. Students can pet him, play with him and just generally enjoy spending time with a dog.

"There is a lot of research out there about the positive impact of a therapy dog," Gerken said. "It kind of reminds people of their own dogs. Often, people will start talking about their own dog or a dog that they used to have. It just seems like a much more effective way of helping students without it being a traditional way. This helps students relax and

SEE DOGS HELPING:

PAGE 8

Dogs Helping

CONTINUED FROM: PAGE 7

talk about difficult things. It is very soothing."

According to Mark Plonsky, who has a Ph.D. in psychology and is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, says that even just petting a dog can lower your blood pressure.

"Dogs have an incredible ability to read nonverbal communication," Plonsky said. "When a person is depressed, upset or anxious, their nonverbal communication will show it. In addition, dogs have an incredible ability to smell things. When a person is upset, their body chemistry changes. For example, they perspire more. I believe the dog can smell these kinds of chemical changes in the body."

Gerken hopes to grow this into a program where students will regularly have the opportunity to benefit from therapy dogs.

"I would like to eventually have an afternoon where we have therapy dogs and in a more travelled area, like in the Drevfus University Center, where students can come and just interact with the dogs," Gerken said. "You don't have to talk about anything-just so students could know when they can come and get their dog fix."

In order to be a certified therapy dog, which is different than being a service dog, the dog has to pass a test, proving that he or she can stay calm in various situations, like when around other dogs or equipment like wheelchairs. Sam_was certified through Therapy Dog International. Gerken said that the training is not anything very special and that it has lot to do with the personality of the dog. She said that Sam is a very low key, affectionate dog and that she trained him herself.

"I've had students come up and ask where the dog is," Gerkind said. "I will have students request me because they know I have the dog."

Gerken stated that she knows several faculty members with therapy dogs that they might be willing to bring in for this program. She also mentioned that she might like to collaborate with organizations like the UWSP Animal Behavior Club.

In order to get the program running, Gerken is first going to have to get permission from the school, consult with the DUC to make she will have a space for this and coordinate with others to bring in therapy dogs. Gerken envisions bringing in these dogs during high-stress times, like finals, or maybe even on a monthly or weekly basis. She stated that it is in the long range strategic plan for the counseling center.

CRU: Actively Promoting Faith on Campus

RACHEL PUKALL

rpuka198@uwsp.edu

CRU, formally known as Campus Crusade for Christ, serves around 300 regular attenders each week at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens

CRU is a Christian organization that is alive on campuses all over the world and is not based off of any Christian denomination. It is simply Christian with teachings based off the Bible. Their mission statement is for every person on campus to know at least one dedicated Christian.

Emily Glinski, a sophomore majoring in business administration and communication, is a dedicated and active member of CRU.

"I personally co-lead the women's May Roach Hall Bible study, which is a lot of fun, and you can find me at CRU every Thursday," Glinski said. "I help out wherever CRU may need me. I have been to all the big events such as TCX, the Fall Getaway, the Volleyball Blast in September, the outdoor Packer game and the corn roast."

CRU's Women's Month is the whole month of March. Women's weekly Bible studies meet together in Lower Debot. Men's month then follows in April.

CRU is also currently planning a big event and trip to Panama City Beach over Spring Break.

"Students will attend a conference, do outreach and hang out with their friends all week," Glinski said.

Trevor Haug, a fourth-year



CRU, Campus Crusade for Christ, serves around 300 regular attendees at its weekly meetings.

student majoring in accounting, business administration and political science, likes that CRU offers the opportunity to share faith with other students on campus and get people involved in many opportunities to get to know other students.

"Our partner organization, International Justice Mission, is holding a 27-hour event in March where we will volunteer students who will physically stand for 27 hours to raise awareness for the 27 million victims of human trafficking around the world," Haug said.

Besides all these upcoming events, CRU also holds Bible studies each week in every hall including major-related Bible studies, sport Bible studies, a "Men's Morning" at Debot every Saturday, CRU sports at 5:30 p.m. every Friday in the Health Enhancement Center and events with the Epic Asian CRU Ministry.

CRU also has an ongoing

mentorship program Discipleship, an individualized Bible study each week between two

CRU meets every Thursday in the Dreyfus University Center at 9 p.m. Anyone, regardless of their faith, can meet, hang out with friends, hear speakers and worship to a student-led band. CRU has full-time staff, interns and students who all work to make everything happen.

"Our meetings are about an hour and a half long and start off with a game. After that, we will usually sing contemporary Christian songs along with a student-led band. We will then hear a student's testimony, which is essentially their faith story about what God has been doing in their life and teaching them," Glinski said. "These testimonies talk about what a student's life was like without God and how it has changed with God in it. After that, we hear the main talk, usually given by a CRU staff member, followed by a bit more of singing worship songs."

Bethany Bauer, a senior majoring in communicative disorders, thinks that CRU is a great place to get connected with people who are exploring or have found what they were looking for.

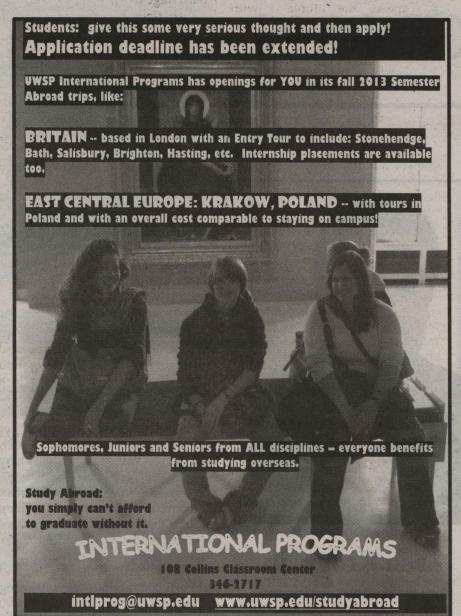
"College is the time when many students explore and solidify what they believe in," Bauer said. "I love the community and the genuine relationships I've formed as a part of being in CRU. It's a welcoming atmosphere where people really support each other and are invested in helping them grow closer to God."

CRU is a place where students can go to grow in their faith in a safe and fun environment.

"My favorite part about being involved with CRU is being able to build lifetime relationships and be able to work with my closest friends to be able to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the rest of my campus," Haug said.

Glinski agrees.

"CRU has helped me in so many areas of my life, and I am so thankful that I started going to CRU as a freshman because I have made dozens of close friends," Glinski said. "The people at CRU are genuine people who deeply care about everyone. They are friends who I know I will have for a lifetime and are people that I can trust and confide in."



Coffee Fair Promotes Fair Trade Practices



Photos by Samantha Feld

ABOVE: Local coffee roasters who focus on sustainability, including Emy J's, were featured at the fair.

BELOW: Reusable mugs were sold at The Coffee Fair, an event organized by Students for Sustainable Communities.



ERIKA KOLACKI

ekola569@uwsp.edu

Last weekend, the Students for Sustainable Communities sponsored the Black Gold coffee fair in the Encore of the Dreyfus University Center.

The fair took its name from the documentary "Black Gold," which promotes responsible coffee trade and exposes the problems with the sale and production of coffee. Three screenings of the documentary occurred between Feb. 22 and Feb. 23.

"The documentary was the idea base for the entire fair," said Becky Wadleigh, the Treasurer and Fundraiser Coordinator for the Students for Sustainable Communities.

The fair featured coffee from various businesses like Emy J's, Main Grain Bakery and Zest, as well as many student organizations that focus on environmental sustainability.

Ashley Vande Voort, the president of the Students for Sustainable Communities, planned the fair for various reasons.

"I wanted to teach people about how coffee is grown and where to buy it sustainably with the fair trade, as well as why you should not be buying regular coffee because it is bad for the people who are on the other end of it and aren't making a fair price for the coffee they are producing," Vande Voort said.

Wadleigh said Stevens
Point offers great options for
coffee lovers.

"There's fair trade, local, sustainable organic options right here, practically at your front door," Wadleigh said.

Guy Janssen, owner of Emy J's, finds it important to buy local.

"We've always tried to promote fair trade organic and buying local. That's huge to us," Janssen said.

Fair trade was the central topic of the fair, including the presentation given by the founders of Community Coffee John Sheffy and Holly Petrillo.

Community Coffee is a small group that volunteers to help remote villages in Africa and Mexico harvest and sell their coffee crops for a fair price.

Sheffy said that these farmers depend on coffee as their main cash crop in order to pay for the education of their children. However, the sale of coffee offers little revenue for farmers.

The chain of workers associated with the production of coffee causes farmers to gain the lowest amount of profit possible.

"The farmer makes the least amount of money. They were making ten cents a pound for their coffee," Sheffy said.

Community Coffee volunteers buy coffee at a fair price that allows the farmer to cover all of their mandatory expenses.

Along with their presentation, Petrillo and Sheffy showed a complimentary slideshow of their travel pictures. The pictures showcased the host families they stayed with and the harvest process.

"Coffee comes from a cherry-like fruit that is handpicked, processed to separate the pulp and the seeds, washed, left to dry and then roasted," Sheffy said.

Besides Community Coffee, Petrillo and Sheffy coordinate a shortterm, study abroad program through the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Petrillo, an associate professor in Forestry, leads the group. Sheffy acts as an Agroforestry Consultant.

The group is going to Kenya from May 27 to June 19 for a trip dedicated to the sustainable resources and community.

Find Yourself in The Movement

AARON KRISH

akris821@uwsp.edu

Lower your inhibitions, and immerse yourself in a world where music and movement tell a story like none other. Danstage is returning and challenging the mind of performers and audience members, creating an experience that is personal for all.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Department of Theatre and Dance is rehearsing and getting ready for its annual dance event, Danstage, coming to the Noel Fine Arts Center in April. Dance professors Joan Karlen and Michael Estanich commented on this year's event and the preparations being made.

"For the very first time, Danstage will be presented in the round, meaning the audience will be seated on all four sides of the stage," Karlen said. "This setting changes the thinking of where we want the audience to look and at what time."

Presenting Danstage in such a way allows for the choreographers and dancers to create motion that

leads the audience through space as well as have a little fun with what they do in their routine. In the past, a traditional routine was seen on a proscenium stage where the audience is only seated on one side.

Alongside Karlen's and Estanich's work, dance faculty member Jeannie Hill and guest artist Melinda Jean Myers will be featured with casts of USWP student dancers. Each choreographer has a theme and routine in mind when planning for the show.

"I look at the world around me for inspiration and base dance off of my personal interests," Estanich said. "For this piece I was inspired by birds and how they move, while also looking at how our relationships change and how they weave together."

Estanich's piece, entitled "Hokkaido Sanctuary, Japan 7:21 a.m.," uses 15 dancers to imagine the emergence of life and the cacophony of changing relationships in the early hours. The movements of the dancers mimic that of a crane with "rippling arms and supple torsos."

Karlen's piece, entitled "Tacit," was greatly inspired by her residency at the Banff Centre in Alberta, Canada. She explained that movement elicits a feeling of growing from the forest floor and growing personally as an individual.

"I want to see how much of themselves they reveal through the piecé," Karlen said. "How clearly can they convey an idea without hiding behind fear or how they think they should look. I'm interested in the dancers being personal."

The rehearsal process is held three days a week, and dancers often face a scenario or problem given to them by the choreographer to solve. The idea is to take original work and change aspects of it with their own ideas.

"Ideas change by the hour. I present a problem to someone with a different insight, and the piece of choreography reveals itself to me," Karlen said. "It gets to the point where it feels natural—when I don't have to actively ask a question, and the answer appears."

Both Estanich and Karlen

explained that Danstage is an opportunity for faculty to continue their research and give the opportunity to the students to work in a pre-professional way. It is a chance to show new work to the community.

"Community members who attend every year have expressed that they appreciate watching our dancers develop over four years," Estanich said. "They see how the dancers develop technically and artistically."

At the end of the day, however, the performance is all about the audience and how they personally react to a performance. Estanich explained that dance is a universal language taken to a heightened form and concept. Communication is through the body, and audience members are given the visceral and physical chance to feel it.

"It's an opportunity to learn about yourself in an honest and unguarded way," Karlen said. "People don't come to see a performance. They come to see themselves."

Danstage will be presented in the Noel Fine Arts Center on April 12-14 and April 17-20, 2013.

10 OPINIONS

Erasing The Prejudice Against the Mentally Ill

EMMA ST. AUBIN estau 255@uwsp.edu

KAITLYN LUCKOW kluck79 I @uwsp.edu COMMENTARY

People hate and judge what they don't understand. Most people don't try to understand those with mental illnesses, automatically placing them in a category of "crazy" and "retarded." In reality, they are people too; people with feelings, hopes and dreams. They just have an extra barrier that separates them from what we all take for granted: a potential road to success.

Starting in education, those with a mental illness are sometimes told from the beginning that their lives will never amount to something that a "normal" individual might have. And that's a tragedy.

In reality, those with mental illness deserve every resource and help from others in order to achieve their dreams. Their dreams are just as important as everyone's and they need to be realized.

The biggest obstacle in life isn't their illness; it's other people's prejudices. It's not only that people bring them down It's that people don't raise them up.

In order to this, we need a

complete makeover on our mindset. For example, the word "retarded" is used daily as an insult to others. It should never be used as an insult, because it's not a bad thing to be retarded. It just means that someone's brain is unique. Someone's uniqueness should never be squandered, only celebrated.

It is our mission to erase "retarded" from people's common insults. It is our mission to erase the prejudice against the mentally ill.

Maybe this is a scary thought. This prejudice exists because people are afraid of those who are different. They don't know how to act around the mentally ill. In reality, it's not

different than talking to any other person around you, except that most of the time, their hearts are bigger.

For those with mental illness, having friends is a rarity. Imagine going through life with only your parents and siblings as your best friends. Even just a smile or kind words can make their day. A friendship goes further.

Everyone in the world deserves to be treated with respect and understanding. Unfortunately, those with mental illnesses aren't. We need to change that. At the end of the day, each person still wants the same thing: to love and be loved.

Spring Break and STD Dangers

MICHELLE THOMPSON michelle@cwrpartners.com
COMMENTARY

The must have technology for Spring Break isn't a map or party guide – it's a site that allows you to verify and check someone's STD status. Millions of students will head to a U.S. or international destination this Spring Break. Unfortunately, the statistics are scary (see below). During spring break, the average male reportedly drinks 18 alcohol drinks per day and the average female 10 drinks per day. About half of the spring breakers drank until they got sick or passed out at least once.

Unfortunately, many students engage in unsafe activities and "let loose" while drinking. One website is helping people practice "safe sex" this Spring Break. www.Qpid.me will send anyone an online report of your STD status, as long as you authorize it. Qpid.me, an online technology for anyone who wants to obtain, securely store and privately share their STD results is FREE for anyone. "The reality is that college students and even high school seniors take a trip during spring break, we are just trying to help them make safer choices and realize it's essential to protect yourself if you choose to engage in sexual activity with someone you don't know well," said Ramin Bastani, creator of Qpid.me.

Michelle Thompson michelle@cwrpartners.com 508-643-8000

Let us know if you would like to speak to Ramin Bastani, creator of this useful technology. Below are some sobering STD/Spring Break

• 26% of males and nearly 36% of females failed to use a condom during sex with someone they met on spring break

 Nearly 50% of the males and 41% of the females reported having consumed alcohol just prior to sex

• When asked about their alcohol

use in connection with their sexual activities, 49% of men and 38% of women reported having sex as a direct result of drinking

• 75% of all students reported never or rarely using a condom on spring break

• Students reported their decision were negatively influenced by alcohol or drug use just prior to sexual activity

• 74% of males and nearly 88% of females reported never or rarely worrying about STDs/HIV, even though they were at risk

• About 48% of men and women who had sex under the influence regretted the experience.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

One block to campus, room lease available.
Also leasing 1-5 bedroom units now for 2013/14 school year

Newer units, many amenities. Heat/Water included.

Call Anchor Apartments at (715) 341-4455

SUB-LEASE

Looking for female to sublease for spring 2014.

Free laundry and parking close to campus.

Call Katie at (920) 362-9579

SUB-LEASE

2 bedroom apartment available for summer 2013.

Call Emma at (920) 475-0360

SUB-LEASE

Female to share spacious three bedroom apartment with two females. Your own bedroom includes a private bathroom and indoor parking.

Internet/cable TV included, \$1795/semester.

> Available 8-31-2013. Summer optional.

715-340-7285 or paulw@charter.net

SUB-LEASE

Looking for female to sublease this summer from June to August.

University Lake Apartments 5th Ave. Building D

Email Tessa at thoid638@uwsp.edu

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING: Stevens Point Elks Lodge 1132 Clark St.

Bartenders and Cook

Apply in person Monday through Friday After 4 PM

HELP WANTED

BARTENDER
Big Hunchies Roadhouse
Nights and weekends,
flexible hours

Call Barb, (715) 343-1730

YOUR CLASSIFIED

You can advertise here!

Contact us at:
pointerad@uwsp.edu

Students get classified space for free!

COMICS

Powered by: Adobe Systems Inc

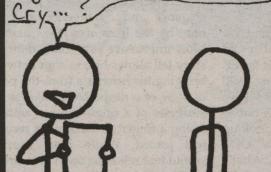
Life By Jonathan Seymour



Hot Sauce Puff'N Stuff

Never undress in Public.

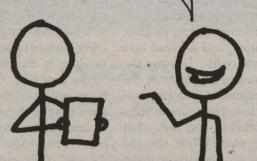
Don't make noise. Hug the Children if they



What is that? Directions No..."How to be a mascot."

Pedofile?

V



Sally G. Arneson

© Life. 2013 Jonathar

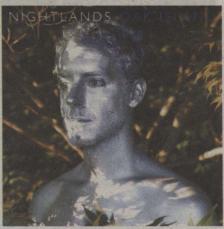
ALBUM REVIEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:





Nightlands - Oak Island



CONNOR GODFREY
Connor.A.Godfrey@uwsp.edu
goFM ALBUM REVIEW

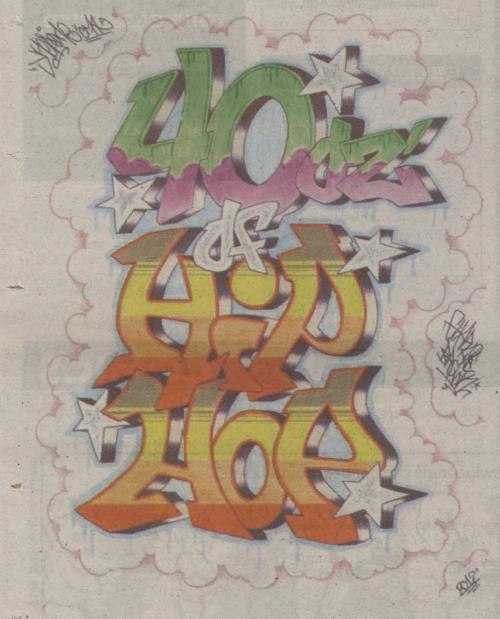
I am a big fan of The War on Drugs, which means I am also a big fan of their bassist Dave Hartley. Hartley has a project that goes by Nightlands, aptly named due to his central recording station being his bedroom. This one-man, multi-instrumentalist's latest release, Oak Island, has made its way into 90FM's heavy rotation courtesy of the ever-consistent record label Secretly Canadian.

Nowadays it isn't hard to come across an album on an independent label that feels like a trip through outer space. Oak Island continues to prove my anecdote to be true with its flowing synth and eccentric vocals. On first listen, I immediately thought of Gayngs' and their album Relayted, which is hardly a bad thing

to be reminded of. Oak Island is different from Relayted in the fact that it is more robotic and borrows less from an 80's soft rock sound. However, some of the tracks on Oak Island seem more accessible to me than Relayted, especially the track Nico with its upbeat yet haunting qualities. Nico's opening guitar riff and similar percussion get your body movin' and pouncin' around your living room.

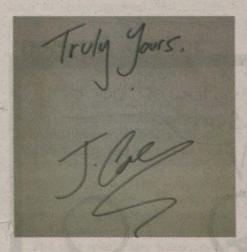
Another song that sticks out is I Fell In Love With A Feeling; the bass line's catchiness is one to admire and contrasts from a few ambiguous lines ("Why you always fucked up at the end of the day, do you really wanna venge all the rest of the way"). This song also features some of the French horn that is prevalent throughout the album, such as the dreamy track So Far So Long. The jazzy French horn rides along with the music through ethereal star formations and far away galaxies.

Once I found out that Hartley is the bassist for The War on Drugs, not only did it make me really happy, but I nodded my head and said "oh yeah, it definitely makes sense." I remember seeing The War on Drugs live and seeing Hartley playing his bass in a stiff manner and occasionally picking up his horn to play. Oak Island also shares a lot of similarities from the album Slave Ambient, and I wonder if those similarities were borrowed from Hartley or something that is his originally.



J. Cole - Truly Yours

Sponsored by 90FM's 40oz of Hip Hop



STEVEN WOODWARD
Steven.D.Woodward@uwsp.edu
goFM ALBUM REVIEW

Following the delay of his album, J. Cole has released a free 5-track EP entitled "Truly Yours" that will surely work to both curb frustration of fans and fuel their anticipation for the rapper's sophomore release "Born

Sinner". Without the pressure to produce a radio-friendly jam, Cole's "Truly Yours" EP finds Cole rapping over familiarly soulful, mellow beats and delivering the type of music that landed him the opportunity to become the first artist signed to Jay-Z's Rocnation.

Truly Yours" opens up with a poignant, nostalgic jazz number entitled "Can I Holla At Ya". Over the course of just over four minutes, Cole addresses his feelings for an ex-love, his no-show father, and a friend he's fallen out grace with. During the emotionally-charged highlight of the song, Cole's normally boastful self gives way to tangible vulnerability, And time revealed, she feels that she settled too soon/While she see me go for mines and she admire that/ We speak about time as if we could just buy it back/If only it was that simple/ damn I miss you".

On "Can I Holla at You's" jazzy

counterpart, "Stay", J. Cole bounces between pondering running from the law, the ethics on infidelity, and fleeing his hometown to pursue his rap career, consequently leaving his mother all alone. It's a rather unfocused track, but it highlights Cole's ability to draw his listeners in to his music, even if they've never had to contemplate fleeing the country to evade law enforcement.

"Tears for ODB", an apparent ode to fallen Wu-Tang Clan member Old Dirty Bastard is the highlight of the EP. While only directly mentioning ODB in the first line, Cole evokes ODB's name not to celebrate his life, but as a warning to those who may look up to and glorify the "hood life" ODB led. "Drug-induced poetry/What's the use" Cole argues. Motivated by the perception he'll never "know how sittin' comfy on that Oprah seat feels ", Cole raps "I'm just tryna make it" on the chorus, continuing, "Straight

up – aye, any chance I'ma take it"

J. Cole's return to making music should appeal to even the most fickle of Hip-Hop fans. Hip-Hop is better when J. Cole is releasing music and "Truly Yours" acts only as an affirmation of this. Even when Cole finds himself rapping about hustling, as he does in the first verse of "Crunch Time", he does it with an elegance and intelligence matched only by the likes of a Jay-Z or Nas. More impressive yet, Cole's ability to story tell allows him to shift between bringing his listener's from the point of view of a desperate hustler to the struggles of a single mother without lifting a finger or making his records feel forced. While most rappers would fear releasing an EP this strong months before the release of their actual album, Cole's done just that, and if that isn't an indicator of the great things to come from J. Cole and "Born Sinner", I don't know what is.