

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

FIND ALL 10 SNOWFLAKES!

December 11, 2014

thepointeruwsp.com

Volume 59 | Issue 14

Final Countdown

continued on page

12

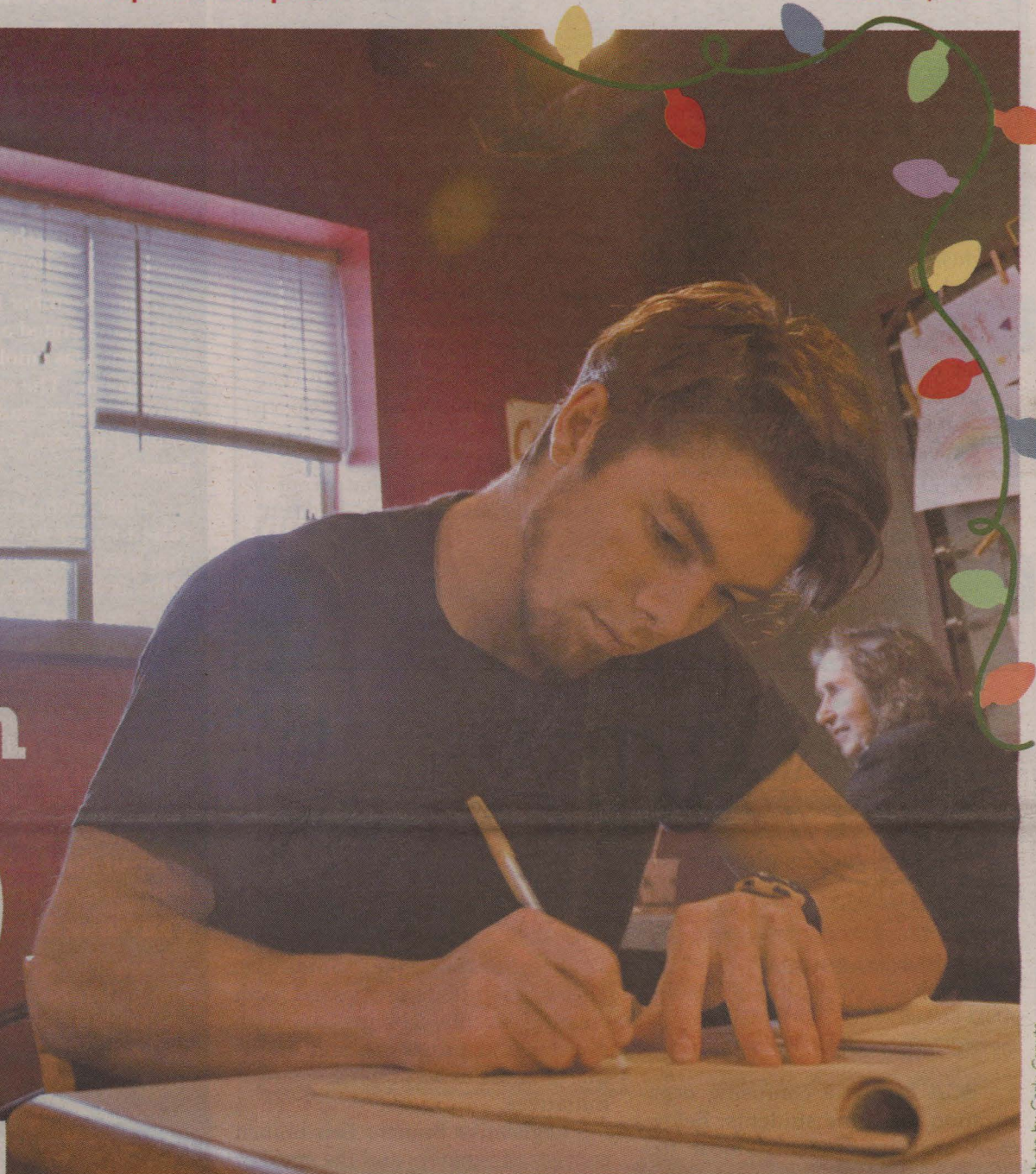


Photo by Carly Caputa

EMILY SHOWERS
POINTLIFE EDITOR
eshow592@uwsp.edu

orked on his Comm. 101 speech andAll students have one thing in common. Finals week.

Each student prepares for finals differently and each has a story of overcoming a hard class or long paper.

Senior English education students Sheng Yang, Anders Saulic and Jessica Littlejohn enjoy working in the library on their Course Unit Lesson Plan Activity, or CULPA, for their block two English course.

Saulic said this activity includes designing a 300 page semester-long lesson plan.

"The CULPA is unimaginably big," Yang said.

All three graduate in May, but their senior year finals are more difficult than in years past.

"I used to think finals were a big deal," Littlejohn said. "Then came senior year and they are finals times 100."

Opposed to the quiet library, some study in Zest Coffee House.

"You can enjoy some Christmas music and pound out the work,"

Senior Lexi Collicott said.

Senior Andrea Wenstadt enjoys studying at Zest because there are too many things to distract her at her apartment. While at Zest, she has nothing to do but sit and work. Wenstadt also enjoys getting out of her apartment for a change of scenery.

John Schmidt, a junior nursing and German student, also studies in Zest because he enjoys the laid back

continued on page 12

INSIDE

NEWS

Student runs for public office
p. 3

SPORTS

Former Packer speaks on campus
p. 9

ENVIRONMENT

Wisconsin tar sands pipeline looks to expand
p. 10

POINTLIFE

What is transmisogyny?
p. 11

A & E

Media students conclude 'Beyond the Hive'
p. 16



thepointeruwsp.com



facebook.com/uwsp_pointer



@uwsp_pointer



thepointeruwsp



submitted by: Lanea, age 22
BFA 2D, super senior

EDITORIAL

Farewell to the Fall Semester

GRACE EBERT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
geber176@uwsp.edu

At the beginning of the semester I wrote my first editorial about being nervous about classes, leading staff meetings, and publishing a new issue of *The Pointer* each week.

And now, as the fall semester ends and we are all busily preparing for finals, we present our last issue until the spring semester. I have to say that I am much less nervous.

We've learned more about journalism and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point than we thought we would. We covered big events like the



UW System Board of Regents visit and expanded our paper to 16 pages. Our Pointlife editor now even understands sports lingo, and our sports editor has learned to write headlines other than "Sports Recap."

While we are thankful for ad revenue, our designers have reluctantly sacrificed precious color space for full-page ads and have made a serious effort to incorporate wildlife into every issue.

Through the weekly SGA column, we learned that even we regular students are a part of SGA.

I look forward to working with our staff next semester to create even greater issues.



SGA weekly

MADELYNN MARSHALL
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION
AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, SGA
mmars524@uwsp.edu

SGA can be a confusing organization for some students. Below, SGA answers students' most frequently asked questions.

What's the difference between a student council and a student government?

Student council is a high school group focusing on fun, social activities like pep rallies, homecoming and prom. SGA focuses on distributing millions of dollars in funds to organizations, departments and programs around campus. Student government works directly with administration and faculty to help develop policies and discuss issues on campus.

What is the role of SGA on campus?

SGA helps represent student interests concerned with different policies and practices actively being discussed on campus. It also represents colleges by providing feedback, input, or raising attention about issues within a college to the faculty, senate, and the administration.

What are the parts of SGA?

There are three different components of SGA.

Executive Branch: This branch consists of the president, vice president, and the executives, who serve

as chairs for standing committees. These individuals are tasked with creating events, coming up with projects and programs, and assisting senators to accomplish goals or initiatives.

Legislative Branch: This branch consists of senators and the speaker of the senate. They sit on standing committees and university committees and create new legislation or improve existing legislation and policies. They are the voice for the students.

Judicial Branch: This branch consists of justices and a chief justice who are tasked with running elections and reviewing student organization conduct cases.

What if I do not want to be a senator, but want to be a part of a committee?

If you do not want to become a senator, you can be a Student Interest Representative (SIR), who has voting rights on a committee. Students can also be a Student at Large, who attends meetings to provide input, though they are not allowed voting rights.

Students with more questions should stop by the office located in the basement of the Dreyfus University Center room 052, or email SGA at SGA@uwsp.edu.

Like SGA on Facebook: UW-Stevens Point Student Government Association. Follow SGA on Instagram and Twitter @ UWSP_SGA.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES
REPORT

Monday, Dec. 1

Knutzen staff member called to report the smell of marijuana coming from a room.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Female called to state she had just gotten off work and noticed a male in a camo jacket walking out of Lower Debot with a large basket of what appeared to be food. She stated this was odd since Lower was supposed to be closed.

Staff member from Neale called and stated a resident said someone was smoking pot in the same room. The student denied the accusation, and there was only a lingering smell of marijuana.

Staff member from Hyer called to say he was informed that one of his residents took pills. It was unknown what they were and how many the individual took.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

Male called inquiring information about a subject's background and prior cases. PS got his phone number and called back.

Student from Neale came in to report that his Xbox was stolen between noon and 8 p.m. Dec. 1.

Thursday, Dec. 4

Student called and stated that he left his black USB with a silver strip in the first floor of the library and requested to enter. PS retrieved it.

Staff member called to inform PS that there was a bat in the CPS stairwell near the Communicative Disorder Department. PS contacted staff member in academic custodial who said he would have it taken care of.

Staff member at UWSP came into PS and requested to speak with an officer regarding a bike he noticed parked at the Allen Center in a bike rack without a lock that had been there for an extended period of time.

Student came to base describing what looked like two males breaking into a silver car with what appeared to be a coat hanger. Only one male could be described as black with a red sweatshirt and dreadlocks.

Friday, Dec. 5

Subjects were stopped on the ROTC track due to public urination. Male was confirmed to be a student.

A complaint was received for a male attempting to assault a female while in a Watson room. Officers were dispatched to talk with witness.

THE POINTER

Editorial

Editor-in-Chief	Grace Ebert
Managing Editor	Carly Keen
News Editor	MyKayla Hilgart
Sports Editor	Marty Kauffman
Pointlife Editor	Emily Showers
Arts & Entertainment Editor	Julia Flaherty
Environment Editor	Harley Fredriksen
Online Editor	Anna Schuttenhelm
Copy Editor	Jenna Koslowski
Reporters	Caroline Chalk Avery Jehnke Sophie Stickelmaier Rebecca Vosters Anna Welton
Multimedia Reporters	Carly Caputa Michelle Larsen

Photography and Design

Photo Editor	Emily Hoffmann
Page Designers	Kylee Hawkinson Samantha Strauss Lanea Zagzebski

Business

Business Manager	Ryan Kernosky
Sales Representatives	Matt Rueth Heather Carroll
Faculty Adviser	Dr. Steve Hill

Editorial Policies

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

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

The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 3,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

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

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

NEWS

Author Speaks About Veterans and Post-War Challenges

EVERY JEHNKE
REPORTER
ajehn738@uwsp.edu

Veterans, students, faculty and community members gathered in the Laird room Dec. 3 to hear author Brian Castner speak about challenges men and women face upon returning from war.

Castner's book, "The Long Walk: Story of War and the Life That Follows" details his own experience as commander of two Explosive Ordinance Disposal units in Iraq. The book is critically acclaimed and has received several awards thanks to Castner's vivid, honest accounts of war and enduring struggles following.

Castner was invited to speak on campus by David Chrisinger, who teaches a First Year Seminar class specifically designed to help veterans transition to college life. His students read Castner's book this semester.

"The only reason I am here is because I wrote a book," Castner said. "I think I had a very average experience in Iraq."

Castner said all veterans are alike no matter which war they served in.

"Homecoming is a unifier," Castner said. "The war is so different everywhere. No one story defines it, but we all came home."

Most of the presentation was focused on the issue of troubled homecomings for veterans and

reasons civilians have difficulty understanding the problem.

"A troubled homecoming is far from new," Castner said.

Castner said veterans from wars throughout history have had mental and physical difficulties in their lives after war.

"Our homecoming is troubled in a very different way," Castner said.

Misrepresentation of veterans and a divide between civilians and military were two reasons Castner talked about why current homecomings are so troublesome.

Castner said negative associations with veterans and their struggles often stem from media. Although they are important issues, one cannot read a news article about veterans without mention of issues like post traumatic stress disorder, suicide and the backlog at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Another point Castner made during the presentation was that many civilians are out of touch with what is happening in the war. There is a void between veterans and communities in parts of the country that have less military presence.

At the end of the presentation, audience members asked questions and shared comments.

A student asked Castner how a person should talk to a veteran who shares their experiences.

"Be educated to talk with them a



Photo courtesy of uwsp.edu

Brian Castner spoke about bridging the gap between military and civilian life last week Wednesday in the Laird Room.

bit," Castner said. "Not every veteran is a ticking time bomb. If we stay up on current events, you can keep up with the war."

Castner said it is important to thank veterans and ask them what they did while deployed.

Alex Maes attended the presentation as part of a requirement for a communication course.

"I was always under the impression you could say thank you to veterans," Maes said.

Maes said his views on speaking with veterans have changed after

hearing Castner's presentation.

"They really just need someone to talk to," Maes said. "I would be more forward having to talk to someone," Maes said.

Adam Lemons, a veteran and representative of an organization called Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, attended the presentation and agreed with what Castner said.

"It was very close to the mark of the sentiment of many veterans like myself," Lemons said. "People should do their due diligence. It is important to get conversation started."

Student Aspires to be Voice in Community

MYKAYLA HILGART
NEWS EDITOR
mhilg143@uwsp.edu

A university student is aiming to bridge the gap between campus and community by running for public office to address concerns and openly communicate with city officials.

Sam Scarpaci, a sophomore political science major and president of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's chapter of the College Democrats, is currently going through the process of running for District Two city council.

This district consists of 70 percent students. Two other individuals are running for the position.

"It has been over 30 years since a student has been on city council," Scarpaci said. "There is obviously a large portion of students in the city. Students need to be represented and I know I can be that voice."

Scarpaci is currently going through paperwork to get his name on the ballot. He needed 20 signatures in support of his running and obtained 37. While rallying support, he started talking to students to find what issues

they are concerned about.

He has been attending city council meetings to learn how they are run and formulate ideas for change.

students. I didn't see anybody else going for it, so I did."

Among the issues he hopes to address is the lack of plowing, flooding

"These are issues a city council person could fix," Scarpaci said.

Scarpaci said he knows he can take on the workload because he balances student work with a job and has a long history of multitasking.

Scarpaci grew up in Marshfield and said he knows the area well, enabling him to effectively engage with the community.

"I want to expand job opportunities in the city so more students seek to live out their professional lives here," Scarpaci said.

Many students support Scarpaci's endeavors.

"He's a good guy and I think he's got a lot of our generation's interests to bring up," said Alison Campy, a freshman member of the College Democrats.

Scarpaci's dream is to become governor of Wisconsin.

"I would possibly like to stay in this area after graduation, but will definitely stay for the two years of my term," Scarpaci said. "Above all else, I want to help the city."

The election will be held April 7 following a primary in February.

“

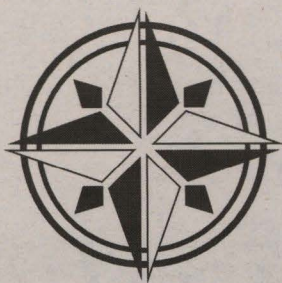
I want to expand job opportunities in the city so more students seek to live out their professional lives here.

- Sam Scarpaci,
Sophomore Political Science Major

"I always had an inkling to do politics, but was just too chicken," Scarpaci said. "Now I feel as if I have enough knowledge to be a voice for

in the streets near campus, reopening the Fox on Main, expansion of bus routes and inadequate off-campus housing.

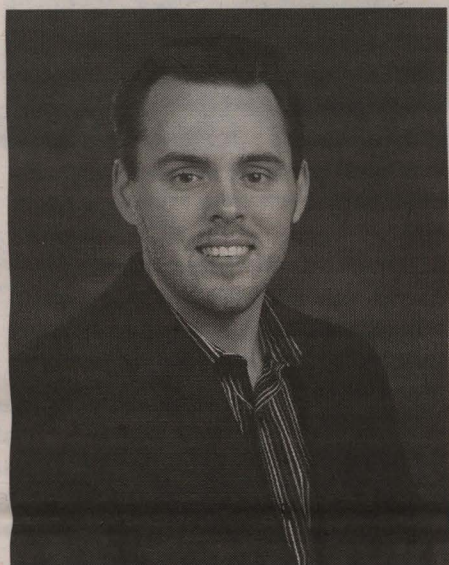
NEWS



SGA COMMITTEES

CARLY KEEN
MANAGING EDITOR
ckeen607@uwsp.edu

THE SEGRAGATED UNIVERSITY FEE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE



Charlie Greiber

The Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday in DUC 223 with budget director Charlie Greiber serving as chair.

"When you look at your student bill at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters you will see 'segregated fees' and the way that that fee is determined is by our committee," Greiber said. "Every year in fall and early spring we accept request from departments and various organizations for money for next year. After we add up all requests, we divide

by number of projected students and we bill accordingly."

SUFAC is where students and faculty go when they want to ask for money for their organizations or their department. Greiber also holds meetings outside of SUFAC.

"Outside of our meetings is when the real work happens. It's coordinating with departments to make sure they understand what the limitations are and how much money they can ask for," Greiber said. "I answer emails from student organizations every day and we are basically just facilitating a miniature business office."

There are two weekends every year, one in fall and one in spring, where students and faculty present their desired budgets to SUFAC. The student organizations meet the first or second weekend of the spring semester and non-academic departments meet the first or second week of November.

"We have one weekend in fall where we work specifically with the non-academic departments that we help subsidize," Greiber said. "We do all presentations by all department managers in the morning and then we go through all the requests, review them, make changes as we

see fit and then ultimately approve them."

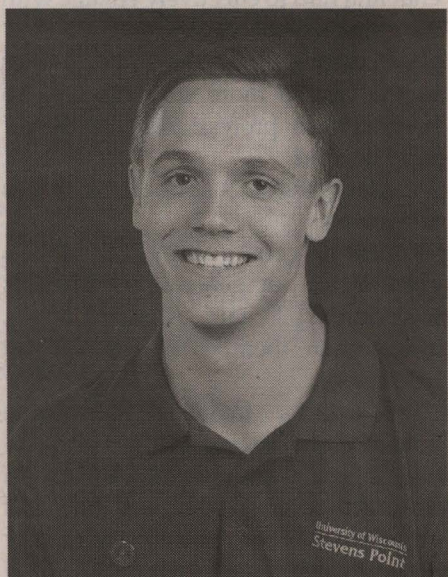
The planning for these weekends begin months in advance as they need to factor in how much meeting time they will need, which limits the spaces they can book, and sending out blank request templates.

There are 12 available spots on SUFAC but currently only 10 members. Those members are four senators from Student Government Association, one member from each college that is not involved with SGA, the vice president of SGA, health services and university centers student directors, and the chair.

"As chair, when we have our meetings I am the person that welcomes in our guest. We usually have a guest speaker at all of our meetings requesting things from us, Greiber said. "I control what part in the speaking list we are, who can ask questions, make sure we follow parliamentary procedures, record the vote, and decide how we're going to vote. It's the decision of the chair to decide what style of vote we take."

Contact Charlie Greiber at cgrei538@uwsp.edu with any questions regarding your organizations or department's budgets.

THE STUDENT LIFE & ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



Tyler Forsythe

every Tuesday in DUC 54, with Tyler Forsythe serving as chair.

The committee used to be two separate committees but was turned into one.

"This is one of the largest committees and is kind of an umbrella committee," Forsythe said. "As chair, I'm the grease in the machine. I make sure everything runs properly, get people excited about ideas, and find out what people care about. Not only within the committee, but all around campus."

The academic affairs aspect works with things like advising, class scheduling and the attendance policy.

"The biggest thing we're working on right now is the attendance policy. We took the attendance policy and decided it needed changes so

we revised it. The next kink in the process is that it goes to faculty senate," Forsythe said. "We basically gave them a plan saying, 'here's a dollar, I'd like a Ferrari.' It was far-fetched but we wanted to push it and see. They made comments and sent it back to us."

The student life aspect works with campus safety with topics like mopeds on sidewalks and getting bike lines on campus.

"The bike lanes to me are a huge deal. It's just a discussion that has been started and we're still marketing to see if the student body is behind it," Forsythe said.

Questions about student life or academic affairs should be directed to Tyler Forsythe at tfors168@uwsp.edu.

Segregated Fees Supplying More Than You Think

SOPHIE STICKELMAIER

REPORTER

sstic520@uwsp.edu

Clubs and organizations submitted proposals for the upcoming fiscal year to the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee before Dec. 8.

"The State of Wisconsin is the only institution that allows students to assess other students' segregated fees," said Charlie Greiber, the Student Government Association Budget Director.

Proposals come from university departments as well as clubs and organizations. Clubs range from a few students to a hundred. The professional departments submitted proposals early in the semester and are granted 20 minutes with the committee to explain where they got their numbers and answer questions.

"We ask students requesting budget quite a few questions about their reasoning," Greiber said. "When departments request a certain amount of money, we do ask them questions, but trust in their professional opinion."

Each organization is required to fill out a standard template explaining what its budget plan is and why each fee is necessary. The proposal must be approved first by the committee, then the chancellor and the state.

Treasurer Jacob Burdick created the Yoga and Meditation Club's first ever budget proposal this year.

"All of our officers are excited about yoga and meditation practices and believe in its benefit for our students," Burdick said. "We will focus on how the club can help students and even the community."

Burdick explained the stress of creating a proposal is eased by teamwork he and his co-officers possessed during the brainstorming process.

"We plan on meeting as a group before we give our presentation to plan out how we will present our proposal," Burdick said. "Our co-advisor Dr. Clancy has been very helpful with advice on setting up our budget and has given us great suggestions for events we can host."

Greiber said when students look at their bill and see the segregated fees section they think it is money the university is taking from them.

"All of the fun activities offered on campus are supplied through segregated fees," Greiber said. "Segregated fees go toward everything from hypnotist shows to the free bus fare available to students when they show their school ID."

Each organization will be informed of their budget for the next fiscal year between the last weekend of January and the first weekend of February.

The Student Life & Academic Affairs Committee meets at 7 p.m.

Christmas Festivities Bring Germany to Chicago

SOPHIE STICKELMAIER
REPORTER
sstic520@uwsp.edu

Christkindlmarket was the perfect place for students to practice German skills while partaking in Chicago's largest open-air festival since 1996.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point German Club visited the annual celebration this past Saturday and was excited to be immersed in German culture.

"My favorite part was meeting some workers at a Christmas ornament booth who were from Germany and getting to speak to them in German and tell them my jokes," said German Club President Tyler Simuliunas.

The German Club began attending Christkindlmarket in 2007 and the trip has become an annual offering because of popularity with students and community members. Tickets were \$45 for students and included an all-you-can-eat dinner at the Essen Haus in Madison.

"We just about filled the bus," said Brittany Federspiel, the German Club treasurer. "People broke off into their own groups and did whatever they wanted that day. The food at the Essen Haus in Madison was so good."

The German Club left Stevens Point at 6 a.m. and had a full day



Photo by Emily Showers

Mary Gertner and Kyle Bareta walk along the lake shore during the German Club's trip to Chicago.

in the city. Students were encouraged to attend Christkindlmarket, but were free to do what they pleased until their 5 p.m. departure.

"I'd never been to a Christmas market before, but from what I've heard, it's pretty similar to the ones in Germany," Simuliunas said. "It was interesting to see what it was like and now my friend in Munich is asking me to send her pictures."

The outdoor market is centered in the Daley Plaza and filled with vendors selling an assortment of authentic German food and gifts. This year it is held from Nov. 21 to Dec. 24.

"I especially like to buy German chocolate, which is hard to buy elsewhere," said Jesse Kosobucki, the German Club secretary. "Afterward, I like to visit a museum in downtown Chicago and then the Essen Haus is

one of my favorite meals all year long."

The market is named after the traditional gift bearer of Germany called Christkind. For the festival, she is depicted as a beautiful woman dressed in a golden gown. According to Christkindlmarket's website, she will be making appearances to share German holiday traditions and tell Christmas stories throughout the duration of the market.

First Year Seminar Class Helps Veterans Transition To College

AVERY JEHNKE
REPORTER
ajejn738@uwsp.edu

Transitioning to college life is challenging. This semester, instructor David Chrisinger taught a First Year Seminar class designed to smooth the transition for one group of students in particular.

'Back From the Front: Transition From the Military to Civilian Life' is open to new-to-campus veterans who need to fulfill their FYS credit.

Like every FYS class, 'Back From the Front' is intended to give students skills they need to be successful in college. Chrisinger's class is tailored for a group with more life experience than the average freshman.

The class focuses on examining how veterans in past wars handled returning. Students spend time discussing personal experiences and writing about them as a way to organize thoughts.

"A lot of veterans are skeptical when they come here," Chrisinger said.

Chrisinger is pleased at how the semester has progressed and is proud of his students.

"They already have the skills they need to do well," Chrisinger said. "There have been a lot of individual-level successes. I'm just really thrilled

that the students are receptive to it."

Kyle Nowak said he took the class to put himself in an uncomfortable position because he does not like doing military-related things.

"One of the challenges is being a couple years older than most college freshmen," Nowak said. "It is like I am getting a late start, but at the same time I have a lot of life experience."

Student Joshua Thunder said someone recommended he take the class because it would be a good resource for him.

Thunder said he is not interested in the non-academic skills college provides because he feels his military experience makes him a well-rounded person.

"I just want to gain more job skills and forget about the other things that college really has to offer," Thunder said.

Thunder said one of the perks of being a student veteran is the GI Bill.

"I don't necessarily have to work a job to support my wife and I while I am in school," Thunder said. "This really has helped during my first semester because I do not think I would have stayed in school or done very well if I was trying to juggle it with a job."

Chrisinger said he was not sure where the semester would go when



Photo by Allison Burr

David Chrisinger teaches the class Back from the Front: Transition From the Military to Civilian Life.

it began. A class project developed naturally is now the final project for the course.

Each student will write an essay about his or her transition from military to college life and the essays will be published in a collection with a foreword written by acclaimed Iraq War author Brian Castner.

The collection will be available for purchase on Amazon and proceeds will benefit the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Veterans Club.

"The goal is to put a face on veteran experience at this university," Chrisinger said. "They've come to own their own stories."

"The course helped me be less shy and helped me open up a little, which I definitely attribute to the class and the writings we did," Nowak said.

"This course has helped me connect with other veterans who I may not have talked to otherwise," Thunder said.

Chrisinger is impressed with the stories and the way the students are telling them. He hopes to have his students collaborate with other groups in the future so student veteran stories can be told in unique ways.

"When this class ends, it is over," Chrisinger said. "The collection will help tell the story of veterans at UWSP."

NEWS

Criminal Probe After Gas Evacuates 'Furries' Event

DON BABWIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROSEMONT, Ill. (AP) — Authorities are investigating the release of a gas that sickened several hotel guests and forced thousands of people — many dressed as cartoon animals — to evacuate the building.

Although some participants at the Midwest FurFest convention thought the mass evacuation early Sunday was just part of the fun, investigators are treating it as a criminal matter.

Nineteen people who became nauseous or dizzy were treated at local hospitals. Within hours, emergency workers decontaminated the Hyatt Regency O'Hare and allowed people back inside.

The Rosemont Public Safety Department said someone apparently intentionally left a powder that appeared to contain chlorine in a ninth-floor hotel stairway, causing the gas to spread. On Monday, the department would only say that the investigation was continuing and declined further comment.

Organizers tried to reassure the participants that the evacuation would not overshadow the FurFest event, in which attendees celebrate

animals that are anthropomorphic — meaning they've been given human characteristics — through art, literature and performance. Many of the costumed attendees refer to themselves as "furries."

"In walk all these people dressed like dogs and foxes," said Pieter Van Hiel, a 40-year-old technical writer from Hamilton, Canada, chuckling as he recalled the crowd being herded into the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, where a dog show was taking place over the weekend.

Kit McCreedy, a 28-year-old from Madison, Wisconsin, said he didn't think the incident would further disrupt Midwest FurFest, which was in its final day.

"I think we'll recover from this," said McCreedy, his fox tail swinging behind him as he headed back inside. "People are tired but they're still full of energy."

Others said they didn't know why anyone would try to upset the convention that includes dance contests and panel discussions on making the costumes. Some pointed out that the brightly colored outfits are made from fake fur and foam.

"Nobody uses real fur," said Frederic Cesbron, a 35-year-old forklift operator who flew to



Photo courtesy of Nam Y. Huh, Associated Press

Frederic Cesbron, right and Maxim Durand, walk on the street outside the Hyatt Regency O'Hare hotel on Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014, in Rosemont, Ill.

Chicago from his home in France. He attended the convention dressed in a fox outfit that he said is worth about \$3,000.

"Everyone is from a different background," said Michael Lynch, a 25-year-old from Madison,

Wisconsin, who, like his buddy, McCreedy, dressed as a fox. "Nobody judges anybody. It's nice to come to a place like that."

Or, as Van Hiel put it, "It's kind of weird, but it's not weird here."

Obama Announcing \$1B for Early Childhood Education

JENNIFER C. KERR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is following up on his promise to expand early education opportunities for tens of thousands of children by announcing a \$1 billion public-private investment in programs for the nation's youngest learners.

The president is joining a day-long summit convening at the White House on Wednesday to announce the investment in early learning programs for infants, toddlers and preschoolers — especially those in lower-income communities. Nationwide, 28 percent of America's 4-year-olds were enrolled in a state-funded preschool program last year.

"We're not close to where we need to be," said Education Secretary Arne Duncan during a morning panel session on how to pump more investment into early learning.

The panelists, including a local sheriff from Ohio, all agreed that spending more money on early education can have significant lifetime effects such as reducing crime and teen pregnancy and increasing future earnings for those who went to pre-school.

At the summit, 18 states are being awarded a total of \$250 million in

Education Department grants to create or expand high-quality preschool programs. Those states are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia. In all, 36 states had applied for the grant money.

Another \$500 million from the Health and Human Services Department is being sent to more than 40 states to expand Early Head Start and child care programs for youngsters from birth to 3 years old.

The White House said about 63,000 children would benefit from the federal dollars, which officials said already have been appropriated by Congress.

On top of the federal money is another \$330 million from dozens of corporations, foundations and individuals. It's part of a new campaign called Invest in US.

The effort being led by the First Five Years Fund will challenge the private and public sectors to invest more in early childhood education. Among those supporting the campaign with millions of dollars are The Walt Disney Co. with \$55 million, the LEGO Foundation with \$5 million, and the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation with \$25 million.



Photo courtesy of Jacquelyn Martin, Associated Press

In this Dec. 9, 2014 file photo, President Barack Obama speaks in Nashville, Tenn.

Obama pushed for an expansion of early education opportunities in his State of the Union address in 2013, and again in 2014 after his call got little traction in Congress.

During the summit, the First Five Years Fund is previewing a series of 60-second public service announcements that focus on different aspects of early childhood education, from home-based child care providers to preschool teachers.

Produced to highlight the importance of educating children in their first five years, actors Jennifer Garner and Julianne Moore and singers John Legend and Shakira each narrate a spot, ending with the tagline "When we invest in them, we invest in us."

The announcements, previewed by The Associated Press before their release, will be available for viewing online at www.investinus.org.

SPORTS

UWSP Athlete
Manages Diabetes

FORREST PAYNE
CONTRIBUTOR
fpayn273@uwsp.edu

Gunnar Tessmer was born July 11, 1994 and was raised in the small town of Athens. Tessmer was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes when he was four and his diagnosis restricted and reshaped his life.

Juvenile diabetes affects the pancreas, and in Tessmer's case his pancreas does not regulate blood sugar levels. He must take insulin shots to manage high and low blood sugar levels and says if his blood sugar is low, he knows he should eat foods like meat and cheese to bring it back up.

Tessmer checks his levels by pricking his finger and evaluating the blood sample with a specialized device that helps monitor his system. These devices come in various shapes and sizes.

At this point, he knows what every type of food is worth in carbohydrates. Tessmer calculates what he eats to keep his blood sugar levels in an 80-150 range. He records his levels and insulin shots in a booklet at every meal and said he gives himself four to five shots of insulin per day.

Tessmer's parents have been by his side since his diagnosis. They have taught him what to eat and what to watch out for because misjudging nutrition facts can be. If an incorrect insulin dosage is given for a certain food, blood sugar levels can rise past target range or drop enormously low.

Tessmer has emergency sugar called glucose shots that he takes to fire him back to target range.

"Diabetes is very manageable, but you have to take care of yourself because it can really hurt you in the future," Tessmer said. "Staying on top of it is the greatest challenge."

Juvenile diabetes is a challenge every day, but when combined with athletic activity poses an increased challenge. Tessmer grew up loving sports and that became difficult when he started feeling "low." This feeling refers to the actual dropping of blood sugar levels below target range.

When Tessmer got low he would have to sit out of practice, drink some Gatorade and come back in when he was feeling himself again. Taking constant care of himself prevented his condition from restricting him.

During his senior year of high school, Tessmer was a first team all-conference in baseball and football. He was second team in football his junior year and was honorable mention for basketball his senior year.

Tessmer recalled a specific moment in his high school career when his condition took him out of the game.

During football season his senior year, Tessmer and his team

were playing in the first round of the playoffs. In the second quarter, he began to feel slow. Tessmer was a starter on both sides of the ball, so it was a big blow for the Athens team since he knew he had to sit out to refuel. Tessmer was out for two costly possessions and his team ended up losing the game.

"I still wonder to this day if we would have won if I didn't have to come off that field," Tessmer said. "Once in a while, it haunts me."

Tessmer maintained his ambition and athletic integrity. He was recruited by a few Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference schools and came to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to play football because he liked the coaches.

"Overall, the school made a good impression on me and was a short drive far from my home," Tessmer said.

As a freshman, Tessmer was ready to show what he could do on the football field, but juvenile diabetes was something he had to factor into his game.

The training staff at UWSP was constantly monitoring him. Tessmer said his condition would take its toll during long practices and he would have to sit out halfway through sprints.

Teammates did not understand why an athlete built like Tessmer had to sit out and were unsure what juvenile diabetes was.

Tessmer said his condition started to become psychological and it began to hurt his chances, but has accepted it and stayed positive. He never gets too down on himself.

Tessmer's teammates attested to his positive attitude.

"Gunnar was always a guy you could come too that would pick you back up," said cornerback Mike Kelty. "He always had positive things to say."

"He worked hard and when he couldn't work hard would encourage us to work hard," said center Brent Sisko. "He's just an overall great teammate."

Tessmer played all three games for the junior varsity squad during his freshman and sophomore years. The last JV game his sophomore year, Tessmer suffered another blow with an anterior cruciate ligament tear.

This freak injury need surgery and Tessmer went through hours upon hours of rehab in hopes that he could come out the fall for junior year. After two weeks of summer camp, he succeeded better than anyone anticipated.

Feeling restored, Tessmer believed he would be a major contributor as a second man at on the D-end position. During a full practice scrimmage, Tessmer buckled the same knee.

Tessmer felt distraught, shocked and heartbroken about his injury

*not valid on art bundles, sale and dot items, and grad regalia

10% Off
entire purchase

December 6-12

University Store & Text Rental
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

ROGERS CINEMA

\$5 TUESDAYS

ALL 2D MOVIES ARE JUST \$5
*\$2 UPCHARGE FOR 3D

\$2 Small Popcorn & \$2 Small Soda

Cinema 6 - 2725 Church St. - 715-341-2700 Campus 4 - 1601 Sixth Ave. - 715-341-6161

Find showtimes on facebook and at rogerscinema.com

but was thankful for his supportive family, coaches and teammates through this rough period. This time, Tessmer suffered a torn meniscus and micro-fracture femur, which were not as major.

These injuries still forced Tessmer to make a big decision.

Given his experience with juvenile diabetes, Tessmer realized he had to take care of himself in order to protect his future self. Knowing a third injury to his knee could jeopardize his ability to walk normally, Tessmer decided he would not be on the playing field again.

Tessmer stepped to the sidelines where he cheered and willed his teammates just as he had done in his high school playoff games. He has been a constant supporter.

Tessmer's current goal is to focus on getting healthy but remains close with his teammates while working toward his goals

"I'm a reloaded Gunnar, on to bigger and better things," Tessmer said.

Tessmer is currently employed in an entry-level position at Coca-Cola and knows it could be the start of a fruitful career.

Tessmer's experiences have shown that working hard and believing in yourself are keys to staying determined. Tessmer believes this philosophy will serve him well with managing juvenile diabetes and living a full life.

IF YOU'VE BEEN WONDERING WHY.....

Some people with psoriasis, acne, and other minor skin conditions go tanning?

Some people with S.A.D.D. go tanning?

Go to
www.tanningtruth.com
for the answers and much more!

Then go to
www.vitamindcouncil.org
for the benefits of vitamin D and how it affects your health.

Hawaiian Tanning Studio

101 Division St North
Stevens Point

SPORTS

Curling Association Headed Toward Second National Appearance

REBECCA VOSTERS

REPORTER
rvost360@uwsp.edu

Curling Association Headed Toward Second National Appearance
The Curling Association received 19 points from the Rice Lake College Spiel Dec. 5 to 7, with the two University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point teams entered taking the top spots and putting the association first in the nation.

The tournament had 13 teams participating from nine different schools including the UWSP, Carroll University, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, UW-Barron County, UW-Green Bay, University of Denver, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Wayne State, and Finlandia University.

The team went without a loss until right before nationals. Heading into the nationals, the team ranked fourth.

The team lost two games and was knocked out of the final section of the tournament.

"It was set up kind of weird," said sophomore Kylie Abel. "There were four teams per bracket so we were out after two losses. We won our third game but that didn't matter."

The tournament will be held in Rochester, New York this year.

Currently the team is ranked third with the points they have acquired.

"We can only send one team. We send the most devoted, and the most interested in the club," Abel said. "The rankings change every weekend, but we have the expenses planned into our budget."

Teams receive two points for every win and one point for every loss they attain throughout the season. This encourages play outside of regular bonspiels.

Throughout the year teams earn points toward nationals through March 16. After that it resets and points earned go toward the national tournament the following year.

A curling match consists of eight ends. In each end 16 rocks are thrown with all players on each team throwing two of them.

"Ends are sort of like innings in baseball," Rueth said. "That's the easiest way to think about it."

The team with rocks closest to the middle of the circles scores more points.

"The circles are kind of like a target in archery," Abel said. "Curling is sort of like chess on ice with a strategy."

The four players are the lead, who throws first, the second, who looks to play more defensively, the third, who is generally a consistent scorer, and

the skip, who scores consistently and calls the shots for the rest of the team.

Curling ice is pebbled with droplets of water atop smooth ice. The bottoms of the rocks are concave and the bumpy ice allows for them to be thrown properly.

"If we played on hockey ice the rocks would go like five feet," Rueth said. "We have to curl the rocks down the ice. That actually how curling got its name."

Abel wants to improve her shooting skills this year.

"I want to be an asset every game that I play and make a difference," Abel said.

One of the biggest things the club is looking to do is expand and broaden interest in the sport.

"Half of the goal is to encourage the sport of curling. It's a lifelong sport," Rueth said. "You can play it into your eighties or nineties. The sooner you start the longer you can play."

There is a group of about ten people who have prior experience with curling who look to pass on their knowledge.

"We all graduate at some point, and we just want to expand to more people before we do," Rueth said.

Rueth was one of the three students who started the club last fall. Evan Brauer and Ryan Kernosky

also helped create the club.

The trio wanted curling available as an intramural sport, but when that fell through they created a university organization.

"The people that are a part of the club are incredibly involved," Rueth said. "When we hosted the bonspiel here, there was a lot to do with preparation, cooking, and cleaning, and everyone was willing and helpful."

Even with such a helpful group of people the club is looking for new members.

"We're always looking for new, committed faces with a passion to learn," Abel said. "Don't hesitate just because we're in the middle of the season and we don't know you yet."

The team practices Sunday nights from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Stevens Point Curling Club, located on the grounds of Stevens Point Country Club.

One of Abel's favorite things about curling is the athleticism and intelligence involved. As a former soccer player and experienced curler, she enjoys the competition and intelligence needed to curl and encourages others.

"You have to have a good head on your shoulders," Abel said. "It's easy to get complacent with how you're going to do against a team."



Photos courtesy of Rice Lake Curling Club

Right: Ryan Kernosky, Evan Brauer, Jillian Behling, and Aaron Gurholt (top row), Zachary Taylor, Kylie Abel, Rebecca Kelble, and Sarah Freier (bottom row) participated in the College Spiel Curling Tournament.

Left: Zachary Taylor, Kylie Abel, Rebecca Kelble, and Sarah Freier pose after taking first at the curling tournament in Rice Lake.

UWSP Volleyball Continues Success in 2014

MARTY KAUFFMAN
SPORTS EDITOR
mkauf036@uwsp.edu

2014 was a banner year for Pointers volleyball as the team made it to Final Four of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Championship.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point finished as national semi-finalists under head coach Abbey Sutherland, who has been coach of the year in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for two years and made UWSP a contender for a national championship with records of 35-5 and 33-5.

"It's been awesome and a great experience," Sutherland said. "Making this program what I had envisioned and finding players who bought in. Experiencing that success from last year really helps because it makes you want it more."

With a 33-5 record, UWSP won the WIAC championship a second straight year and made it back to the

Final Four but the experience was different.

"Last year we didn't know what to expect, but this year we knew what we wanted to do and how far we would go," said junior middle Emma Brunkhorst. "Last year each win we were happy with it, but this year we weren't going to be happy if we didn't get further."

According to Sutherland, the loss in the Final Four was more crushing this year than in 2013.

"I didn't even look at the bracket," Sutherland said. "Last year we played out of our minds and had no idea what the national championships were like. This year we knew what was in front of us and the experience helped us."

The experience of the players from 2013 was shown as UWSP was led by team captains Brunkhorst, senior outside Sarah Breuer, and senior setter Alexis Hartman. Hartman was named to the NCAA Division III Championship All-Tournament Team. Hartman became the first ever

two-time WIAC Player of the Year winner.

In her third year at UWSP, Brunkhorst made the Midwest All-Regional team, First Team All-WIAC for a second straight year and an American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American.

"I think I provided some stability on the court this year," Brunkhorst said.

Sutherland thought Emma rose to the occasion several times.

"I told our setter Alexis to keep giving her the ball because I believed Emma could still get kills even with blocks in front of her," Sutherland said.

The journey to the Final Four was a different road for UWSP.

"We started off the season with the highest expectations in history of Pointers volleyball," Sutherland said. "It started out as a challenge to handle in a positive way the success we had the year before, and that was our journey at the beginning to find a way to play with pressure."

UWSP struggled early to win, including a loss to conference rival UW-Oshkosh.

"At first, we did not handle that pressure well," Brunkhorst said. "We sat down and had that talk of how we wanted the season to go because it wasn't going the way we want. From there, we worked on getting better each practice, being prepared for matches, not worrying about the pressure and focus on being better."

The Pointers regrouped after the loss to UW-Oshkosh and went on a 20 match win streak including a big win at UW-Whitewater. Sutherland said this was a key moment in the season giving the team more confidence and momentum.

Sutherland's plan for next season is to find players who are going to step up for the team.

"I'm already excited for next year," Sutherland said. "Plan of attack is to get a stellar recruiting class of incoming freshman."

Former Packer Advocates Leadership

REBECCA VOSTERS
REPORTER
rvost360@uwsp.edu

"To be a good leader, you once had to be a good follower," said former Packer LeRoy Butler.

On Dec. 3, he spoke at a leadership seminar at the National Society of Leadership and Success in the DUC Alumni room.

Butler provided many pieces of wisdom as he delved into the hardships he experienced growing up and how those molded him into the leader he is today.

As a kid, Butler was in a wheelchair, but that did not stop him from having big dreams. When his mother asked him what he wanted to be, his response was quick.

"Sitting in a wheelchair with braces on my legs for my club feet, I looked up at her and said I'm going to play professional football," Butler said.

Butler passed on the same pieces of wisdom his mother told him.

"She explained you can do whatever you want," Butler said. "You just have to live life a certain way. If you put blinders on and don't let anything get in your way, you can make it."

It was not until Butler's sister knocked him out of his wheelchair and his braces broke that he could walk on his own and enter the athletic world.

After playing for Florida State University, the Packers drafted Butler on April 30, 1990, and he went on to become the inventor of the Lambeau leap.

"I made eye contact with Reggie White as he was being tackled," Butler said. "He threw me a lateral ball, and I started running down the sideline with a huge smile on my face. I knew I wanted to do something to celebrate my touchdown. I made eye contact with this guy in the stands and he sacrificed his beer for me."

A few years later the Packers won the 1997 Super Bowl.

"Leadership is why I won the Super Bowl," Butler said. "If you want to win your Super Bowl, find a way to make your dream come true."

Seminar attendees left with a positive message.

"It's important not to give up no matter what you're faced with," said senior Hillary Schultz.

Schultz attended with senior Katie Wechlo. Both attended because they are part of the society and because they are Packer fans.

"I'm happy that I came," Wechlo said. "It was about getting over the struggles and hurdles in your life and where you can end up."

Junior Kyle Kuzynski earned educational credit while at the event but was impacted by one thing in particular.

"When he said that you need to be a good follower to be a good leader



Students pose with LeRoy Butler in the Alumni Room.

that gave me a new quote to live by," Kuzynski said. "I've always been more of a follower, but now I want to find a good leader to follow so I can become a good leader myself."

Butler has been speaking at similar events since he became a Packer and has been focusing on anti-bullying in the last five years.

"I want to make a difference in the community and help find a way for leadership to stop some of the negative things you see in the world," Butler said. "I want to help people block out the negative stuff with the blinders like I did."

Butler was bullied for his handicap and learned to ignore his tormentors.

"Seeing so many kids go through what I went through when I was a kid makes me want to become a lawyer," Butler said. "I'm not going to become a lawyer, but I'm going to make sure people know not to let people tell you what you can't do."

Butler has been to 22 schools in the last two months and will appear at three more universities in January and February.

Senior publicity chair Jennifer

Myers booked the seminar to fulfill the required amount of live broadcasts the society needs to offer their members.

"This is my first live speech," Myers said. "I searched online and he popped up, and it fit with what we learn about and focus on."

Myers learned a lot at this seminar.

"I think this was good because people learned how one gains leadership and achieves success," Myers said. "This experience was good for me. I used to be the shyest person ever, but now I'm more confident and have gotten over my stage fright."

Junior secretary Cole Monroe gained a lot from the society as well.

"I love overseeing how the chapter is run and being part of a team," Monroe said. "My leadership skills have also grown."

That is what Butler wants. He also wants people to get on the right path of leadership.

"Be leaders. Don't be followers," Butler said. "If you're going to follow, follow the right leader," Butler said.

ENVIRONMENT

Proposed Expansion of Central Wisconsin Tar Sands Pipeline

HARLEY FREDRIKSEN
ENVIRONMENT EDITOR
hfred935@uwsp.edu

Although environmental hazards are often viewed as distant futuristic prospects, students and community members met in the basement of the Portage County library for a presentation and discussion of what the Wisconsin Sierra Club feels is a pressing concern.

The discussion was led by the Wisconsin Safe Energy Alliance.

"WiSE is a coalition of community members, leaders and organizations," said conservation programs manager Elizabeth Ward. "We are concerned about the safety, land and environmental threats posed by proposals to expand tar sands throughout Wisconsin."

Ward said their main focus was on the Enbridge pipeline and its proposed expansion.

"Enbridge wants to expand to as much as 1.2 million barrels per day of oil pumped through this pipeline," Ward said. "That is the largest pipeline in the world by a longshot."

While the Keystone pipeline

garnered national attention, an expansion of this magnitude would make the Enbridge pipeline 50 percent larger than its Keystone counterpart.

The Enbridge pipeline carries Alberta Zipper tar sands from Canada through Wisconsin and Michigan with a hub on Lake Superior. From Superior, the pipeline has five branches; four of which go through Wisconsin.

"This is especially dangerous, because we are in the Great Lakes region," Ward said. "It's the largest freshwater resource in the world and supplies clean drinking water for over 40 million people."

Line 61 runs through the center of Wisconsin and presenters cited Enbridge's poor safety record as reason to stop the expansion.

"We have learned from the Kalamazoo spills that these sands are even worse when spilled," said fellow presenter Carl Whiting. "Enbridge has spent \$1.2 billion dollars cleaning up the damage from their last spill, and they are not even close to finished."

Whiting, schoolteacher and recipient of a Ph.D. in Education from UW-Madison, joined Sierra Club and started presenting in communities

statewide as he became aware of environmental issues.

His portion of the talk was largely about the Kalamazoo tar sands oil spill.

The Kalamazoo spill was from a pipeline pumping 400,000 barrels per day, one-third capacity of the proposed expansion.

Tar sands oil is denser than general oil so the remediation projects have been more challenging. The density was also making the spills hard to recognize, evidenced by findings of a Natural Resources Defense Council who found leak detection systems missed over 90 percent of spills.

Information provided at the Sierra Club website revealed that these spills are 3.6 times more likely with tar sand pipelines as they are with traditional pipelines. To extract the oil, chemicals must be added to the sands. This culminates in an acidic, corrosive mixture that causes the increase in damage.

"Even if the pipeline does not rupture, tar sands still contain twice the heat," Whiting said. "Driving a Civic would become equivalent to driving a Tahoe."

Tar sands make it into the United

States near Lake Superior through an ambiguous process which Ward and company believe will be nullified once it goes to court.

Once the oil makes it to Wisconsin, Enbridge is able to circumvent environmental regulations by relying on a Department of Natural Resources environmental impact statement from 2006. This document was generated to account for impacts of the creation of the pipeline and its associated facilities, all at 400,000 barrels per day.

The proposed 1.2 million barrels per day are operating under the same environmental impact statement, with minimal reporting of the effects of burning those sands or the potential hazards.

Ward and Whiting had given a similar presentation a week prior at UW-Whitewater, and were optimistic about the student connections being made.

"It is especially important for young people to get involved," Whiting said. "Yours is the most important generation in the history of humankind."

Sustainability Clubs Merge and Elect New Officers

HARLEY FREDRIKSEN
ENVIRONMENT EDITOR
hfred935@uwsp.edu

Two of the largest environmentally focused groups, the Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society and the Students for Sustainable Communities, have joined forces.

Dec. 2, both clubs met and exchanged ideas for a new name. Sustainable Communities Club and Students for Sustainability topped the list, but ultimately the group went with Students for Sustainability.

A week later, students met to have elections for the new club. Every position was available and the turnout was larger than usual.

"It was so exciting to have a full room of people for elections," said former SACS club secretary Rochelle Wiedenhoef. "It is clear that we are better together and that people are enthusiastic about the merge."

Nine officers were elected, ranging from president and vice president to compost manager and garden coordinator.

Seniors in the club expressed sentiments of their time involved in the club and how it had changed their lives and hoped that younger students would enjoy the same positive experiences.



Photo courtesy of SACS

The two groups Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society and Students for Sustainable Communities are going to merge to form Students for Sustainability.

'Word Play' Showcases Students' Writing

CAROLINE CHALK
REPORTER
cchal845@uwsp.edu

Students taking the independent writing courses the include English 157, 257 and 357 published their work in "Word Play" that came out Dec. 8.

Students who chose to have their work published had the opportunity to share personal experiences or thoughts in forms of poetry or short stories.

Leigh Jentz, a writing consultant for the Tutoring Learning Center and is a former student of the independent writing courses, individually met with students to discuss their work.

"The content is really up to the individual student and what they want to submit," Jentz said. "There have been short stories and poems.

There is no central theme. It is completely student-led."

Jentz said the publication provides students with an extra goal to work toward because they print their work for others to read.

"The creative aspect of this class is a lot more fun than what we normally do such as working on academic research papers," Jentz said. "It's less about the formatting and structure and more about getting good ideas down on paper."

Michael Marichal is another TLC writing consultant.

"It's really nice that you can submit anonymously because some of the learners are nervous about putting their name out there," Marichal said. "I think that the ability to submit anonymously is useful for a lot of people.

Photo courtesy of uwsp.edu

Wordplay

(more or less)



English '57 Series
No. 17: Spring '13

You can
advertise here!



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

GSA Offers Definition of Transmisogyny

EMILY SHOWERS
POINTLIFE EDITOR
eshow592@uwsp.edu

Many people are familiar with misogyny, the dislike of women, but the public may not be as familiar with transmisogyny.

Programming coordinator for the Gender and Sexuality Alliance Ethan Cates and treasurer for GSA Hannah Williams discussed what transmisogyny is.

"Basically, it is the idea that trans individuals are less than cis, people who identify with the sex they were born with, individuals because they present themselves differently," Williams said.

Cates said that trans individuals are sometimes viewed in a negative way.

"People perceive them as less of a human therefore they deserve less respect," Cates said.

Cates talked about one problem trans females deal with.

"A common response is 'If you don't get your period, you are not a real woman'," Cates said.

Williams said another misconception is people think being

trans is synonymous with being gay. Williams said there could be a trans male who likes females and he is not gay.

However, both agreed younger generations are becoming more receptive to the concept of multiple genders as opposed to just male and female.

"Transgender and sexual people are becoming better understood," Cates said. "When a parent has a child who feels like they do not conform to the gender norms, the parents are more open about it."

Williams said there is often backlash from older generations because they are not as familiar with trans individuals, but Cates added they cannot speak for everyone in an older generation because some of them are open-minded.

Photo courtesy of wikigender.org



POINTLIFE

continued from page 1

atmosphere.

"I have quite a number of essays and papers," Schmidt said. "There are 13 of them and half of them are in German."

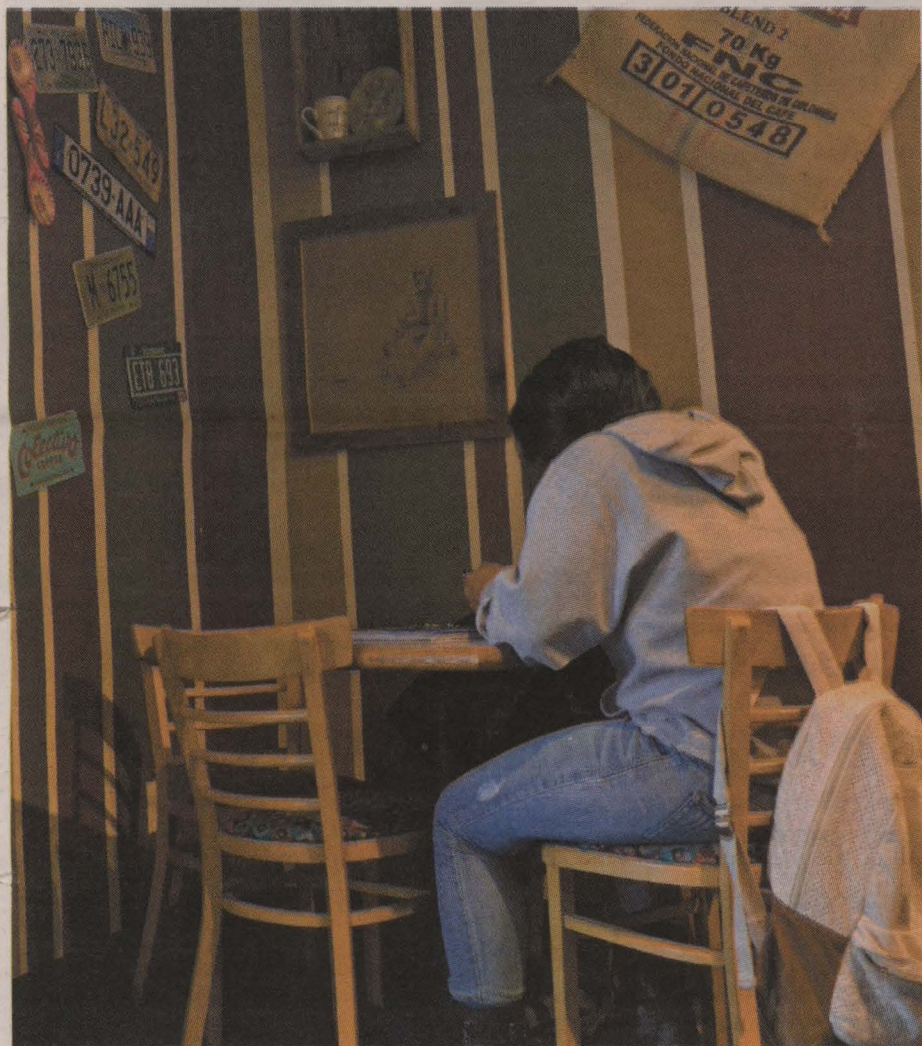
There is no shortage of coffee houses in this college town, and some students prefer to study in the bustling Starbucks compared to the laid back Zest.

Sophomore theater student Joel Roberts usually spends his time in the Noel Fine Arts Center but decided to study in Starbucks.

"I love the building, but coming here is a good change of location," Roberts said.

Roberts said many people prefer to study in solitude, but he enjoys being around people.

"Since other people are around, there are not as many distractions as if you were at home," Roberts said. "Everyone is in the same place and needs to get their thing done."



Photos by Carly Caputa

Some students choose to study for finals at local coffee shops such as Zest.

What the Pointer staff wants for Christmas:

Grace - A black sweater without holes and another Pointer coffee mug
 Carly - One Direction concert tickets and 12 Burberry poncho blankets
 MyKayla - The Greek God riding a pony towards her across Debot field
 Marty - A gift card to Bruisers Night Club and the Harry Potter audiobooks
 Emily S. - German spiced wine and reduced fat Wheat Thins
 Julia - A cigarette holder and hot rollers
 Harley - A better environment and a garden plot
 Anna - A snazzy dress and a good fake I.D.
 Jenna - Lemonade and a little red Corvette
 Ryan - A 50 in. HD flatscreen T.V. for the Pointer office to watch the news
 Emily H. - Film for her camera and moccasins for all seasons
 Kylee - An awesome design job when she graduates and a man
 Lanea - A Ryan Gosling body pillow and more cats
 Samantha - A French man with a French press
 Dr. Steve Hill - Cheese for his rats and Dunkin' Donuts to give his staff

THE QUICK AND DIRTY:

Do most women orgasm during sex?

The quick and dirty... Your column for quick tips on reproductive health, sex and relationships.

As reproductive health peer educators on campus, you can imagine we receive some interesting questions, and we love it.

Q: As a woman, how common is it to never orgasm during sex?

A: If you are talking about heterosexual penis and vagina sex alone, it is not very common to orgasm as a woman. The vagina is not very sensitive and is not constructed to achieve an orgasm. Most women achieve orgasm through stimulating the clitoris that is super sensitive and pleasure focused. Some even compare the clitoris to the penis in terms of pleasure, but there are more nerve endings. Instead of focusing on vaginal versus clitoral orgasms, it is best to think about the whole area as a network of muscles and nerves that, if stimulated correctly, can result in an orgasm.

According to the National Sex Study from the Center for Sexual Health Promotion, women are more likely to orgasm when they engage in a variety of sex acts and when oral and vaginal intercourse are included. Either direct stimulation or sex positions that stimulate the clitoris are most likely to result in an orgasm.

64 percent of women said they had an orgasm the last time

they participated in sexual acts compared to 85 percent of men according to a national sex study.

On average, women take longer to reach maximum arousal than men. The gender disparity can sometimes cause problems for couples during sex because of the different physiological responses and desires. Men may want to go before the woman is ready which is likely to result in women not having an orgasm. Of course, this is just a generalization and individuals do not necessarily reflect the normality and statistics, which is okay.

Many women believe they will never have an orgasm, but they might not know what works for their body or have not had proper time to become aroused. Everyone is unique, and it takes time to get to know and understand your body.

In short, a little over half of women reported having an orgasm during the last time they participated in sexual acts, but this was not just penis and vagina sex. Other forms of intercourse increase the likelihood of having an orgasm.

Check out our Facebook page, UWSP Reproductive Health Peer Educators, for the survey link so we can anonymously answer your questions in our next column.

Accounting for Strangeness

JULIA FLAHERTY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
jflah017@uwsp.edu

I never thought I would graduate from college in three years and I do not want to say or write that too loudly, because you never know what could happen. If all goes according to plan though, I will.

I remember high school teachers telling me college will be the best time of your life. Though I see where that could be true for some, I hardly think it resounds in my case. Not to say there were not good times, but I think there is more ahead.

I have always had a hard time living in the moment and it is something I am constantly working on improving. I think I have become better at it recently, though I seem to find more often than not what I do now is to prepare me for future circumstance.

Life is silly like that. It is human nature to prepare for things that are not guaranteed but realizing that is exactly what you are doing is even

stranger.

I am a person who has been self-aware since a young age. Understanding yourself inside and out is both a burden and a curse. You are constantly over-analytical of what you are doing.

Just when you think you are doing everything right, the next moment you question if what you are doing matters at all. Playing this mind game is wasteful because the answer to both of these questions is that there is no clear answer about what you are doing.

I recently hosted a session with SPTV called "A Skype Experience with David Lawrence XVII and Bob Pondillo." Lawrence, a voice-over talent and "Heroes" actor, and Pondillo, an Emmy award-winning filmmaker and writer, provided great advice to our group over an hour long Skype session not just about their job experiences, but about how to deal with what life hands you personally.

I recall Pondillo saying something like, "We're all messed up and we have to reveal our strangeness. It makes us human."

These were not his exact words, but the underlying moral I gathered was something like: Life is strange, you never know what could happen and knowing you can never know is what lets you do whatever you want to do.

I like the movie "Say Anything" with John Cusack. Maybe you have seen it, maybe you have not.

All you need to know about, in this case, is the title of the film. I think it is important to say anything, not just to others, but to yourself. Let yourself do anything and do not let yourself say you cannot do something.

You are human and can do whatever you want to within physical limits. It is this motto I hope to carry with me throughout life. Though it is easier said than done, and from me to you, I am constantly worrying. I think it is an achievable mindset to adjust to.

I hope I can do it. I hope for those of you graduating this winter, you enter the workforce with belief, not just that you will get a job, but you will do something that makes you

happy. It does not even have to be about work.

Maybe you want to start a family or blog. Maybe you want to move to Mexico. I do not know what you want to do and it is okay to say you do not either.

Maybe that is bad advice, but I hope you see it as encouraging and understand that I am telling you the only limitations you have are the ones you put on yourself. Do not become your own roadblock.

For those graduating in May, I imagine next semester will go fast. I imagine life from here on will continue to speed up, so I offer you one lasting commentary, I hope you are always your own plot-changing device.

You can move in whatever direction you want to. Choosing direction may be difficult, but know no matter where you end up, your story is about you. Never lose yourself to a future you cannot predict.

I Was Not Aware German Food was so Good

EMILY SHOWERS

POINTLIFE EDITOR
eshow592@uwsp.edu

I decided to go on the German Club's trip to the German Christmas market Christkindlmarket in Chicago this past weekend.

I tagged along with Mary Gertner and Kyle Bareta, members of the German Club.

The Christkindlmarket was in Daley Plaza, a tiny plot of land surrounded by buildings in the middle of downtown Chicago. There were a series of small stands that sold

German delicacies like glühwein, stollen, weißwürste and leberkäse.

The market was packed, so it took some people 45 minutes to purchase hot chocolate. I am a city person, but it was a bit too crowded for my taste.

My favorite part of Chicago was walking along the lakeshore. I think I am noticing more of the natural aspects of an urban area because I have been in Stevens Point for a while. On the other hand, I have always been a sucker for lakeside strolls.

It was calm, but the Chicago skyline was to the west, so it was an interesting blend of nature and

urban. I simply enjoyed observing how the two contrasting dynamics interacted with one another.

A chilly December breeze was coming off the lake, so we went back to the city where we would be shielded from the wind by the buildings.

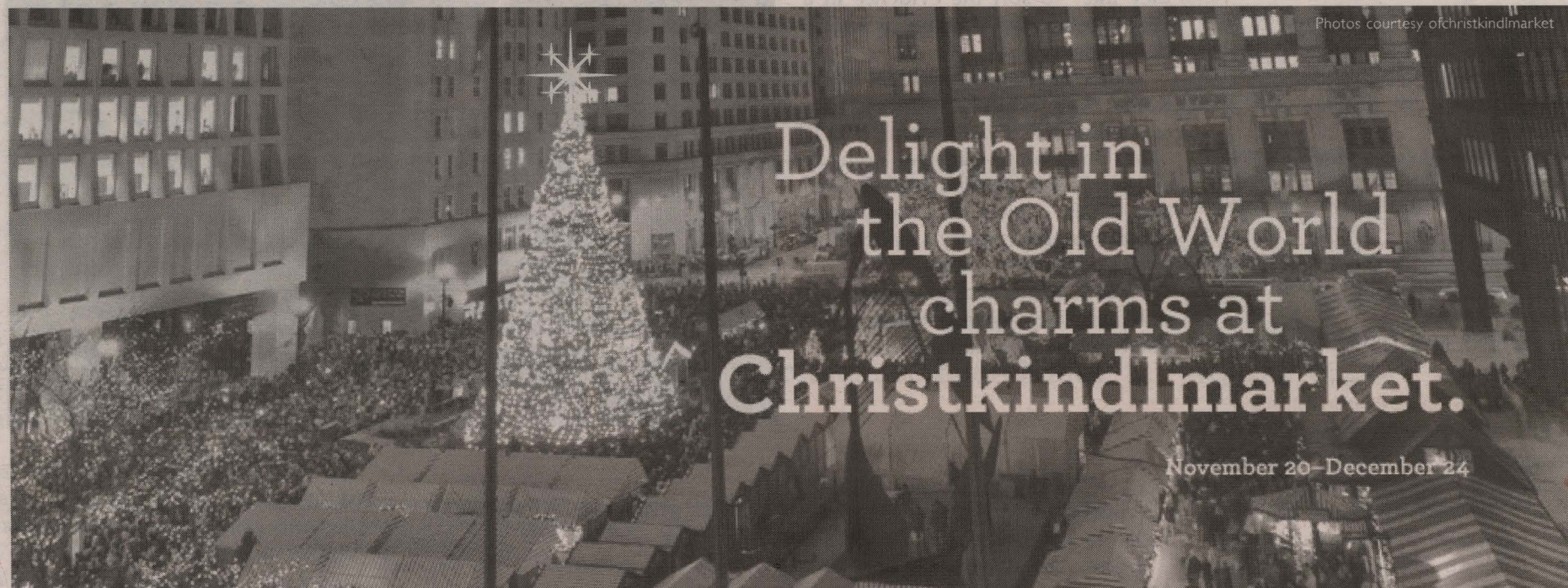
I began to think of the 1920s and all of the mob members who resided in the windy city. I had watched "The Untouchables" the week before and wondered if I was walking the same street Al Capone or Elliot Nest had been on.

After the market, we headed to Madison for the final part of the trip:

eating German style cuisine at the Essen Haus. Our waitress arrived with bowls mounded high with mashed potatoes, different kinds of kielbasa, sauerkraut, beats, fried potatoes and vegetables.

Honestly, I never knew German cuisine could be so appetizing. When I first bit into the kielbasa, it was not overly salty at all and was quite savory. The sauerkraut was sour, but not overpowering. Overall, everything tasted heavenly.

I am happy to have visited Chicago again.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Photo by of Kaia Durall

Right: Nicholas Langenhahn, Mikala Durall, Tanner Reed (top row), Maija Salienko, and Izzy Glodowski (bottom row) play the Herdmans in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!"
Left: Jen Schultz and Sue Fletcher participate in The Playhouse Theatre Group of Central Wisconsin's production.

Central Wisconsin Welcomes Playhouse Theater Group

ANNA WELTON
REPORTER
awelt600@uwsp.edu

Central Wisconsin's Playhouse Theater group welcomes the holiday season with its production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!" Established earlier this year, the group hopes to get more exposure through the pageant.

"The show is about these terrible kids called The Herdmans," said Playhouse Theater intern Katelyn Werner. "They lie, steal, smoke and show up at a local church where they try to take over the annual Christmas pageant. It's a very heartwarming and comedic show."

Werner realized it seems unusual, but reassures "The Best Christmas

Pageant Ever!" is a family-friendly show full of fun, offbeat moments and good lessons.

"Our goal is to fill people with holiday spirit," Werner said.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!" is showing on Dec. 11, 12 and 14 at various locations in the Wisconsin Rapids, Plover and Stevens Point areas. Information about additional venues is available at cwplayhousepresents.weebly.com.

As an intern, Werner works on marketing and public relations for Playhouse Theater.

"The overall mission of the group is that we believe that every child deserves a standing ovation," Werner said. "We focus a lot on building confidence in students and younger children as well as learning teamwork

skills, developing musicality and other important aspects of performance. We are trying to get kids involved early on in their lives so they know what Central Wisconsin has to offer."

Werner said the group focuses on finding opportunities to educate and empower students. Personally, Werner has focused her energy on getting the word out about "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!" by sending out press releases and getting local radio and television stations involved in promoting the show.

"It's amazing what this community will do for the arts," Werner said. "In a big city, it's hard to come across the help and advertising opportunities, but in this community it is very much so ask and you will receive."

Werner hopes to see the establishment of an online database so those interested in the Playhouse Theater group can sign up for a newsletter of events, as well as the more daring task of starting music education classes and implementing them in local schools established during her internship.

"We want to offer the arts in schools," Werner said. "We are looking to start programs that show students the importance of the arts. It's a great opportunity to give back to the community that helps us so much."

The Playhouse Theater group will begin auditioning for its upcoming show "Willy Wonka" on Jan. 4.

FBI: Not Clear Yet Where Sony Attack Came From

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FBI Director James Comey says investigators haven't yet determined who was responsible for a massive cyberattack on Sony Pictures Entertainment.

Comedy told reporters Tuesday that "we're not at that point yet" to assign responsibility. The breach disrupted the movie studio's computer system and spewed online personal information about Sony employees.

Comedy said before investigators

determine who is behind a breach, they like "to sort the evidence in a very careful way to arrive at a level of confidence."

Some have speculated that North Korea was behind the attacks in retaliation for the upcoming movie "The Interview." It's a comedy starring Seth Rogen and James Franco and which depicts an assassination attempt on that country's leader, Kim Jong Un (kim jawng oon).

North Korea recently released a statement denying responsibility, but also harshly condemning the movie.

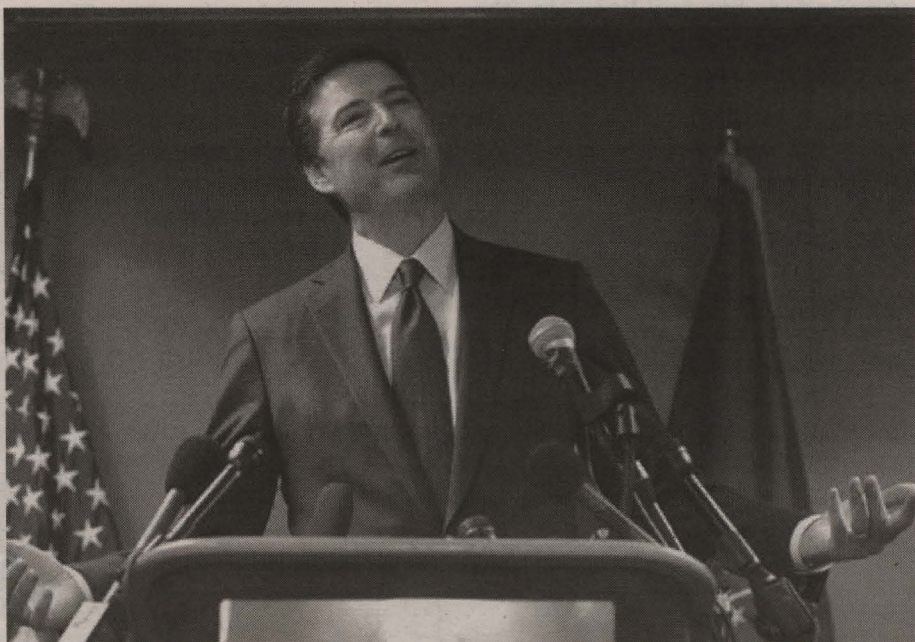


Photo courtesy of Steve Senne, Associated Press

FBI Director James Comey takes questions from members of the media during a news conference, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2014, in Boston. Comey is visiting the Boston division to meet with employees and law enforcement partners and talk about the FBI's priorities.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Obama Riffs on His Presidency with Stephen Colbert

ASSOCIATED PRESS

His daughters mock his big ears, he leaves his socks on the floor and sitting behind Stephen Colbert's desk, he said, gives him a greater sense of power.

When President Barack Obama was not seriously defending his economic record, his executive actions on immigration and his delayed decision on the Keystone XL oil pipeline Monday on "The Colbert Report," he was playfully confiding that the trappings of the presidency really don't go to his head.

"When I go home, Michelle, Malia and Sasha give me a hard time," he told host Stephen Colbert. "There are no trumpets, and they tease me mercilessly."

It was Obama's third appearance on the show, his second as president, and marked the beginning of the final two weeks for the Comedy Central program. Colbert will take over for David Letterman on CBS' "Late Show" next year.

Obama kicked off the show sitting in for Colbert to perform a regular feature of the program called "The Word" wherein Colbert's rants are accompanied by snarky messages to the audience.

So when Obama, as Colbert, declared that there are aspects of "Obamacare" that people from both parties actually like, the text aside to the audience read, "Everything but the Obama."

Later, Colbert observed that the economy had been creating more jobs of late.

"You have employed a lot of people — mostly as secretary of defense," Colbert cracked in a reference to Obama recently nominating his fourth top civilian at the Pentagon.

"That's boosted our numbers a little bit," Obama replied.

Colbert, whose on-screen persona is that of an insufferable conservative scold, accused Obama of exceeding his authority on immigration. "When did you decide to burn the Constitution and become emperor?" he asked. The question was heard as a joke by many in the audience at George Washington University. But to Obama's critics, the question had a ring of truth.

Obama dropped the comedy and replied, "Actually, Steve, everything that we have done is scrupulously within the law and has been done by previous Democratic and Republican presidents."

As he wrapped up, Colbert had one last question: "Barack Obama — great president or the greatest president?"

"I'm going to let someone else decide — not you, but someone who knows what they're talking about," the president replied.

Colbert countered, "Stephen Colbert — great pundit or the greatest pundit?"

Obama didn't miss a beat: "The greatest pundit."



Photo courtesy of Susan Walsh, Associated Press
(Above) President Barack Obama talks with Stephen Colbert of The Colbert Report during a taping of the program in Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University in Washington, Monday, Dec. 8, 2014.

Life By Jonathan Seymour

YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD BE NICE?
CANDY CANE MOUTHWASH!

WOAH!

© Life. 2014 Jonathan Seymour Powered by: Adobe Systems Inc.

Life By Jonathan Seymour

FOR FINALS WEEK? YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!

"BEEP" "BEEP"

© Life. 2014 Jonathan Seymour Powered by: Adobe Systems Inc.

FOR FREE

FREE

furniture, tv, family room furniture. Please call 715-344-7887 for a list

FOR RENT

2501 & 2525 4th Ave

Quality 3 bedroom apts located 2 blocks from UWSP.

All apts include. Dishwater, refrigerator, microwave, stove, air conditioning, parking and onsite laundry.

Contact Dave for personal showing or more information.

Call or test

715-341-0826 or email djspranger@gmail.com

FOR RENT

Off-Campus Housing

On-line Rental Listings

Roommate & Sublease Ads

www.OffCampusHousing.info

FOR RENT

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for spacious 1 & 2 bedroom apartments one block to UW-Stevens Point.

Rent includes heat.

Exceptionally nice units in good condition.

Licensing can vary from 1 to 4 residents.

Parking and carpet cleaning free. On site laundry. Also scheduling showings for 2015-16 school year.

Call 715-341-4455 or email anchorapartments@yahoo.com

FOR RENT

Housing for rent spring semester 2015.

2 bedroom.

Great parking.

Contact Pat 715-340-0062

FOR RENT

3 & 4 bedroom apartment suites; most include internet. \$1890 per semester School year or 12 month lease. For more information email paulw@charter.net

FOR RENT

CANDLEWOOD

Tons of apartments available for next school year in all price ranges!

Many include all utilities.

See them all at rentcandlewood.com or call 715-344-7524

FOR RENT

POINT PLACE APTS

6 bedroom/2 bath available for next school year.

12 and 9 month options.

ALL BASIC UTILITIES INCLUDED.

In-unit laundry, off street parking.

see them at rentcandlewood.com or call 715-344-7524

FOR RENT

Housing for rent 2015-2016.

Close to campus.

Great parking.

Summer included no additional cost.

Call Pat 715-340-0062

FOR RENT

THE OLD TRAIN STATION

23224 Wyatt Avenue

Custom-Quality-Unique Apartment

"Nice homes for nice people"

Save Big Money

Rent includes: Heat, Water, Internet Cable TV, Air Conditioning, Parking

Available June

4 BDRM - 4 people \$895/Month

3 BDRM - 3 people \$795/Month

2 BDRM - 2 people \$395/Month

Next School Year

4 BDRM 9 Months \$1,195/month

3 BDRM 9 Months \$1,095/month

Check Details on our Website

Pictures, floor plan, lease, policies, map

www.sommer-rentals.com

Email: rsommer@wctc.net

Call Rich at 715-343-8222

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Beyond the Hive' Videos Motivate Student Reflection

CAROLINE CHALK

cchal845@uwsp.edu
REPORTER

Students in Communication 323, taught by Professor Liz Fakazis, came together with students in Professor Alex Ingersoll's Communication 356 class to create video projects about bees.

These students spent the semester learning about bees and Colony Collapse Disorder, a serious problem threatening the health of honeybees across the world. Dec. 5, students creatively displayed their knowledge of bees in a video hosted by the Carlsten Gallery. Their videos

were one of many activities a part of "Beyond the Hive" series.

This series was meant to inform students and the community about bees. Joshua Philon, a senior communication major, created a comedy for the class.

"We basically did a TV segment show," Philon said. "It's funny while being informative. Most of the time when information about bees is being given, it's more of a serious and sentimental approach, but with the world we live in now we should try all different aspects to reach out and give people information."

Philon felt learning about bees was a reality check.

"I think with this class I have been able to take away how to analyze certain aspects of the world, especially with bees," Philon said. "I learned a lot about Colony Collapse Disorder and how it's killing bees all over the world."

Karli Norton, a senior communication major, focused her project on the life of the queen bee.

"What I want people to get out of the whole project is the importance about it and that we need to know about the bees," Norton said. "If we lose this one little insect, we are done. We really are and I hope people get out how serious it is out of this."

Samantha Herrick, a fellow

collaborator, said her group used more artistic style.

"We created a dance with a voice-over," Herrick said. "It was a lot of freedom and we were all able to do something that we are passionate about."

Herrick said this course helped her understand honeybees better and their effect on the natural world.

"Without honeybees, we lose about one third of our food supply," Herrick said. "Anything that needs any kind of pollination, we would be without. We really need them to continue living the way that we want."

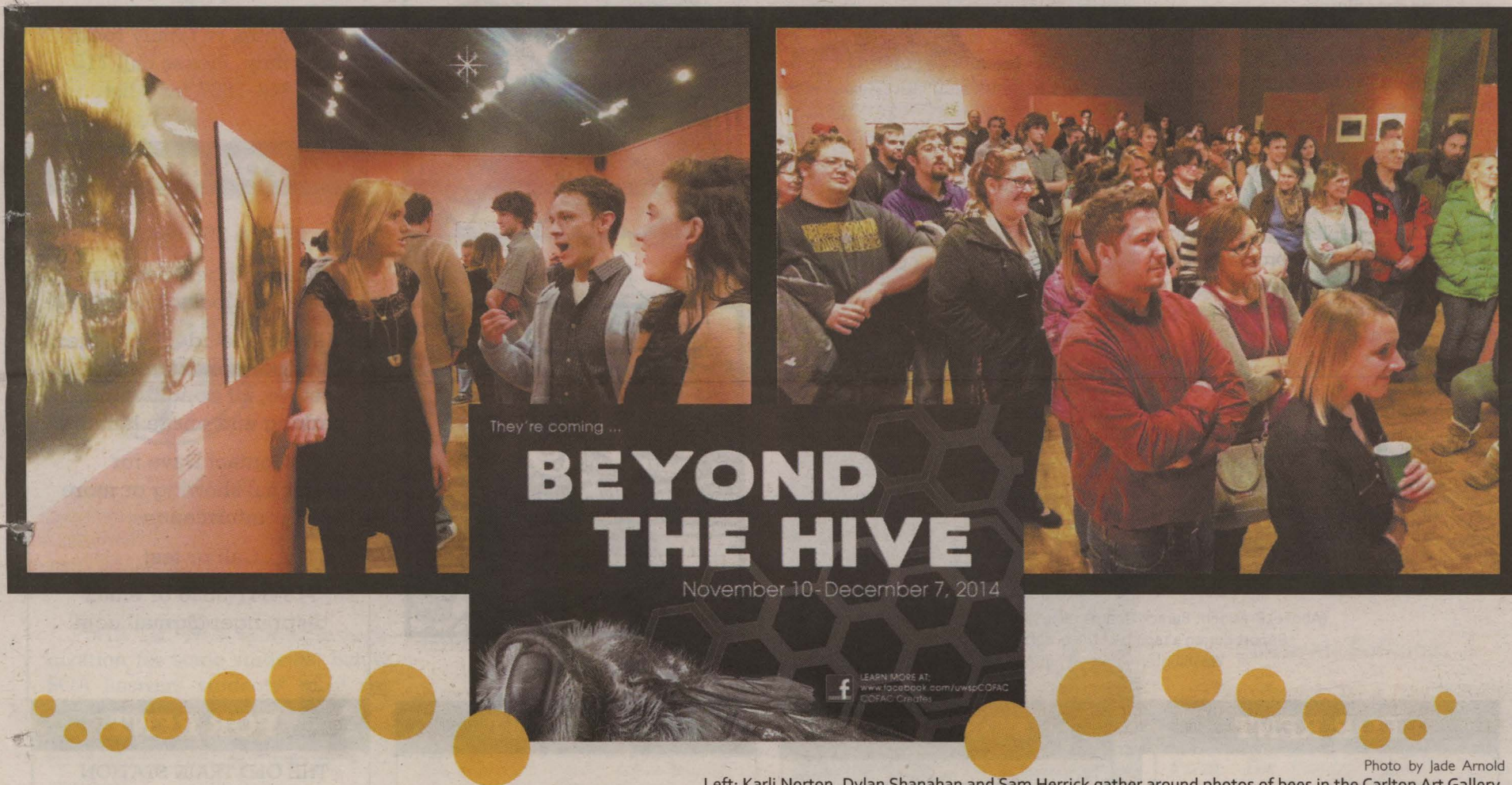


Photo by Jade Arnold
Left: Karli Norton, Dylan Shanahan and Sam Herrick gather around photos of bees in the Carlton Art Gallery.
Right: Students, staff, faculty and community members gather to watch video projects for Beyond the Hive.

App Allows Users to Enter 'Drunk Mode' Without Worry



Photo courtesy of Drunk Mode

ANNA WELTON

REPORTER

awelt600@uwsp.edu

University of Virginia alumnus Joshua Anton created the free app Drunk Mode in April 2013, as he

knows alcohol and driving do not mix. According to USA Today, Anton's app is projected to surpass 100,000 downloads. It has been fairly successful since launching less than two years ago.

Anton's app prevents users from drunk dialing by enabling them to block certain contacts for up to 12 hours. Drunk Mode also allows users to review and recover Snapchats before sending.

Perhaps the most useful and controversial parts of the app are the "Find My Drunk" and "Breadcrumbs" components that are used to track location and user destination arrival time.

"It takes away the sense of accountability for yourself and making sure that you don't put

yourself in a situation like that in the first place," said freshman Dylan Hartwig.

Other students have concerns about privacy violations some features of this app allow. Freshman Drake Schroeder downloaded the app to test these features.

"I'm not sure that I like that it tracks all pictures sent to and from your phone in the period of time the app is on," Schroeder said. "I feel as though that could be a huge privacy issue for those who send you Snapchats while they are drunk, because the person who receives them can review them later on."

This feature is only accessible on Android phones.

Freshman like Zak Marten and Schroeder sometimes take the role of

designated driver for older friends. The "Find My Drunk" component is designed to help those not drinking locate their friends, keep track of them, or pick them up when they need a safe ride home.

"I volunteer myself to be a designated driver," Marten said. "Sometimes those people don't always stay where I left them. It would be great to be able to use the app to know where they are when I need to find them. This is just another measure in trying to keep people safe."

Overall, students seem interested in learning more about this app and the positive and negative aspects of being able to put their cell phones into Drunk Mode.