

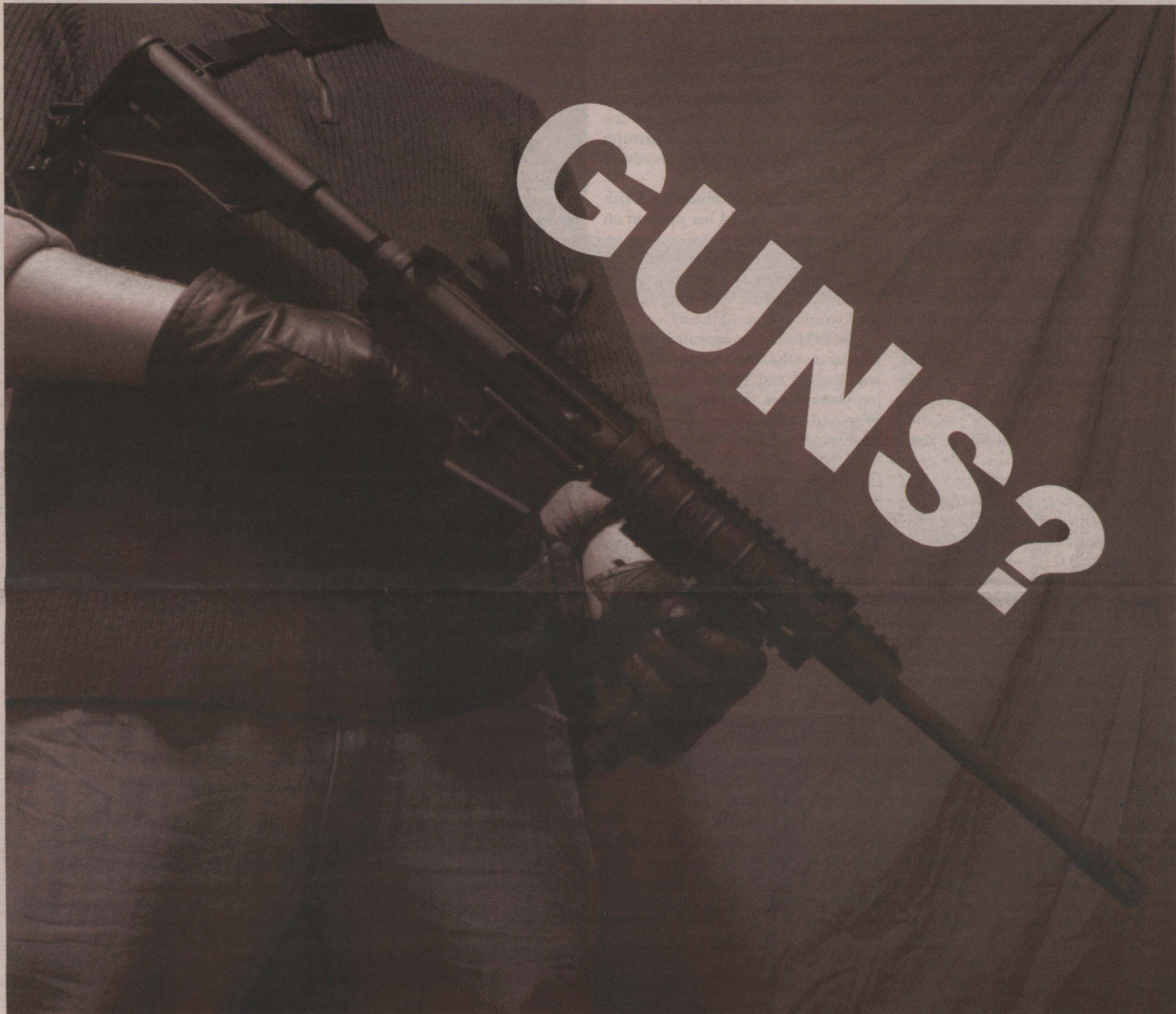
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University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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Guns, Proposals, and Postulations

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As President Barack Obama pushes for tighter control on firearms, the only thing scarcer than a weapons store with any assault weapons left is a person without an opinion about the proposed ban.

The proposed ban would make it illegal to manufacture, purchase or sell semi-automatic assault weapons, as well as high-capacity ammunition clips. "High-capacity" is a term applied to anything that can hold more than ten rounds. An assault weapon is defined as any selective-fire firearm capable of fully automatic, semiautomatic or burst fire at the option of the user. The law would also require a background check before the purchase of any firearm. The new laws would, however, allow for people to keep any assault weapons or clips that they owned prior to the ban. The ban would also make allowances for various hunting rifles and shotguns.

Thousands of people gathered in Washington D.C. over the weekend to rally for stricter gun control, marching from the Capitol to the Washington Monument. Although there have been no marches or rallies on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus, students are not without their opinions.

"I don't know necessarily know if it is the proper solution to the problem," said Christopher Schurter, a political science and pre-law student at UWSP. "I think maybe instead of trying to enforce new rules, we should start enforcing the laws that we have, and maybe start regulating the sales of ammunition instead of guns."

"I get a little confused about how far to take the right to bear arms, and that seems to be what everybody defers to," said Cory Rusch, a

philosophy major at UWSP. "Yet I don't know if we want everybody to have tanks, so it seems like a good idea to have some sort of regulation. But I can't really decide how far to go with it. We can't have tanks, so there are already bans on weapons if you think about it. So all we are really doing is modifying the existing idea to limit the firepower available to civilians."

Another UWSP student, Najah Alboushi, also voiced her opinion on the matter.

"I would be ok with the ban. I am not a gun person. Hunting rifles, I am definitely ok with. Anything bigger, why would you need them?"

In 1994 a ban on assault weapons, similar to the ban proposed now, was passed and stayed effective for ten years. Since the current ban was proposed, sales in assault weapons have gone up considerably.

"Our sales have basically tripled in the last sixty days, ever since Obama took office," said Jake Andreae, owner of Heavy Metal Firearms located in Stevens Point. "Once he got elected, the sales went up significantly and then after the Newtown shooting sales went up again."

Not only has the proposed ban affected the availability of assault weapons, it has also affected the price of the weapons.

"Prices on assault weapons have gone up, basically doubled. Some of the AK's are about up 40 to 50 percent. Magazines are just scarce. You can't find them," Andreae said. "Before the talks of the ban, we were probably close to 35 to 40 percent assault weapons in stock. Now, since that, we don't have inventory, and we are probably sitting at about five percent tactical. Everybody wants to get one before they can't."

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Jan. 12th

10:41 a.m. - The Stevens Point Police department received a phone call stating that branches were obstructing the street by Schmeckle Reserve. Protective Services cleared the blockages.

Jan 11th

10:22 p.m. - The Code Blue phone on the north side of the NFAC building rang five times with no responding answer. Protective Services officers investigated but found no one.

Jan 10th

3:09 p.m. - A student called Protective Services to report that she had been receiving harassing phone calls from an ex-boyfriend. She said she also believes that he has been enlisting strangers to call her randomly and had another girl threaten to physically assault her at work. She called the Stevens Point Police Department but they said there was nothing they could do so she gave the number to Protective Services.

Dec. 23rd

11:45 p.m. - Individuals in a silver vehicle were throwing items into a trash can. Subjects stated that they were helping a professor in the HEC.

Dec. 26th

10:04 a.m. - Staff from the DUC called stating that a male who had been previously asked to leave was back in the ATM area of the building.

THE POINTER

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WDMD Students Use Technology to Help Others

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Students involved in the Web and Media Development Advanced Development Agency (WDMDADA) recently developed software for a series of games meant to help with physical therapy for stroke victims.

As an organization, the ADA "is an applied research lab funded completely through external grants and industry partnerships," most of which are major healthcare providers around the state and country. Co-directors Dr. Anthony Ellertson and Dr. Trudi Miller guide and serve as resources to the student researchers in the organization.

"We are currently on our 14th or 15th grant, and what we do as the ADA is solve problems that help families, help the community and help children. And many of our projects are limited to those principles," Ellertson said. "We are currently working with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Fused Innovations on our stroke therapy project."

The Home-Based Stroke Therapy System project involves the creation of a series of games and activities that offers stroke victims the opportunity to do intensive physical therapy within the comfort of their own home, on their time, using a Kinect camera. Matthew Luckow, one of the designers of the project, helped in the planning, building and testing process of the game.

"The player wears a glove and plays through the game using

different hand gestures," Luckow said. "It's all based on what they would need to do in therapy, but it's meant to be fun and allows them to stay at home to do physical therapy rather than going to a group home or clinic."

Ellertson further explained that the challenge the research students faced was taking the Kinect camera and tricking it to sense movements through the hands and fingers, rather than full-body movements. The idea of the game is to design it to mimic the activities that therapists would use in a physical therapy session working with stroke victims.

Not only has the ADA developed software for stroke victims, but the organization offers other similar programs designed specifically for other health-related problems. Projects include SpeechTail, a speech therapy program, the In-Patient Registration, a registration program in healthcare buildings meant to make registration easier for patients, and a program meant to help with therapy for Autism patients.

"There was a need for a program to help with the therapy of Autism patients as more insurance companies started to offer money towards therapy," Ellertson said. "A company by the name of Research and Motion flew a team to Stevens Point, and they provided ADA with resources and tablets that allowed the group to start developing the project."

Each project created by the organization has had a successful response. Some programs have or have the potential to gain national

recognition. While the work the researchers is important to technology companies around the company, the experience they gain is invaluable to their future.

"From day one, the researchers at ADA are joining a community of practicing professionals," Ellertson said. "They take the knowledge and skills they have gained from a class setting and apply those ideas to real world problems and people, and they

begin to realize and understand the value of what they are doing for themselves and for others."

The WDMD ADA will continue to work on projects until the end of this semester when the lab will be closed. The organization's projects can be viewed via videos and photos on their Facebook page by searching "WDMD Advanced Development Agency."



Photo courtesy of UWSP Web and Media Development

In a grant funded project conducted with Principal Investigators: Dr. Leigh Ann Mroteck (UW-Oshkosh) and David Kettner (Fused Innovations) a team of UWSP students and professors assist in testing the state of the art virtual reality technologies to enhance therapy for stroke patients in the home.

SGA Round Up

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The Student Government Association (SGA) has begun work on a variety of projects to tackle this coming semester.

Proposed changes to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's tobacco and smoking policies are one of the more contentious issues, set to be resolved by SGA's Ad Hoc Committee for the Resolution of Tobacco Concerns.

Voters will have the chance to choose between five different options in a binding referendum: a campus-wide tobacco ban; a campus-wide smoking ban; the creation of designated smoking areas; a transitional plan; and an option in

favor of not changing any of the current policies regulating tobacco use on campus.

SGA will also see some changes to the inside of its own organization.

SGA's environmental sustainability and issues director position will be reorganized into a larger environmental sustainability office. UWSP student organizations concerned with environmental issues will be represented in the new office to better reflect UWSP's commitment to issues concerning the environment.

One of the environmental concerns up for discussion is the Penokee Range iron mine in Northern Wisconsin and what issues the mine may cause to the environmentally conscious UWSP campus.

"They will have a larger budget,

better apt to pay for capital projects in order to be sustainable," said SGA President Seth Hoffmeister.

Hoffmeister also said that the legislative affairs committee is creating a group of professionally trained student lobbyists who will travel to Madison and even Washington D.C. to influence legislation benefiting student interests.

Along with student interests, Hoffmeister said that SGA will be meeting with landlords around the Stevens Point area to make the city a "just place to live" for students.

SGA will also be revisiting regulations concerning workers rights and cutting UWSP contracts with places that use sweatshop labor.

Hoffmeister said that one of SGA's biggest concerns last semester

was the presidential election and getting students out to vote. SGA created the Student Vote Coalition in order to register as many students as possible to vote and become educated voters by Election Day.

Hoffmeister said that UWSP registered the most students percentage-wise out of all the UW-system schools.

SGA elections will be held on Friday, March 15th at 8 a.m. through Thursday, March 21st, ending at 4 p.m.

For any students interested in joining SGA, applications to be on the senator and presidential ballot are open. Hard copies of the completed application are due in the SGA office by 5:00 PM, Friday, February 15, 2013.

Pointers for Life Head to D.C.

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With the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade this past week, the Pointers for Life organization sent a group of members to Washington D.C. for the March for Life.

The Pointers for Life is a pro-life organization on campus that works towards educating and helping women.

Chelsea Sommers, the President of Pointers for Life and a senior at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point majoring in elementary education, loves being able to help women and give them the resources they need.

"We work closely with First Choice, which offers free pregnancy testing and even helps with supplies after the baby is born. If someone comes to us needing resources, we will certainly give it to them," Sommers said.

Pointers for Life also works with Rachel's Vineyard, which is a place women who have had abortions can go to get help with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

"The March for Life is the biggest protest in Washington D.C.," Sommers said.

The first march was held on January 22, 1974 on the West Strips of the Capitol, with an estimated 20,000

prolife activists. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade case and in order to raise awareness to fellow Americans, the theme of the march included an equation: 40=55M. This symbolizes the forty years that have gone by and the 55 million abortions since the landmark case.

Josh Zdroik, a junior at UWSP majoring in political science and communication, and vice president of The Pointers for Life, attended the trip to Washington D.C.

"It was a tremendous experience. There were 500,000 to 600,000 young people marching, which is amazing," Zdroik said.

Besides the march, which was the big event of the trip, the group got to view monuments, attend church, and visit the Smithsonian.

The Pointers for Life also held a rally on Sunday afternoon. A group of people started a march at the courthouse and concluded with a speaker, Cate Zeuske-Gard, in the Laird room of the DUC. Zeuske-Gard spoke about the Affordable Healthcare Act and its impact on pro-life issues. It is the fifth year they have done this and Zdroik's second year being a part of it.

"I love it. It's such a great experience, and it's great to be able to interact with other students and spread a message I believe in," Zdroik said.



Photo by Joshua Zdroik

January 22nd marked the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, and on January 25th Hundreds marched on the National Mall in a pro life demonstration.

2013 Political Update

ANDY DAVIS

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President Barack Obama's second term in office officially began on Sunday, Jan. 20. The inauguration ceremony kicked off Presidential Inauguration weekend.

The official swearing-in of the president by Chief Justice John G. Roberts was aired on live television, marking the first time this portion of the ceremonial event has been broadcast for viewing. After the president was sworn in, the Inaugural Luncheon—hosted by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC)—began, the menu of which consisted of bison, lobster and apple pie. The following day was the Ceremonial Swearing-In Ceremony, which included performances by James Taylor, Kelly Clarkson and Beyoncé.

A couple days after the inauguration, Congress got right to

work questioning Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton about the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2012 in Benghazi, Libya. The hearings were held on Jan. 23 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Secretary Clinton offered no additional information about the attack on the U.S. Mission and asked, "What difference, at this point, does it make?"

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) began the questioning at the Foreign Relations Committee by remarking that "there are many questions that are unanswered, and the answers frankly that you've given this morning are not satisfactory."

On Tuesday, speaking at a Las Vegas high school with a large Hispanic population, the president expressed his support for a comprehensive overhaul of the U.S. immigration laws.

"The time has come for common

sense, comprehensive immigration reform," President Obama began. "Now's the time."

Three goals of the reform according to Obama are: better enforcement of existing laws; affording the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. citizenship; and reforming the legal immigration system.

"At this moment, it looks like there's a genuine desire to get this done soon," Obama said. "This time, action must follow. We can't allow immigration reform to get bogged down in an endless debate."

A day before Obama's speech, four senators from each party proposed framework for legislation that would provide eventual citizenship for the approximate 11 million undocumented immigrants which the president viewed as a bipartisan effort to settle this issue. This plan, however, did resemble efforts to reform U.S. immigration

that have failed in past years.

Mexico's foreign ministry issued a statement Tuesday stating that it "welcomes the principles that have been set out" by Obama during his speech in Las Vegas. Mexican officials have been putting pressure on the U.S. to make changes in immigration laws and policies for years.

Although the Mexican government has not commented on specific details of President Obama's speech, reform would be significant for the country and the estimated 6.8 million undocumented Mexican immigrants currently living in the U.S.

Legalizing undocumented immigrants is a contentious issue, and one that caused a small group of protestors to gather across the street from the Las Vegas high school to demonstrate and speak out against Obama's comments. A full outline of the reform has yet to be released.

Women's Hockey Looks to Finish Strong

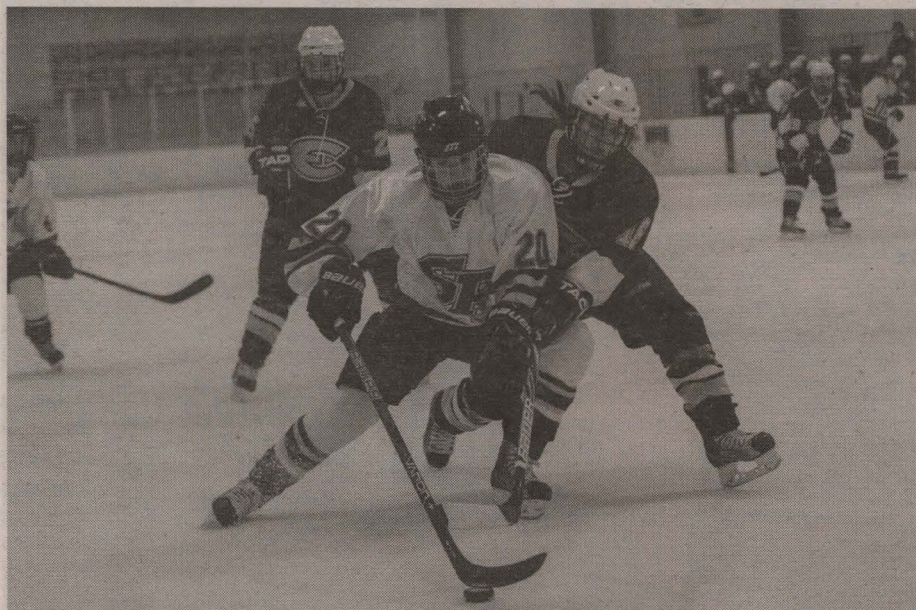


Photo courtesy of sports information

Freshman forward Rachel Reynard fights for the puck against a UW-Eau Claire player

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's hockey team currently has a 10-7-3 record with five games left in the regular season.

The Pointers have been impressive at home this season, with an undefeated record of 4-0-2 at K. B. Willett arena.

The Pointers still know that they can play better hockey and hope to be playing their best hockey as they finish the season.

"We definitely expect more out of us right now," said junior forward Cassandra Salman. "We have lots of work to do in the next couple of weeks."

Currently in fourth place in the National College Hockey Association, the Pointers could have an even better record if they could have finished some important games.

An example of this issue

came this past weekend when Stevens Point played at Adrian College.

The Pointers were leading 2-0 at the half way point in the second period on Friday's matchup against Adrian, but just couldn't hold onto the lead.

"The main thing that we have to improve on is finishing games," said head coach Ann Ninnemann. "We can't let go of that lead when we have it."

Even though some losses that have been hard to take, Allie Tanzer, a junior forward for the Pointers, says the team has learned to keep their heads up and play the next game.

"We have had our downfalls in games, but we have learned to not dwell on the past. We just look ahead to the future and take our mistakes to heart but not let them eat at us," Tanzer said.

"We have had some tough losses, but we are learning from our mistakes, and I think it makes us

stronger," Salman said.

Besides its resiliency, Ninnemann says that the team has also excelled in having a great work ethic and positive team chemistry.

"We all get along really well. We all have the same goal in the end, and that is to walk away as conference champs," Tanzer said.

The team has also really spread the puck around this season, resulting in many scoring threats. The Pointers have seven players with at least five goals and six players with six assists or more.

The team is led in goals by Tanzer and Salmen, who both have gotten ten past the goalie. Freshman forward Emily Lester leads the team with nine assists.

"This year we have had a lot more people that have been putting the puck in the back of the net and not just relying on that one person to get the job done," Tanzer said.

As the regular season comes to an end, the team's goals are simple.

"Our team goal is to host playoffs," said Hillary Drake, a sophomore goalie.

Coach Ninnemann believes that this team can accomplish that goal.

"This is the best team we have had here in a long time," Ninnemann said.

"When we play smart and don't take unnecessary penalties, we can play with anyone," Lester said.

It's hard to dispute the view of Lester and Ninnemann, as this team has competed with some of the best teams in women's Division III hockey. They have beaten current top ten team University of Wisconsin-River Falls and tied with Adrian College and Lake Forest, both also in the top ten.

The Pointers next game comes against Marion University, at home on February 5th. The Pointers then face another top-ten foe when they host a Friday-Saturday series against University of Wisconsin-Superior on February 8th and 9th.



Photo courtesy of sports information

Freshman forward Betsy Anderson awaits a face-off

The Harbowl

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This Sunday marks the first time in NFL history that the Super Bowl will be coached by opposing brothers, John and Jim Harbaugh. No one hates that stat more than their parents.

Two years ago, Jack and Jackie Harbaugh celebrated Thanksgiving unlike any couple ever had. Instead of a table lined with their family, they sat in an office at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. Instead of watching their sons play two-hand-touch in the backyard, they watched them scream into their headsets on national television. Instead of falling asleep in the recliner, Jack and Jackie slipped into

the locker room where Jim sat alone after being defeated by elder John.

In a conference call with the media leading up to the Super Bowl, Jack said he had never seen his wife of 51 years look the way she did on Thanksgiving Day when the brothers first squared off.

"She just stared at the screen, no facial emotion whatsoever, just a blank stare, not a word spoken."

This is a woman that has been watching football for a long time.

Jack coached both high school and college football, retiring in 2002. John coached college ball before getting his NFL break with the Philadelphia Eagles, then taking over the Ravens in 2008. Jim quarterbacked the Michigan Wolverines, then spent 14 years in

the NFL. After retiring in 2001, he coached for the Raiders, found success as Stanford's head coach and revived the 49ers.

When time expired on that Thanksgiving Day, Jack and Jackie did not celebrate because John had won. Nor did they mourn because Jim had lost. They were just happy the game was over.

That was just a warm-up.

This Sunday, rather than sitting quietly at their home in Mequon, Wis., the Harbaughs will be located in a yet undisclosed location inside the Superdome in the midst of the greatest spectacle in American sports.

"I know one is going to win, and one is going to lose," said Jackie during their conference call, "but I would

really like it to end in a tie. Can the NFL do that?"

Luckily for us—not for the Harbaughs—thanks to the NFL's amended playoff overtime rules, a tie cannot happen, and sudden death must be played out until a winner is determined.

So while a nation of ravenous football fans drink beer, laugh at commercials, load their plates up with wings and enjoy America's favorite unofficial holiday, the Harbaughs will be sitting quietly. They won't cheer, they won't pick sides. They'll hardly even smile when the confetti cascades from the rafters.

The will continue to do what they have always done: love their sons, the winner and the loser.

Men's Basketball Continues Impressive Season

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With only three games left in regular season play, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball team is playing some of its best basketball.

The Pointers saw their eight game winning streak snapped after a 46-54 loss at UW-Platteville Wednesday, their lone blemish in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play. Despite the setback, UWSP seems too strong not to rally.

Before the loss the Pointers were the 5th ranked team in all of Division III men's basketball, according to d3hoops.com.

"Expectations are always high here at Point, and so far I feel that we have met them, but we still have a bunch of games left so we have to keep working on getting better," said Trevor Hass, a junior forward.

With their win last week against The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the Pointers certainly helped their case for claiming the WIAC regular season title.

Whitewater, the only other team from the WIAC ranked in the top 25, came into the game only two games back from the Pointers



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Senior guard, Jordan Giordana drives for a layup against UW-Superior.

in the standings.

The game was close until the

Pointers sealed the deal with some clutch free throws, leaving them with a three-game lead in the WIAC and only four games left in the season.

The win was huge against Whitewater. However, we have unfinished business. We were in a similar situation last year and did not come out of it with a conference championship," said Joe Ritchay, a sophomore guard for the Pointers.

"It was a great win, but no more important than any other conference game," said assistant coach Kent Dernbach. "This is a great conference, and every game presents a great challenge."

The 2008-2009 season was the last time the Pointers held an undefeated record in the conference this deep into the season.

There are multiple reasons, according to Dernbach, that have led to the Pointers' impressive winning streak.

"Somebody different has always stepped up," Dernbach said. "Whether it is some key free throws, a big shot or even a crucial defensive possession, we manage to find a way."

The Pointers have done a good job of spreading the offensive duties over the past eleven games since standout senior, Tyler Tillema, went down with an injury.

Dernbach says the team is going day by day with Tillema

and aren't sure when he will be back, but a multitude of players have stepped up in his place.

The Pointers have six players that average at least seven points per game. Ritchay has averaged more than 12 points per game and has grabbed 4.4 boards per contest.

Hass has added 11.4 points per game, and junior big man Clayton Heuer leads the team with 5.4 rebounds, to go along with 11.6 points per game.

The biggest surprise so far this season has been DeVon Jackson. Jackson, a junior guard, was on the team two seasons ago, but didn't play last season.

Jackson has been back with the team the past 10 games and has made his presence felt. Jackson is averaging ten points per game coming off the bench and has brought high intensity on the defensive side of the ball.

"Having him come off the bench has been huge," Dernbach said. "He is a true scoring threat. He can get the ball to his teammates and is a great defender."

The Pointers have had a great season so far and know that if they put a few more pieces together they can make a special run in the NCAA tournament.

"The sky is the limit for us right now. I think we have a great possibility of going very deep into the tournament come March," Tillema said.

Winter is here, but it will be gone soon enough.

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Looking For More Places to Volunteer?

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If you are a student looking for places to volunteer, where do you go? Though there are many answers to this question, thinking outside of the box may offer a fresh experience.

There are some places on campus that have become the norm to look for volunteer opportunities, like the Student Employment & Involvement Office (SIEO), but what about the places not everyone knows about?

Liz Westcott, the Cupboard operation coordinator from SIEO, mentions that many students like to volunteer at places like the YMCA or the Boys & Girls Club because they are closer to campus.

According to Westcott, Volunteersrock.org is another great source to seek additional volunteer opportunities.

"On this website, people can basically pick what time works best for them to volunteer, what type of organization they'd like to work with and what type of volunteering they'd like to do," Westcott said.

Another way to find volunteer work is to try and connect volunteer work to your major.

"Early childhood majors could

volunteer at the Children's Museum. I know a lot of psychology majors interested in volunteering there, too, because they do an 'Autism Night,'" Westcott said.

SIEO makes it their business to help students brush up on these details, but it is not just volunteering alone that makes the interaction special. The experience is enriching.

"It's good for yourself. It makes you feel positive and allows you to connect with other people," Westcott said.

Caitlyn Lindsey, the service trip coordinator for SIEO, says it is another great way to build connections, from making new friends to meeting possible future employers.

"The thing with volunteerism is it shows that you're not just motivated by money. It means that when you do something, you're doing it because you want to do it," Lindsey said.

Lindsey argues that showing these sorts of attributes right away makes it more likely to gain employment because it shows an interest in the field.

Although volunteerism allows involvement and contribution to the community, it also can be time-consuming. This is why SIEO offers various volunteer opportunities for a range of different time commitments.



Photo by Samantha Feld

One way to make a difference in the community is by participating in SIEO's Service Saturdays, which take place in 2-4 hour volunteering increments.

Whether a student decides to volunteer weekly, monthly or yearly, programs are flexible to fit each student's desired hours.

Kirsten Donkle, the special events and promotions coordinator for SIEO, is a firm believer in volunteer work that resonates from the heart.

"For me, it's finding something that speaks to you, and then it kind of just develops on its own," Donkle said.

In addition to some of the places mentioned earlier, the Holly Shoppe sells crafts made by senior citizens in the area and is also known for being another place to volunteer. You could also call United Way 211 and find more on volunteer work around town.

In the meantime, SIEO remains a resource on our campus. If you have any questions, visit SIEO in the lower level of the DUC.

Greece & Turkey

Culinary Journalism: The Food & Wines of the World

May 26 - June 16, 2013

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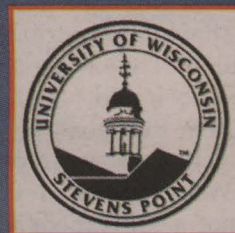
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For more information contact

International Programs,
or Professor Liz Fakazis
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Apply by February 15, 2013



Outdoor Edventures

RACHEL PUKALL

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Outdoor Edventures has opened up their doors for both students on campus and people in the community, offering a wide range of services including rental equipment, retail and adventure trips.

Mike Piekenbrock, the Recreational Activities Coordinator, says that Outdoor Edventures has been open for two years. He loves working there.

"My favorite part would have to be the trips. I've been a guide for more than a decade, and I love being outside, and I really enjoy taking first timers out to share the experience," Piekenbrock said.

Piekenbrock has formed many memories while attending these trips. For one, he recalls getting his captain's license in the Florida Keys and competing to catch sharks barehanded.

"For us that didn't seem extreme, but I'm sure it would surprise some people," Piekenbrock said.

Outdoor Edventures tries to get new equipment each year and add two new trips to places that they have never gone before.

"We got the paddleboard last year and tripping kayaks," Piekenbrock said.

In the future, Piekenbrock would like to add even more to Outdoor Edventures.

"I'd love to go international within the next couple years. I want to train students to be trip leaders so that I wouldn't have to go on every trip," Piekenbrock said.

Other than that, he just wants to keep getting the word out there.

"We're down in the basement, and not a lot of people know we're down here. We have great resources and affordable prices for students," Piekenbrock said.

Outdoor Edventures is located on the lower level of the Allen Center and is open Monday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.



Photos by Samantha Feld

UWSP Outdoor Edventures offers a wide range of services including, rental equipment, retail, as well as skills and adventure trips.

BOTTOM: Students explore the beach at sunset during a Pathways to Point trip at Pictured Rocks. Although Pathways to Point trips are only offered to incoming freshman, Outdoor Edventures offers a wide range of adventures throughout the year.

Battling Flu Season

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If you have logged on to a campus computer within the last week, you may have noticed our campus has been making great preparations for the flu this year.

"Although Wisconsin's levels of the flu have peaked, the concern for a college campus is that students traveling elsewhere over break may be bringing influenza from a different region," said Jen Sorenson, the Director of Student Health Services.

Because of this, Sorenson said we might see spikes of the flu on campus.

However, certain preparations can be made to prevent the virus from spreading so easily.

Some of these tasks are a community effort, like washing hands thoroughly, keeping work areas sanitized and making sure populated areas are clean at all times.

Starting with an effort from our campus, Residential Living, Custodial Staff, Health Services and other departments met a week before school to discuss how they would help keep our campus clean.

As a result, the custodial staff has stepped up their cleaning efforts, particularly with frequently touched

areas like doorknobs, tables and keyboards in the computer labs.

However, Sorenson said the best way to prevent the flu is to get the shot. Even if you are typically a healthy person, she recommended the flu shot as the best prevention.

Sorenson argued that, although the college population here in Stevens Point is fairly healthy, there is still an outbreak every year. Some are more prone than others due to underlying illnesses like asthma, but anyone can get the flu.

Although flu season is nearing an end, Sorenson recommended getting the shot if you haven't yet. Although

I didn't intend on getting a shot after the interview, it was the perfect opportunity.

After some convincing, I found it was not terrifying at all. In the end, it felt good to know that I was now covered.

Since flu season starts in December, it is best to be proactive and get the shot in October. However, it is not too late. All it takes is one visit to Health Services on the second floor of Delzell Hall. Their hours are Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. You can also call them at 715-346-4646.

Getting the most from GDRs

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It is the beginning of a new semester. Along with it comes a new schedule to memorize, new faces to meet and a flurry of new classes to master. Sitting through hour-long lectures can be tough, especially for new students and especially in classes that fall under the general degree requirement (GDR) designation.

GDRs are the classes required to graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point that may not fit into a student's major or minor.

UWSP is a liberal arts and science school, meaning students are exposed to a wide variety of subjects in order for them to become global citizens with a background in many different fields.

Picking the correct classes to satisfy GDRs can be a challenge. One of

the best ways to combat registration anxiety is choosing classes that count for more than one GDR.

"I take ones that sound interesting to me, but also ones that satisfy more than one requirement," said Katelyn BaDour, a junior biology major.

Rachel Wisniewski, a sophomore early childhood education major, had a similar opinion.

"I take the ones that double-count and the ones that just fit in my schedule or sound easy," Wisniewski said.

Rebecca Wood, a psychology major who graduated this last fall semester, chose classes that sounded interesting.

"I wanted to select classes that I knew I could only experience in college. With me in psychology, I knew I wouldn't ever take an astronomy class, so that's why I took that one," Wood said.

There is also the question of when

a student should take their GDRs. A popular technique involves completing a majority of them within the first two years of school. This way, a student has an exposure to many different fields of study before diving into their major.

Some students choose a different technique.

"I know a lot of people like to group them in their first couple years of school, just to get them all over with, but what I decided to do was sprinkle them in each semester," Wood said.

Not every class a student takes will be on a topic he or she is interested in, and a freshmen or sophomore course in an unfamiliar topic can pose problems.

"My grades in GDRs are not as good. They kind of get thrown to the back burner compared to ones that count towards my major,"

Wisniewski said.

Wood also said that GDRs can pose a motivational obstacle.

"If I was wholeheartedly interested in the topic, I would be, like, 'Yeah, I'm going to do this. I'm going to work on this as hard as I can.' Otherwise, if maybe the instructor was kind of boring, or if the course turned out to be kind of a joke, then of course I wouldn't try that hard in it," Wood said.

Learning to use each moment of a students' class time to his or her advantage is an important skill in itself, even if it is in a topic that does not spark as much interest as a class in one's major.

"I learned a lot about my own study habits and also about my interests and where they could take me in my life. I love school a lot," Wood said.

The Importance of Having a Mentor

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We look at our professors, faculty members, bosses, family and many other people, and we see those who could potentially teach us about life and what the future may bring. How does this relationship start between teacher and pupil? Along what lines are these relationships drawn? Should the student seek out the mentor, or is the student chosen?

By having a mentor, students could potentially gain more knowledge from their classes, get extra help when they need it—and really, sometimes, it never hurts to brown nose a little for a good letter of recommendation.

Starting such a relationship, however, can be difficult at the beginning. Many students are intimidated and unsure of how to approach a professor or faculty member for a normal conversation beyond class work or academics. Kane Mach, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student, considers mathematical sciences professor Andy Felt his mentor.

"I have had him for a few classes, and he willingly took me on as a research student over the

summer. Over the course of those experiences, you start to get to know your professor on a more personal level," Mach said. "We have fun conversations about the future and about campus politics, and I've not only learned a lot about math but also about things that applied to my future career goals."

While some students find mentors or role models in their professors, others find a mentor in a current job, student organization or family member. May Roach Academic Resource Coordinator, Joe Zawacki, mentioned his current hall director as his mentor and why he thought such a relationship is important.

"I get advice on my job and on my professional development, such as how to find other jobs and how to be successful with resumes," Zawacki said. "It's helpful to have someone you can go to with questions, and I've appreciated the constructive criticism I've received. It's really helped me reflect on where I've been and where I want to go."

The university also has a program through Residential Living that offers students a chance to connect and get to know various faculty members throughout the UWSP campus. Each residence hall is paired with

one, or sometimes multiple, faculty members who serve as that hall's mentor. There are currently 17 faculty members serving as mentors within the residence halls.

Each serves in a different capacity and may be involved with a variety of programs put on by the hall's staff or may even serve an office hour in the lobby to interact with students. The idea is to promote connectedness between the student and the professor and break down the intimidating but unintentional barrier between student and professor. Residential Living's Program and Assessment Coordinator, Mary Duckworth, explains how faculty members are placed.

"Students benefit academically and get to know the professor in different capacities and get the chance to meet the faculty," Duckworth said. "The benefits are different with this kind of relationship, and it can bring useful connections to the student outside the university after graduation by networking and connecting with these professors. So far, we've seen that students enjoy having them involved."

Interaction could be as simple as asking a question at the start of or end of class. However basic the

interaction is, it is a good start to let the professors know who you are. Zawacki explained that office hours are an opportunity everyone should take advantage of, but it can still be hard to create a personal connection.

"I've had positive experiences every time I've gone to a professor with a question, but every time it was strictly about class," Zawacki said. "I would feel awkward veering into personal life or something that would be a mentoring situation."

Connecting with faculty is a difficult task. Students are often intimidated to approach professors and engage in conversations that are not about class. However, professors and faculty do know how to talk about life outside of the classroom and are more than willing to talk about anything when a connection is made.

"It's scary. The more you get to know them, the easier it is to talk to them and the easier it is to get help, and they lead you down different paths," Mach said. "When you get to know someone, the situation becomes more humanized, and you can talk to them about other things besides their field. They have a life outside of school."

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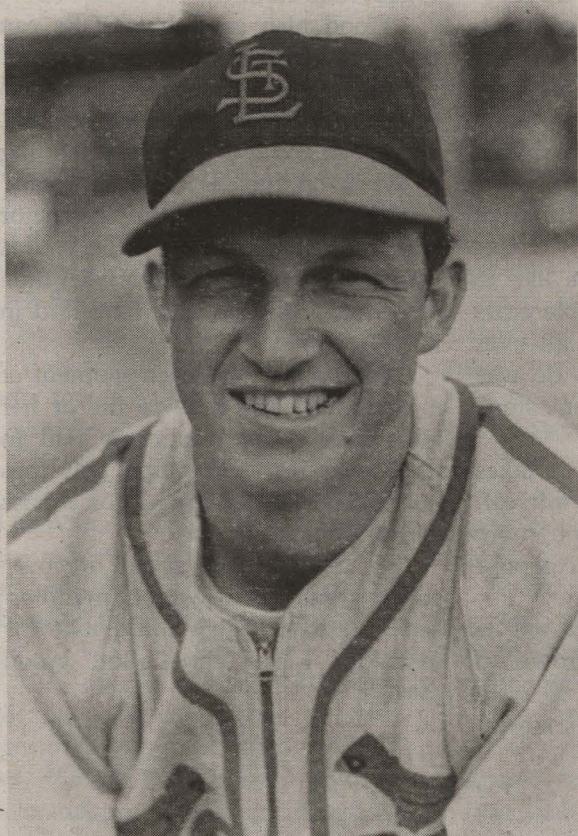


Photo courtesy of latimes.com

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"Here stands baseball's perfect warrior. Here stands baseball's perfect knight."

This quote, from former

MLB commissioner Ford Frick, is engraved on the bottom of the Stan Musial statue outside of the left-field entrance to Busch Stadium. Truer words have never been spoken.

Last Saturday, Stanley "Stan" Frank Musial passed away at the age of 92. Musial, a Hall of Famer, is viewed as the greatest to ever wear a St. Louis Cardinals uniform.

Based on numbers and accolades alone, Stan "The Man" is one of the greatest to ever pick up a baseball bat.

In his 22-year career with the Cardinals, Musial totaled 3,630 hits—still fourth of all time—475 home runs and appeared in a record twenty-four all-star games.

Musial was the first National League player to win three MVP awards, finishing 2nd four times and gathering seven batting titles.

A master of consistency, Musial ended his career with the same number of hits at home, 1,815, as he had in away games. Musial never struck out more than 40 times in a season until he was 41 years old.

Dodger's announcer Vin Scully once said about Musial, "How good was Musial? He was good enough to take your breath away."

Accolades and statistics are great, but what really set Musial apart from other professional athletes was that his character and integrity outshined his gift of hitting a baseball.

At Musial's funeral, this past Saturday, Bob Costas gave a touching eulogy on his experiences with Musial. Costas recalled having a conversation with Yankees legend, Mickey Mantle.

"Stan was a better player than me because he's a better man than me," Mantle said.

In a sports world where cheating and lying is the norm, Musial was truly void of any controversy in his playing career and after retirement.

"Forget about baseball, he was just a solid human being," said Hall of Famer Hank Aaron.

Musial married his high school sweetheart, Lil, and stayed married for more than 70 years until Lil's death this past May.

During the prime of his playing career, Musial decided to assist his country by joining the United States Navy, serving for one year and missing the 1945 season.

Musial's kindness showed through when signing autographs.

He would sign every single ball, photo or piece of paper until each person received an autograph.

His smile brightened up the whole room, and the harmonica he played from time to time put smiles on the faces of all those around him.

The matrimony between the city of St. Louis and Musial was a match made in baseball heaven. In a city where fans love their baseball players more than some family members, Musial loved the fans to an equal extent.

With its tribute to Musial, Sports Illustrated had a quote that didn't have an origin, but its message is the best way to sum up the bond between St. Louis and Musial: "It seemed that Musial hadn't simply come to St. Louis, but that Rockwell had painted him there."

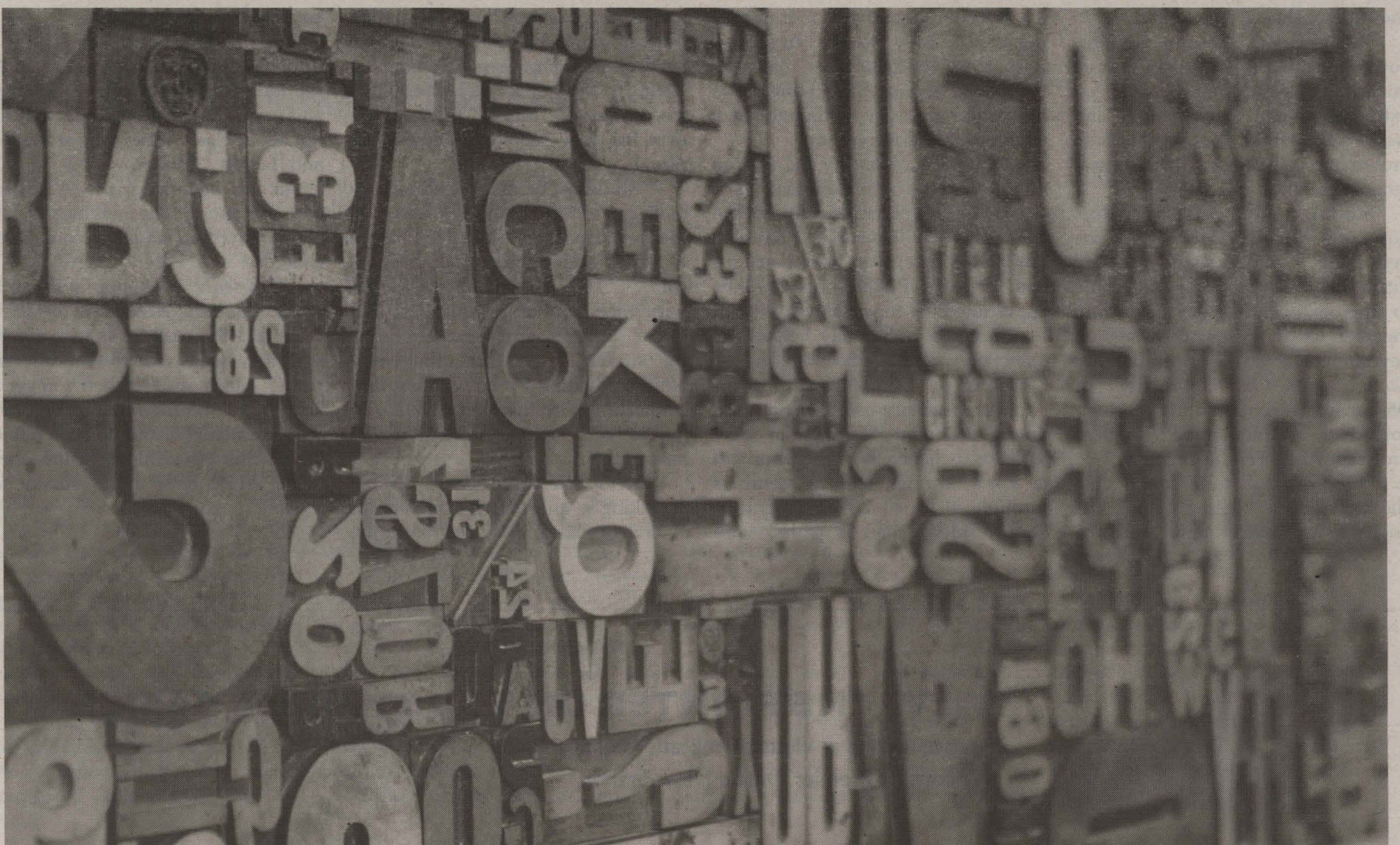
Rockwell is the famous painter who portrayed the classic American lifestyle in his art.

The quote is basically saying that Stan Musial is as synonymous with St. Louis as America is with apple pie.

Musial's passing was so sad for friends because he wasn't just a role model for baseball players; he was an example of how to be an outstanding individual.

He was, in every sense of the saying, the man.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



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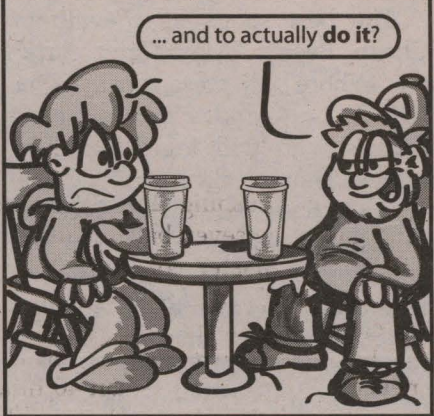
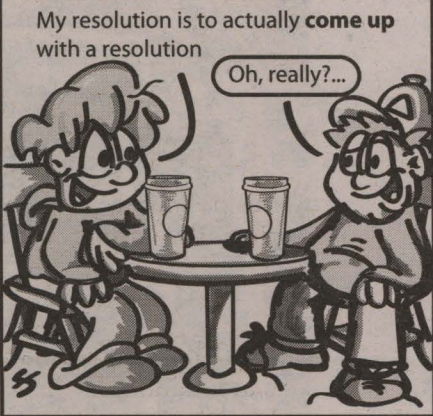
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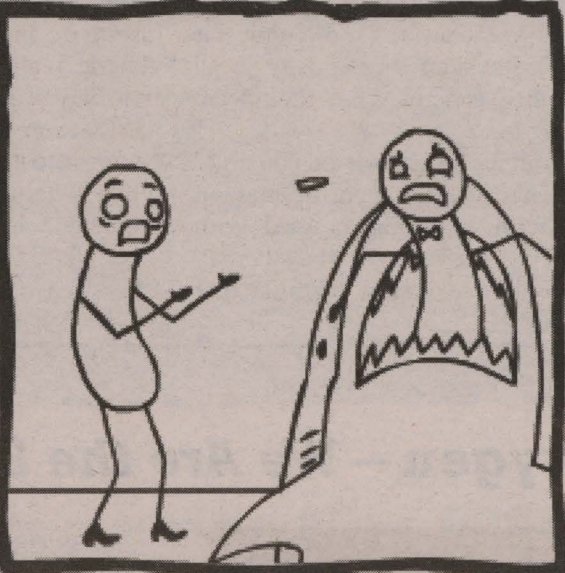
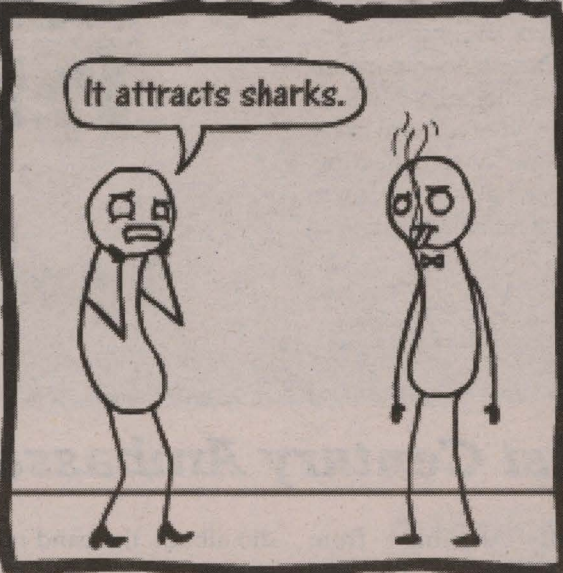
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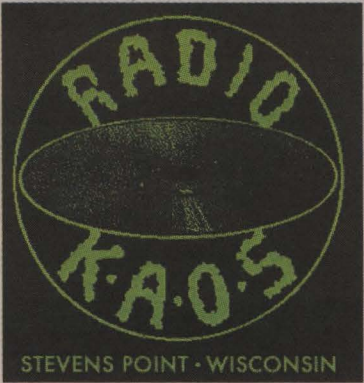
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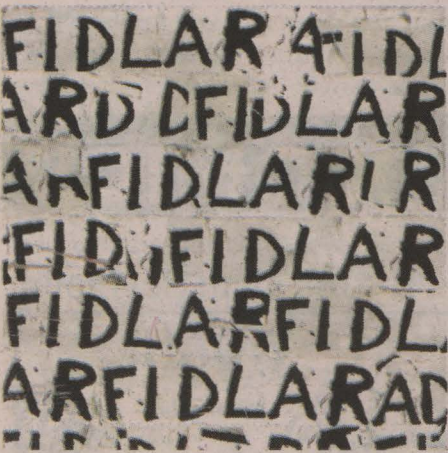


ALBUM REVIEWS

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FIDLAR – FIDLAR



JESSE HINZ
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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

L.A. group FIDLAR has, it seems, brought punk music back from the dead on their self-titled debut album, a snotty rollicking affair that has been long awaited by the devoted fan base built upon their two e.p.'s released over the last year and a half. Although at times they can sound like your by the numbers punk band, with their piss poor attitudes towards life and affinity for drugs and alcohol, Fidlar has achieved something far above basic, even if basic was, in all probability, exactly what they were shooting for.

Coming off as a twisted cousin of Pavement (secretly great at making music with a chorus) crossed with Black Flag (as hard as they come), FIDLAR has taken the formula that

made Waves popular and outdid them handily, creating a punk/pop conglomeration with a substance. Lyrically, they play at themes commonly covered in their genre, bemoaning their lack of cash and women but lacking the work ethic or inclination to really pursue them due to the attractiveness of distracting substances, both legal and illegal.

The best songs on the album, "Cheap Beer", "Max Can't Surf", and "Whore" all present truly what FIDLAR is, 4 dudes in their early twenties who will ingest anything in their general circumference that will alter their brain while creating a rough and rugged sound that will make your feet tap, even if it isn't consensual to your usual musical sensibility. But for me, the albums closing track, "Cocaine" truly pushes this album over the top, presenting a classic blues standard reinvented as a heavy, guitar distorted anthem, making one take another look at basic twelve bar blues in a vein similar to the way in the mid-sixties the British did, with groups like John Mayall's Bluesbreakers and the Jeff Beck Group pushing acoustic blues into the electric realm. Despite comparisons that may seem sacrilegious, FIDLAR has that something that turns average bands into the ones worth hearing, while retaining what makes them relatable, which is no small feat.

Foxygen – We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace & Magic



TAYLOR CHRISTIAN
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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

Originally hailing from Agoura Hills, California, Foxygen has successfully followed up their acclaimed major label debut Take the Kids Off Broadway with their brand new mouthful of an album We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace & Magic. After being compared to classic rock essentials like the Stones and more recent psych-pop stars MGMT, Foxygen has continued to develop their unique combination of the old and the new scenes of pop music. The duo consists of Jonathan Rado (guitar/keyboards) and Sam France (vocals/lyricist), who cite inspiration from iconic artists ranging from the Brian Jonestown Massacre to the Clash and the Beatles. Before finding breakout success with their first stu-

dio album, the band recorded a staggering 10 records during their high school years before taking a college-oriented hiatus. Their eventual discovery is largely credited to producer Richard Swift, who worked with Damien Jurado and The Mynabirds. The band recorded their first major-label album with Swift shortly after their meeting in 2011, and has shown no sign of slowing since.

With the brand new album, the band has found critical acclaim ranging from CMJ and Pitchfork to the Vancouver Sun. Each of these reviews carries with it one underlying: Foxygen takes heavily from the old, but brings an awareness and an authenticity that makes it unlike anything else. Standout tracks from the

new album include "San Francisco", "Shuggie", and the album's title track, where the influence of the Stones channels through powerfully. San Francisco showcases the kind of writer Sam France has developed into, weaving together dreamy descriptions of the city's landscapes with vivid emotional metaphors and one of the best uses of call-and-response in a refrain we've seen in a long time. On the whole, the album carries hints of Tame Impala's recent album, Lonerism, and adds a whole lot of swagger. Fans of Pond, the Velvet Underground, and Lou Reed should find plenty to love in this phenomenal piece of retro-rock work.