It has been quite a storybook season for the women's volleyball team. Beginning the season with a 5-3 record, the Pointers have now won 21 of their last 22 games.

Stevens Point, ranked 21st in the nation, holds a 24-4 record. Currently in the middle of a 13 match winning streak, the Pointers seem to have found their groove.

Head coach Abbey Sutherland has enjoyed the success in her first year as head coach and recognizes the importance of everyone on the team.

"I knew it was possible because of our youth and because of the freshmen. We've had some leadership from the upperclassmen and they've just jelled. It's been great," Sutherland said.

There are a few key areas that the Pointers have addressed during their streak. Junior Sarah Breuer noticed how the team has transformed throughout the season.

"We've really come together as a team. We spend a lot of time together and really challenge each other," Breuer said.

The Pointers used the positive team chemistry and turned it into success. Sophomore Emma Brunkhorst explained how the Pointers do not back down.

"We've been on a steady rise all season. I think we fight back all the time. We'll go down two games, come
Raising Disability Awareness

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The Disability and Assistive Technology Center, along with the Disability Advisory Council, will be hosting a series of seminars and presentations to increase awareness about disabilities.

Celebrate All Abilities is an October disability awareness program coinciding with National Disability Employment Awareness, which is also in the month of October.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center provides almost 500 students on campus with special accommodations. One of their roles is to help make the campus more aware of what disabilities are about.

"If students have a disability and have documentation of their disability, then we meet with them and we identify what kinds of accommodations are going to best help them succeed," said Jim Joque, the director of Disability Services.

The Disability Advisory Council is made up of faculty, staff and students. Joque is also part of this organization.

"We have representation of people with and without disabilities, and faculty and staff who might have some impact on disabilities," Joque said.

That council puts together Celebrate All Abilities each year.

Margaret Strong, the assistive technology coordinator, thinks that being able to host these events with St. Michaels is a great community teamwork effort that can bring more awareness to the community and campus about students with disabilities.

"Our campus does a lot to support our students and our numbers show it with how many more we do support each year," Strong said.

The first of the three events, the American Disability Act Workshop, will take place on Oct. 29 from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Paige Reed, of the UW-System General Counsel, will discuss the elements of disability laws and best practices.

"During the day, Paige Reed, one of our assistant lawyers, is coming to talk about the American Disabilities Act," Joque said. "This is geared to students, faculty, staff, and anyone who's interested in learning more of what ADA is all about and how they impacted us here on campus."

The second event, A Journey of Recovery, will be the same day from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Dreyfus University Center Theater. The Committee of Portage County, along with Linea Johnson and Cindy Johnson, authors of "Perfect Chaos," will be the presenters. The program will be in cooperation with Ministry Health Care and Mid-State Technical College, as well as UWSP's Disability Advisory Council.

"During the evening program we provide the space and some of the promotion to help Ministry, who brings in a National speaker," Joque said. "This year we were very fortunate to get a mother-daughter team who have written a book called 'Perfect Chaos'."

The book is about a girl who has bipolar disorder and she describes how she copes and lives through events as well as her mother's reactions to them.

"In the past, we've had different key note speakers and we've always had a really good turnout. Because Ministry also promotes it, it could be anywhere from 200-400 people," Joque said. "Two years ago we had one on Asperger's syndrome and we had 60 chairs set up. The room got so packed that we had maintenance come and actually tear the wall down because we had almost 200 people."

The third event, called the Celebrate All Abilities Panel, will take place on Oct. 30 from 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. in the Dreyfus University Center Theatre. It is for students with disabilities and their parents to hear about the challenges of having a disability while attending college. Some of the disabilities represented include Asperger's Syndrome, Attention Deficit Disorder, learning disabilities, mobility disabilities, and vision and hearing impairments.

"We have six students and two parents and we're covering a wide range of disabilities," Joque said.

"It's an hour long presentation and a half hour question and answer. What they're going to do is basically tell the story of how their disability is impacted while attending the University, what kind of barriers they run into, and how they handle those barriers. Each one will have maybe seven minutes to give a brief presentation."

Joque did this type of panel years ago at UW-La Crosse and said it was very insightful for students, faculty and staff to hear the testimonies coming from students with disabilities.

"I think it's a great insight to share what students are going through when they are in school and on campus and what the parents have to try to do to help them and support them," Strong said.

Strong believes that any event that allows people to become more aware and sensitive to these disabilities is important.

"I think that when these kinds of programs come to campus, it's really important for awareness, especially the hidden disabilities, like the one that's being done with St. Michaels about bipolar syndrome," Strong said.

"I'm excited," Joque said. "I think this is a real good opportunity for the campus community to learn more about people who have disabilities."
**Remedial Education Helps Students Achieve**

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The UW System will be examining remedial education to identify the best practices implemented at UW institutions.

"Remedial education is the term the UW System applies to the course used to remediate skills necessary for college level learning," said Greg Summers, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Students can be placed in remedial classes, such as English or mathematics, if their placement test doesn’t achieve the minimum level of proficiency needed to be successful in that specific college course.

The Stevens Point curriculum only offers one remediation course for their students. "We are different than most UW schools. We don’t have a remedial education course for English. Our English department believes it is a better approach to put those students directly into English 101," Summers said.

Since the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point does not have an English remedial course, there is only one course the school does offer for students who aren’t equipped for college level coursework. That course is Mathematics 90.

Ann Kiefer, a faculty member in the mathematics department and a lecturer of Mathematics 90 for the last five years, says the course reinforces skills used in upper level classes.

"I believe remedial education is necessary because students are able to develop skills that they are lacking in proficiency," Kiefer said. "Math is something that builds off of itself. Students need to understand the basics to move forward."

Many of the individuals enrolled in Mathematics 90 are those who need to either relearn or refresh their algebra skills to solidify their understanding for future use.

"Students need to understand basic algebra skills so they can solve equations and apply their knowledge in other classes and in life situations," Kiefer said.

In the UW System, about 24.5 percent of UW freshmen in Fall 2012 required some form of remedial education. Breaking it down further, 20.7 percent of those students required remediation, 9.9 percent required remediation in Mathematics, and 6.1 percent required both.

"On average, UWSP finds that about 9 percent of incoming first-year students require remediation in Mathematics," Summers said.

Not all students participating in remedial classes are freshmen. Non-traditional students also take advantage of the class to help them relearn the skills they may have forgotten.

Mathematics 90 is not considered college level learning; therefore the three credits offered for taking the course do not count towards the completion of a student’s 120 college credits needed to graduate.

"The classes give students the opportunity to bring their understanding of math up to entry level expectations to help students start their path towards a successful college career."

"Remedial classes bridge students into higher education, and help them achieve the skills needed for college level coursework," Summers said.

The classes are simply designed to get students up to speed. If they aren’t equipped to succeed, we give them a class so they can."  

**Improving the Grid**

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Students have a new alcohol policy on campus that they must adhere to, the Alcohol Sanctioning Grid.

The grid is a list of disciplinary outcomes for anyone who does not follow the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alcohol policies. Students are expected to acknowledge this year’s improved grid protocol for alcohol consumption. If disregarded, it could lead to abiding consequences.

"We want students to first use self-discipline and let them make their own decisions, but realize what could happen when they don’t follow the regulations," said Anne Hoffman of the Student Advisory Board.

It is important to emphasize that the grid applies to both minors and legal aged UWSP students. Those legal of age can consume alcohol, but depending on certain Residence Halls, and whom the alcohol is directed to, may lead to violation of school policy.

All infractions will be penalized based on the number of offenses, not on blood alcohol content. After the first offense, students must meet with a conduct hearing officer, be on 16 weeks disciplinary probation, pay financial restitution if damages are incurred, and take a $75 Ft. usual Alcohol-Control through Exploration class. A follow up meeting is also required.

Additional incidents lead to more severe punishments.

"It’s generally accepted that kids are going to try drinking when they come to college; it seems a little harsh to punish a first time offender financially and put him or her on probation," said a student who wishes to remain anonymous.

This grid is substantially for harm reduction, not abstinence," Hoffman said after discussing the considerations of a student’s perspective.

Over the past six years, an Alcohol Wise survey has been sent out to incoming students. The survey has been used to educate students and to help school officials gather statistics.

According to the Alcohol Wise survey, 56.9 percent of college students drink alcohol 1-5 days out of every week. By itself, this statistic doesn’t seem that severe, but the interesting statistic is that 22.8 percent of those students have as many as four to five drinks a day.

Data from the survey shows an average student’s BAC is at or above a .15, when only a .05 is needed to reach a buzz. BAC also varies depending on the individual.

"I’ve heard students say, ‘When the cops show up, you might as well be hammered’, because BAC doesn’t matter. Nothing is going to stop kids from drinking, so I think we should instead be encouraging responsibility—maybe punishment should be based on BAC initially, Then we can focus on preventing. The students are the anonymous UWSP student said.

Hoffman began this program in 2006 and continues to serve as its backbone. The Vice Chancellor, along with the Dean of Students, started to implement the development two years ago.

Not only do the UWSP Adjudicating Officers require these guidelines, the Mayor, community members, law enforcement, court system, and local health care practice all support the promotion of the recent experiences.

A separate grid similar to the Alcohol Sanction Grid is currently being created. It concerns the use of illicit drugs including marijuana and prescription drugs. It has not been published yet, but within the next few years will be enforced.

A violation on campus only ends up on a students conduct record, which is protected by law. The same violation broken off-campus or cited by Protective Services can end up on a public record, which shows up as a criminal charge for anyone to see.

"The questions is, who do you want to see what is on your public record?" Hoffman said.

**Mid-State Technical College on the Move**

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Mid-State Technical College is aiming to finish construction on their new downtown location by mid-March and hopes to begin holding classes there in the summer session of 2014.

One of the benefits of moving to the new building will be having substantially more space.

The downtown location offers close to 20,000 square feet more than they have at their current location.

The extra room will allow the school to expand their student body.

"We don’t think it’s wise to move mid semester, so we won’t be starting classes in the new building until summer," said Steve Smith, campus dean of Mid-State.

Many changes have been made to the mall in preparation for the school.

One change included installing large windows that will let in a lot of natural light.

"This building has served us well and I think the new space will be very nice for students," Smith said. "I think Stevens Point will look at this building and be proud."

The building is currently located on Michigan Avenue, but the building is no longer large enough to accommodate their growing student population.

"We’ve outgrown this campus, its smaller and smaller everyday," said Christy Villarreal, vice president of student Senate and Student Activities.

"This will give us a chance to grow in enrollment and overall."

Some classes, like early childhood education, will be moved from the Wisconsin Rapids location to Stevens Point in the fall of 2014.

Other departments, such as the health program, will soon be expanding.

"I think it will be more convenient for college students, a lot more spacious and open up opportunities for classes," said Jennifer Lewis, a Mid-State student studying for her GED.

Many also hope that the relocation will help bring more commerce into the downtown area.

With the 2,800 people going to school at Mid-State Technical College in Stevens Point each year, the downtown stores and eateries should see much more business.

"It was part of a re-development effort of the downtown area. It was a way that we are able to secure a tenant or an organization, that would create a high foot traffic, and spark other economic development," said Michael Hoffman, director of community development.

"I think it’s great, as a resident I think this is what Stevens Point needs downtown," Villarreal said.

Mid-State will be holding a sentential celebration and a public open house on June 4 along with tours for the new building on 1001 Centerpoint Dr.
Mexican Activist Talks Drugs, Guns and US Policies

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Latin American/Caribbean speaker series coordinated with the activist group Witness for Peace to bring Francisco Cerezo, a founding member of the human rights organization Comité Cerezo, to campus last Thursday to speak about the effects the United States' 'War on Drugs' has on the Mexican people.

Since 2007, the drug war has claimed the lives of over 60,000 Mexican citizens. In addition, about 25,000 people have been seized by Mexican police forces, and a staggering 150,000 people have been displaced by violent conflicts. This three-billion-dollar war, funded by American taxpayers and comes to a total of around 1.6 billion dollars.

It is this situation that Francisco, and the rest of Comité Cerezo, fight every day in Mexico. Comité Cerezo was formed in 2000 when Francisco’s three brothers, also activists, were arrested and imprisoned by the Mexican government on charges of terrorism.

“We eventually managed to defeat those charges in court,” Francisco said. “But one of my brothers was in jail for three and a half years before we could get him out, and the other two were in for seven years.”

Today, Comité Cerezo focuses on documenting police abuse and advocating for political prisoners in Mexico, as well raising awareness about US policies driving the drug war.

In Thursday’s presentation, Francisco singled out one particular policy, the Merida Initiative, as the biggest contributor to the human rights crisis in Mexico today.

The initiative was created in 2008 by the US and Mexican governments to outfit Mexican forces with the tools and training needed to achieve two goals: wage war against the drug cartels and prevent human rights abuses. However, according to Francisco and Witness for Peace, the effectiveness of the initiative has fallen far from this stated purpose.

Witness for Peace reports, “Between 2007 and 2012, Mexico’s National Human Rights Commission saw a fivefold increase in complaints of human rights violations by Mexican soldiers and federal police, including torture, rape, extrajudicial execution, arbitrary detention, and enforced disappearances.”

Francisco asserts that the initiative is the cause of this jump in human rights violations. “Support of the Merida Initiative from the US, 99 percent military training, one percent human rights,” Francisco said. “The police have been trained to fight enemy combatants, so they treat Mexican citizens like enemies.”

When acting to disperse public protests, police officers will “Restrain protesters and kick them into submission, while others try to stop activists from recording what’s happening by blocking their cameras with riots shields,” Francisco said.

People beaten in this way are often left on the street and there is no official documentation of the abuse that can be used against the police. Other times, people are taken in and their arrest is never put on official record. “We get it over to the corporations.”

“Stop the flow of drugs from Mexico, is not being followed through on. “What is the true reason the US is sending so much money to Mexico?” one audience member asked.

“We believe that the Mexican Army, instead of fighting the Cartels to stop the drug trade, is actually fighting them to control the drug trade,” Francisco said.

This ties to another theory Comité Cerezo and Witness for Peace have about the true motivations of the drug war: that US corporations that influence policy use it as a way to seize land and power in developing countries.

“There is an alliance between the Mexican government, the army, and US corporations,” Francisco said.

“The government creates paramilitary groups that kill people, which causes those people to ask for help from the army, which then allows the government to take the land and turn it over to the corporations.”

As outrageous as that situation may sound, Francisco maintained that there are still actions that UWSP students can take to help.

Students can sign up at WitnessForPeace.org to receive action alerts, which are forms that call for signatures to pressure military and political forces to take action on a certain issue.

Francisco has received thirteen death threats over the course of his activism and responses to action alerts have helped insure that none of them have been followed through with.

Students can also follow Witness for Peace and Comité Cerezo on Facebook and Twitter. This type of social media activism can actually make a huge difference when these groups fight in court on behalf of political prisoners.

“The Courts will not be so harsh if they know there is US support,” said Elise Roberts, regional organizer for Witness for Peace’s upper Midwest branch.

“Even though everyone says to branch out and get your feet wet in college, there are those people that don’t,” Eby said. “By making it a requirement to leave the classroom and physically apply what you’ve learned, you can better gauge when you’re at, and enter the workforce with previous experience in your field.”

This new prerequisite is not without its critics. Some argue that the particularly broad explanation as to what experiential learning is devalues the entire concept, as there is no way to determine what qualifies as experiential learning and what doesn’t.

Sage is adamant that this is not the case.

“We didn’t mean to suggest that this is somehow more valuable than traditional ways of teaching,” Sage said. “Classroom based teaching certainly has it’s place, but the idea is that this is a complement; that it adds to and supplements the overall experience.”

UWSP To Make Experiential Learning a General Degree Requirement

Following the implementation of a new General Education Program, experiential learning will become a requirement for all University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students next fall.

Experiential learning is a type of engaged learning in which students are able to blend both real world experience with what they’re learning in traditional classrooms. It brings together hands-on learning and more intellectual, abstract learning,” said James Sage, interim associate vice chancellor of teaching, learning and academic programs.

Essentially, any work done outside of the classroom can qualify as experiential learning. According to the university’s new GEP, experiential learning will allow students to learn by reflecting on experiences beyond their typical classroom activities. They will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they gain from traditional courses in new settings.

“Experiential learning is basically just a way for students to learn and get academic respect for things that they’re already doing,” said Julie Olaf, the student life & academic affairs director for Student Government Association. “It’s hands on work, where you apply the theories and concepts that you learn in class to a real life situation that you can get credit for and can apply to your future.”

Starting the next academic year, students will need to take part in one of two experiential learning options in order to graduate from UWSP. The first consists of a structured, recurring credit-bearing course or learning experience. The other is defined as a student-initiated experiential learning activity that could be either credit-bearing or non-credit bearing.

According to Olaf, both options were intentionally left somewhat undefined to accommodate a wide variety of scenarios and situations, insuring that any student seeking experiential learning credit is able to receive it.

“That’s the beauty of experiential learning, it’s broad in the way that you can go about it,” Olaf said. “The difference between, say, an internship or research, is how you reflect upon it. You can set your own parameters, and basically gear it towards the experience you want.”

Despite having never been a requirement until now, Sage explained that the concept of experiential learning is not new to UWSP. He goes on to cite the chemistry, forestry, and education departments as regular practitioners of the method.

“A lot of programs here on campus already integrate experiential learning. In chemistry, for example, we have a very rich and active undergraduate research component, where students get to work with professors and do research in the lab,” Sage said. “That in itself is experiential learning, in that that research effort goes on to cite the chemistry, forestry, and education departments as regular practitioners of the method.”

New to UWSP is the true reason the US is doing this. “They’re doing this to control the drug trade,” Francisco said.

This ties to another theory Comité Cerezo and Witness for Peace have about the true motivations of the drug war: that US corporations that influence policy use it as a way to seize land and power in developing countries.

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A Blueprint for Success

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As the World Series approaches, St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Red Sox fans eagerly wait to celebrate, while the 28 other teams' fans wonder why it wasn't their year.

Brewers fans haven't tasted World Series action since the 1982 season, when they lost to the Cardinals in seven games. Milwaukee's front office would be wise to look over how the Cardinals and Red Sox managed to reach baseball's ultimate competition.

Both teams provide a blueprint that the Brewers could use to reach baseball's ultimate competition.

The Cardinals have reached the National League Championship Series the last three years and have reached the World Series twice, winning in 2011.

St. Louis has done this with wave after wave of minor league talent coming up to the majors and performing in big spots.

Of the 25 members on the Cardinals playoff roster, 20 were developed in the team's farm system with 17 players being drafted by St. Louis.

If the Brewers do decide to do the full rebuild they're going to have to put a bigger focus on their minor league system.

At the beginning of the season Milwaukee was ranked as one of the worst farm systems. The team didn't do itself any favors by losing their first round pick by signing Kyle Lohse last year.

The Brewers have to commit to re-tooling their farm system. If they starting doing this now, and draft well, they could be back in contention soon.

If Milwaukee wants to go the route of a quick turnaround, they must look at what the Red Sox have done in just over a season.

After making flashy signings the last two offseasons, the Red Sox were poised to take the 2012 American League East title.

But the team didn't mesh under manager Bobby Valentine. The team wasn't winning like they should, and big changes were on the way.

In August of last season, the Red Sox created a clean slate for the next season, sending big contracts, like Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford and Josh Beckett, to the Los Angeles Dodgers.

It wasn't what the team got back in prospects that helped them; it was the ability to dump hundreds of millions of dollars in salary to allow the Red Sox a fresh start.

The team fired Valentine as their manager and brought in veteran manager, John Farrell.

Then, during this past offseason, the team signed players that they thought could help them now without breaking the bank.

The Red Sox brought in outfielders Shane Victorino and Jonny Gomes who have both played major roles. They signed first basemen Mike Napoli, shortstop Stephen Drew and extended the contract of the face of their franchise, David Ortiz.

They added a solid starting pitcher in Ryan Dempster, and in a signing that hasn't been talked about until now, they signed relief pitcher Koji Uehara.

Uehara wasn't a big name during the offseason and the Red Sox got him relatively cheap, but boy has it paid off.

Uehara posted a 1.09 earned run average during the season and has been perfect in the playoffs, not allowing a run in six innings and winning the American League Championship Series Most Valuable Player.

The Brewers won't be able to spend all of the money signing new players that the Red Sox did, but doesn't mean they can't cut some of their payroll in trades.

Milwaukee can't be afraid to trade players like Yovani Gallardo, Kyle Lohse or Aramis Ramirez.

Not only could they get a good return of prospects, but it would also free up money that could allow the Brewers a fresh start.

The Brewers have a lot of tough decisions to make this offseason. If they choose one of these options, or something else, they have as good a chance as anyone to be in the playoffs next season.

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LAST WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Wednesday Oct. 16
Women's Soccer lost to Carthage College 1-0
Volleyball defeated UW-Platteville 3-1

Friday Oct. 18
Volleyball defeated Loras College 3-0
Volleyball defeated William Penn University 3-0

Saturday Oct. 19
Volleyball defeated Luther College 3-0
Volleyball defeated Wheaton College (Ill.) 3-0
Football lost to UW-Platteville 24-23
Women's Soccer lost to UW-River Falls 2-1
Women's Cross Country finished 7th at Oshkosh Brooks Invitational
Men's Cross Country finished 13th at Oshkosh Brooks Invitational

THIS WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Friday Oct. 25
Volleyball vs. UW-Superior at 7 p.m.
Women's and Men's Cross Country at Oshkosh Dual

Saturday Oct. 26
Swim and Diving team competes in Tri-Dual against UW-Eau Claire and St. Cloud at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Women's Tennis at Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament in Madison at noon
Football at UW-La Crosse at 1 p.m.
Women's Soccer vs. UW-Stout at 2 p.m.

Tuesday Oct. 29
Volleyball at Edgewood College TBA
Hall Of Fame Spotlight: Ryan Jones

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Ryan Jones has been recognized by The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Class of 2013 has recognized for his performance on the Pointers baseball team from 2000-2005.

"I was very excited when I found out I was going to be inducted," Jones said. "It is a huge honor and when I found out I was only the second baseball player to be inducted it was even more of an honor."

Jones was a two-time member of the First Team All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and a three-time All-Region member.

He was also a part of the 2002 WIAC championship baseball team. Jones took a medical redshirt in 2004.

"My fondest memory of my career was a game during spring break my junior year in which I got three home runs and broke the career home run record," Jones said.

Jones puts on quite a performance with his bat, ranking first in career home runs as a Pointer with 50. Those 50 home runs are also good enough to put him at second all-time in WIAC.

Jones also ranks first in career runs, runs batted in, and total bases as a Pointer. He ranks in the top five for at-bats, hits and walks.

Jones recognized his parents as his biggest influence during his baseball career.

"My parents had the most influence over my career," Jones said. "My dad coached me from the time I was young and my mom was always there to motivate me to work hard and do my best."

Impressive Winning Streak Keeps Pointers in Good Position

Continued from front cover

back and win it," Brunkhorst said.

The Pointers have won some impressive games to maintain their winning streak this season.

On Sept. 13, the Pointers were losing the first two matches against 22nd ranked Wartburg College, only to come back to win the final three matches to secure the victory.

Another large match up came against the 17th ranked UW-Whitewater on Sept. 25.

Like the Wartburg matchup, the Pointers were down by two matches and came storming back for the upset.

With the recent sweep at the Loras College Invitational, the Pointers have experienced leadership all across the court.

Junior Alexis Hartman was named all-tournament team honors for her impressive playing throughout the Loras College Invitational.

"Alexis does a great job of running the offense. She makes really good decisions," Sutherland said.

Hartman has been trying to keep the team focused throughout the team’s winning streaks.

“We have weaknesses that we need to work on. It’s tough to sometimes see those when you’re winning,” Sutherland said.

With just a few matches left before the conference tournament, Stevens Point is trying to finish strong and have success in the playoffs.

“We would love to be conference champions so we get an automatic bid for the NCAA tournament," Hartman said.

“We need to get prepared for the conference tournament. So just finding a lot more momentum and confidence and always getting better because we’re still in the developmental stage with being so young,” Sutherland said.

The Pointers have the potential to go deep into the playoffs this season.

Stevens Point’s next home match comes on Friday, Oct. 26 where they will take on UW-Superior, who holds a record of 16-10, with a 1-5 conference record.
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Every fall I seem to go on an all-out apple binge, putting them in everything and anything I can think of. I usually make it a good month or two until my excitement finally sputters out and then I’m satisfied for another season.

This batch of whole-wheat apple muffins marked this year’s kickoff using my favorite fall fruit, and what a satisfying start it turned out to be!

I recently visited my hometown apple orchard and picked enough apples to last me all October because I knew I would have a craving for something baked and warm, like apple pie.

The dilemma of these cravings is the soon to follow 450 calorie indulgence, not to mention the excess batter while licking the bowl clean.

I’ve been on the hunt for a healthier, fall-friendly muffin so I tried this recipe while browsing the Smitten Kitchen blog. I made it a bit healthier to eliminate the guilt of enjoying them all week long.

The best part is you will hardly notice the health benefits the moment they touch your taste buds. These turned out oh-so satisfying, like a warm apple pie you can hold in your hand.

A New Branch of Chemistry to be Explored at UWSP

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Technology has touched nearly every aspect of modern life. Technological advances are made every day and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point chemistry department is quickly adapting to meet new needs.

One of the newest branches of chemistry formed is called "computational chemistry."

Dr. Erin Speetzen, one of three computational chemists on campus, offers an explanation of this new branch.

"Computational chemistry is using computers in order to model the behavior of molecules. These molecules can range anywhere from ones that are only a couple atoms to large biomolecules," Speetzen said.

Computational chemistry is most commonly used in pharmaceutical research. However, computational chemistry does not completely wipe out the need for experimentation chemistry or working with actual chemicals.

Speetzen emphasized in order for drugs to be analyzed computationally, the theory for the chemistry aspects (i.e. binding, making bonds) has to exist physically in order to be made into a computer program that will predict these properties.

Being able to look at molecules and model how they behave on a computer has its advantages.

"It cuts down on time and money. A person could have 100 different drugs to test of which only 90 actually work. Analyzing the properties of the drug computationally will narrow down the choices of which drugs can be tested," Speetzen said.

Testing a potential drug molecule is a tricky business. A group of molecules that have a common structure could have the potential to work, but if one bond is rotated at a slightly different angle or if there is a difference of one atom in a structure, it could dramatically affect the way the drug works.

In a typical experimental setting, various reactions using expensive chemicals would be carried out to create the different variations of the drug. These drugs would then have to be analyzed for binding angles, functional groups, groups of atoms that give the drug its chemical properties and other properties.

The beauty of computational chemistry is these experiments only need to, in theory, be done once, then the information is stored into a database and computer programs can be written to predict how that drug and molecules similar to it will behave.

Even though computational chemistry has some advantages there are setbacks to be considered.

"If we don’t have a theory we can’t write a program for it," Speetzen said.

If a reaction is hard to replicate in the real world, it is impossible to create a program to predict how it will behave. If the reaction cannot be created in the physical world it cannot be replicated in the computational world.

Dr. Speetzen and her research students are studying a type of molecule called a flavonoid, which is found in various fruits. They are trying to determine which of these flavonoids could act as an anti-cancer drug.

Assistant dean of the College of Letters and Science Mark Williams is happy to see students and faculty interact with each other on research projects like this. Every spring semester there is a research symposium, which highlights all the research students have been doing.

Dr. Speetzen and her students’ research will be in the symposium. Williams encourages students to attend the research symposium.

“There’s something there for everyone, you’ll find something you’re interested in,” Williams said.
Transition to College Proves Difficult For Many Freshmen

By KYLE FLORENCE
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Switching from the meticulously planned periods of high school to a lax university schedule can be a difficult transition for many students new to college.

Matt Fournier, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point freshman, described his classes as noticeably “more difficult than high school.”

“I do a lot more studying. Most of my classes are somewhat interesting, but they’re only gen ed classes, so they get boring too,” Fournier said.

Trevin Oertel, also a freshman, agreed with Fournier, saying his classes were “tougher but a lot more interesting than high school.”

“I take a lot of notes, but only study about three to five hours a week, if that,” Oertel said. “Usually I can’t make myself do it.”

Aside from a heavier workload, both of these underclassmen also identified a number of other hindrances that many students typically face their freshman year.

For Fournier, time management had never been an issue, but over the past few months it has become one due to a crammed schedule.

“The hardest part is managing the amount of time it takes for studying around all the other things I like to do. I usually take two hours a day to lift, and that cuts into study time,” Fournier said.

Likewise, at times, Oertel admits he has trouble staying focused.

“Every now and then I’ll start to get distracted. I mean, you can only pay attention to what ADP is involved in biology or whatever for so long before you start thinking about how hungry you are or that you have to pee really badly,” Oertel said.

Brittany Schreiber, a fifth year senior who plans on graduating later this year, recalled the difficulties of transitioning from high school to college, and believed that the ability to adjust quickly and accept new academic responsibilities was necessary for success.

“As a freshman, you come out of high school assuming college is going to be really hard, but it’s really not, especially if you’re taking all generals your freshman year. So you kind of slack off, and you learn that slacking off is okay, and I think it’s kind of difficult to be like ‘hey, I really need to buckle down and work on stuff,’” Schreiber said. “To get over that, I think, shows quite a bit of maturity in a person, and I think that’s pretty parallel to the workload you’re given.”

Like Schreiber, Wade Mahon, a UWSP professor who teaches both upper and lower level courses, also noted a distinct difference between the two types of students. He describes the underclassmen, especially first semester freshmen, as “tentative.”

“They oftentimes seem kind of intimidated by the whole university thing. They’re a lot more quiet, and a lot less eager to talk,” Mahon said.

“They’re navigating the difference between what they were taught in high school and what they’re being taught in college, which may be different, or may be going in a different direction, and they need to make sense of those changes.”

Jeff Snowbarger, an assistant professor, shared a similar observation.

“The younger students in the classroom act a bit more reserved. Older students have developed a sense of what they want out of their classes and out of life, and where these classes sort of fit into those life goals, and younger students seem to have maybe not yet grasped those goals, which is okay—that’s what school is for,” Snowbarger said.

Disney Channel Show Comes to Stevens Point

By MARY MARVIN
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Stevens Point is getting recognition. It’s rare to see Stevens Point on television outside of the local news, and some students are hesitant about being Disney-fied.

“Wisconsin is sometimes portrayed incorrectly, so I’m a little wary,” said senior Rachel Sommer. “I think it’ll be interesting to see what they do with it.”

The twins deal with daily Disney wackiness caused mostly by their conflicting personalities.

Executive producer Andy Fickman is the man responsible for setting the show in Stevens Point. His grandparents grew up in town while Fickman and his family lived in the south. He remembered coming to Stevens Point and getting the “small town feel.” That’s the feeling he wanted to put into “Liv and Maddie.”

This isn’t the first time Wisconsin has been featured in television. “That 70s Show,” a period sitcom much loved by 20-somethings, is also set in Wisconsin, as referenced by the infamous “Hello, Wisconsin!” in the opening sequence. The name of the fictional town, “Point Place,” could allude to Stevens Point, but the show’s website says it is set in a suburb of Green Bay.

“Liv and Maddie” is definitely set in Stevens Point and there are a few references to Wisconsin sprinkled in, such as the UW pillows in the girls’ bedroom and Bucky Badger gracing the walls.

The twins attend Ridgewood High where their father is the coach of the basketball team and their mother is the school psychologist. If the Stevens Point Area High School were to take on the Ridgewood basketball team, they would be playing the Fighting Porcupines.

There may be more references to Stevens Point in future episodes, including the university. Stevens Point is mentioned in almost every episode.

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50 Mile Run Raises Awareness for Veterans

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David Chrisinger and Brett Foley are participating in a 50 mile marathon on Oct. 26 to raise awareness and money for veterans adjusting to life after service.

Chrisinger is a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumnus and Foley is a friend of Chrisinger’s. They are Rhinelander natives and attended the same junior high and high school.

After high school, Foley left for the Marine Corps and Chrisinger only saw him a few times before his wedding in 2009. They did not meet again until after Foley returned to citizen life in 2010.

On one restless night around 2 a.m., Chrisinger saw that his old friend was on Facebook and decided to start a chat. Their discussion lead to three consecutive nights of Foley talking about the time he spent in the Marines post 9/11.

After the third night, Foley confided in Chrisinger, telling him how he had been writing more and more about his experiences in war, life after returning home and his marriage to his high school sweetheart.

“After he returned he had to sort of find himself again,” Chrisinger said. “I think writing made him feel less isolated.”

With all of this writing Chrisinger considered creating a book about Foley’s story. But, before doing so they wanted to gain readership, so they went on to create the website Running50.com.

The website has become a place where veterans and their families can share stories and learn more about The Mission Continues organization that helps veterans return to life after war.

This organization can provide veterans with the opportunity to get compensation for living expenses and a counselor to help develop a life plan.

This is only available to veterans that commit to spending their time volunteering for a non-profit organization for 20 hours a week for six months.

“It is also a goal to raise awareness and hopefully show other struggling veterans that it’s okay to talk about things that are bothering them and there is a light at the end of the tunnel so to speak,” Foley said.

Many people have been reading the blog and learning about what veterans go through upon their return.

“I’ve had old friends message me and say that they’ve been dealing with the same issues that I have,” Foley said. “It’s exciting to think that we might have stumbled onto something that may help veterans who are having a hard time feeling normal again.”

The readership they gained sparked the idea for Chrisinger and Foley to raise even more awareness for The Mission Continues by running in the Fall 50 race.

The Fall 50 is a distance run from the northern most tip of the Door County peninsula to Sturgeon Bay.

Their motivation for running is “to raise money for The Mission Continues. Every person that donates 50 dollars prior to the race will be able to have the name of a veteran close to them put on Chrisinger and Foley’s clothes during the race.

“I think if I was doing this by myself I wouldn’t be as excited,” Chrisinger said. “No matter how hard it gets we will always be there for each other.”

The duo hopes to finish the race in 10 hours, but will continue running until they reach the finish line.

“The cut off is 11 hours but there is no way we will stop,” Chrisinger said.

They hope their $10,000 goal will be met, but no matter what amount they raise they will be happy to help veterans.

Although they have set a deadline for their personal goals to be met, donations can still be made post-race for The Mission Continues.

There is still discussion of publishing a book someday and they hope to donate all proceeds to The Mission Continues.

Chrisinger is also working towards teaching a class at UWSP for veterans to learn about writing as a way to share stories and cope with any troubles. If this proposal were accepted it would not begin until fall 2015.

Members of the community can also help veterans by simply being more open and talking to them.

“They are just trying to cope with stressors that a lot of people might not understand,” Foley said. “Many veterans want to talk about things that are bothering them, but they are afraid that people might judge them or not understand.”

Students and Community Invited to Political Reform Forum

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Dave Obejy, Katrina Shankland and a few other politicians will be speaking at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point during a public forum held by the Common Cause in Wisconsin on Monday, Oct. 28.

The Common Cause in Wisconsin is a non-partisan, non-profit citizen’s lobby group. They have been holding forums all over Wisconsin for the past six years. They were last at UWSP in 2009.

“The whole point of these is education,” said Jay Heck, executive director of the Common Cause. “We are inviting people to come and learn about political reform issues.”

Topics of discussion will include changing voter districts, voter photo ID law and public financing. The forum will be held in the Dreyfus University Center in the Laird Room from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

“College students often underestimate themselves,” Heck said. “They need to engage not only by voting but also by becoming activists and making their voices heard. Engaging their congressmen and legislators can make [college students] that much more powerful.”
The 10 Most Important Things I Learned in College, Part I

KYLE FLORENCE
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Few will deny that college is a time of personal growth and self-discovery. During this brief window of opportunity, our constant exposure to new people, beliefs, and viewpoints allows us to get a better idea of not only who we are, but also who we want to be. Not surprisingly, the road to personal enlightenment is fraught with countless lessons along the way, all of which are necessary, but some of which can really suck.

For that reason, I have compiled my personal list of The Ten Most Important Things I Learned In College, in hopes that all the knowledge I’ve gained in the past five years can in some way help you navigate these turbulent, unpredictable waters that everyone keeps referring to as “the best years of your life.”

1.) You Get What You Work For: As a freshman, I, like many others, was under the impression that getting good grades was the road to unadulterated success. True enough, this route called for rough mornings, but I figured if Van Wilder could do it, certainly I could too. Well, I had a very rude awakening at the beginning of my junior year when I sat down to draft my resume’ and realized I was hardly qualified to wipe the dog crap off of the bottom of my own shoe. Though I have feverishly managed to bolster my personal qualifications since then, I still make a point to never forget what this experience taught me—nothing worthwhile in life “just happens.” Successful people are successful because they work to be so, and this means pulling all nighters to cram for exams, attending class even when you don’t want to, and actually staying conscious once you get to said class. I’m not saying that you can’t have any fun—just remember that attending college is a privilege, and these four years are meant as a transition into adult life, where two-story beer bongs in the early morning and Friday classes was the norm among freshmen.

2.) Don’t Judge Yourself Based off Your Peers: Admittedly, this is easier said than done, but if you don’t want to spend every waking moment of your day pulling out your hair, you simply cannot live in the shadows of others. There are always going to be people who are smarter, better looking, more well-liked, and in general, “better” than you. As a matter of fact, with time you will likely realize that there are droves of individuals around you who fit this description. If you want to be happy, you’ll need to learn to accept yourself for who you are, shortcomings included. No matter how awful things get, we always have the choice to be happy; it’s one of the joys of being human. That, and roasted red-pepper hummus; that [expletive] is golden.

3.) Change Is Inevitable: To many, this is often one of the most difficult aspects of life to stomach. Though we would all like to imagine that our “glory days” will last forever, I can assure you they will not, and honestly you probably won’t even realize they were your “glory days” until long after they’ve passed. (cough:: COLLEGE ::cough::). Family members die, people who were once your best friends will become mere acquaintances, and your beliefs, goals, and viewpoints will probably change dozens, if not hundreds of times. People will hurt you, you will hurt other people, and eventually, they’ll stop making that body spray you love and you’ll need to switch brands. It is an unavoidable cycle, and it is part of growing-up that everyone must go through. That being said, do not fear change, but instead embrace it; don’t cling to the good things, and don’t despair for the bad things. You will never know what you are passionate about if you are not willing to step out of your comfort zone, and though this can sometimes be scary, more often than not the risk is worth the reward.

4.) Help Others, Even Strangers: I know what you’re thinking—“Why should I stick my neck out for strangers who probably wouldn’t do the same for me?” Well, to some extent this is solid reasoning, but this is also the mindset that has sparked wars, incited genocide, and allowed for Scar to kill Mufasa and rule the Pridelands. Honestly, helping others does as much for you as it does for the people you are helping; when we lend a hand to others, our’s will be more inclined to help out when you’re in need, and I promise at some point you will be. In a society fraught with economic crises, a crippled job market, and Miley Cyrus, many labor under the impression that if they keep to themselves and keep their heads down, they can effectively avoid conflict. And maybe, for a little while, they will. You cannot however, simply overlook the fact that we are all human, and for the most part, we all want the same things out of life, regardless of background or upbringing. So do whatever you can each day: hold the door open for the pretty girl walking behind you, pay for a stranger’s coffee, or walk your friend home if they’ve spent a little too much time at Buffy’s. In the words of Anne Frank, “No one has ever become poor by giving.”

5.) Don’t Take Part In Strenuous Activity Within 45 Minutes Of Eating: As a matter of fact, with time you will likely realize that there are droves of individuals around you who fit this description. If you want to be happy, you’ll need to learn to accept yourself for who you are, shortcomings included. No matter how awful things get, we always have the choice to be happy; it’s one of the joys of being human. That, and roasted red-pepper hummus; that [expletive] is golden.

By Jonathan Seymour

MR. LOVENSTEIN
Captain, can we just spend the treasure instead of burying it for once?

By Justin Westover

MAN...FLU SEASON IS REALLY KICKING IN

By Jonathan Seymour

MRLOVENSTEIN.COM

Life

BLARGH!

OHH...YAYAAX!

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ALBUM REVIEWS

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ALBUM REVIEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Best Coast
‘Fade Away’

In a time of longing for the sun’s warm rays while we head into a deep, dark winter, we have music such as Best Coast’s California surf-pop to transport our minds to better weather days.

While the band and their latest release, ‘Fade Away,’ utilize the surf-pop sound people expect from Best Coast, Bethany Cosentino continues to sprinkle her lyrics of heartbreak and relationship experiences throughout her music.

Looking at the seven track titles off of ‘Fade Away,’ you can see a theme of “glass half-empty” tracks running throughout the mini album/EP.

The first track, “This Lonely Morning,” showcases the production upgrade the band has received. The title track “Fade Away” is moody, and the refrain suggests sticking to who you are will result in fading away. “Baby I’m Crying,” sets a pretty ambient tone in terms of what you’d expect from Best Coast, and the excellent guitar work by Bobb Bruno is what gives the track that flair.

What distinguishes Best Coast and gives them their unique flavor is Bethany Cosentino’s pop-star voice mixed with an indie-rock feel. This all fits into a surf-pop genre they have blended into, thus making a very specific niche within independent music.

No Age
‘An Object’

The amount of genes No Age’s ‘An Object’ expresses is immense. If I didn’t know better, I would be suspicious that I was listening to a compilation album.

Some aspects of No Age are more consistent in their sound than others. The slow but prominent bass lines on some of the songs give No Age a somewhat post punk sound. The dreary vocals that accompany these bass lines give them a Joy Division feel.

The only thing that’s lacking in these songs is the slow, innovative drumming in almost every Joy Division song. This is probably because the band only consists of two members. Some of the songs that include drumming are much more fast paced.

A good example of this style of drumming can be heard in the song “Cmon, Stimmung.” Unfortunately, this song in particular is the weakest part of the album. This is because I’ve heard this style of drumming too many times before. Fast drumming in punk songs is rarely anything but recycled garbage. Luckily, the drumming in most of the songs is phenomenal. The song “Lock Box” contains drumming that’s fast paced, while remaining relatively unique. The slower songs on the album are by far its strongest aspect. Every slow song on the album contains fantastic vocals and guitar. In these songs, the vocalist has despair in his voice. Luckily for the listeners, the singer’s style and lyrics are far from cheesy.

Songs like “A Ceiling Dreams” and “Commerce, Comment, Commerce” have slow, ambient guitar riffs, similar to “My Bloody Valentine.”

The song, “My Hands, Birch and Steel,” contains psychedelic samples that brings a whole new sound to the album.

My favorite song on the album is by far, “I won’t be your generator.” This song just so happens to be one of the only songs on the album that contains guitar, bass guitar and drums.

Many of the songs on the album are lacking a certain sound. No Age would be much better off if they were able to incorporate all three instruments in their songs. I think it’s time for them to find a third member.