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Photo by Emily Hoffmann

There's No Place Like Home, or a Teepee

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Sleeping outdoors in a polar vortex sounds like the last thing one would ever want to do, but not Gerrid Greenwood, who lives in a teepee along the backwaters of the Wisconsin River.

Greenwood, a senior majoring in Wildlife Ecology, has lived in his teepee since late August of last year.

"Approximately five months, since I did not live in it over winter break," Greenwood said.

Greenwood got the idea to live in a teepee by reading a book called "The Last American Man" by Elizabeth Gilbert.

"It's about Eustace Conway, a modern day mountain man," Greenwood said. "He lived in a teepee and off the land during his college years which inspired me to take a similar path."

Greenwood purchased the cover and liner for his teepee from a company out west that makes teepees. He did all of the assembly himself, but received some help from his family.

"I harvested and prepared the 17 black spruce poles that are used to hold up the canvas cover and liner," Greenwood said. "I also built the plywood floor which keeps me insulated from the ground."

Greenwood loves living in a teepee, but it still poses challenges.

"I stay warm by wearing lots of warm clothes, wool in particular, but I have a cast iron wood stove that warms the inside of the teepee enough to where it's comfortable to wear a T-shirt or sweater during mildly cold nights," Greenwood said. "My bed is very warm and consists mostly of wool blankets. I put one

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The Pointer

NEWS

The Cupboard Supports Increasing Numbers

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The number of users taking advantage of The Cupboard, the university's food pantry, is growing. The resource allows students to fill their stomachs with nutritional foods when their pockets are empty.

Open to any current University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student, The Cupboard is a food pantry located in room 061 of the Dreyfus University Center. It provides students with the basic necessity of food when they are in a financially difficult situation.

Jennie Stage, The Cupboard operations coordinator, said that The Cupboard's growth in the past couple of years branches from two main components.

"The Cupboard has an increase in clientele. The reason for this is a toss-up between two factors. The first is awareness of the Cupboard increasing throughout campus. The second is an increase in students who are lacking funds for food," Stage said.

An older student on campus, Cindy M. Yang, has been able to watch the development of The Cupboard in the past four years.

"It is nice as an older student to see it evolve and the volunteers are always friendly," Yang said.

Many programs that help people purchase food require a lengthy qualification process. Among many factors, some individuals do not qualify for assistance but still struggle to eat a healthy meal. However, The Cupboard does not have as strict of regulations regarding who qualifies and who does not.

"Being a current UWSP student is the only qualification for receiving help from the Cupboard. Nothing else," Stage said.

"It is tough to receive food stamps unless you qualify through the state," Yang said.

The Cupboard's main goal is to help students meet their basic needs so that they can focus on succeeding in school. The food pantry helps eliminate some of the financial pressures students may encounter.

"The Cupboard allows me to save money. Food is ridiculously expensive in grocery stores," Yang said.

Another client of The Cupboard appreciates what it does for the UWSP student body.

"Grocery bills can quickly add up to \$100. This is a great resource," client two said.

Both Yang and the second client live off campus and their housing requires them to pay rent and monthly utilities bills on top of costly tuition payments. Students with limited income and who are short on cash may have to choose between buying food or paying other bills. By supplying emergency or supplemental food, The Cupboard eases money problems for students.

"I see The Cupboard as a place to get food, and I do not have to worry about the expense especially living off campus," Yang said.

"I live off campus as well. I have to pay a variety of bills including heat. Everything builds up so quickly," client two said.

Stage is trying to spread awareness of this beneficial resource to students.

"I think a very large number of students at UWSP simply don't know The Cupboard exists. This is a huge problem that I am trying to address through promotion," Stage said.

Students are grateful for The Cupboard and the volunteer members who keep it running.

"Thank you to everyone who donates The Cupboard. There wouldn't be a Cupboard without you," client two said.

The Cupboard is open Tuesday through Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. If students are unable to stop by during those times, they can also fill out an online request form online from The Cupboard's homepage. You can find it by typing "The Cupboard" in the search box on the UWSP website.



Photo by Emily Hoffmann

Junior Lizzie Billington and sophomore Carli Navin are among the students who volunteer at The Cupboard.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Monday, Feb. 10

An individual called to report they were trapped in the elevator inside the Trainer Natural Resources building. Maintenance was contacted and caller made it out of the elevator.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Electrician called about a group of kids waiting at the planetarium. PS called a faculty member but there was no pick up. Electrician admitted the group of kids into the planetarium.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

A lady called reporting an accident in Lot X near the science building. There were not injuries.

Thursday, Feb. 13

Two individuals were seen sitting on the side of Fourth Ave. PS stopped to make sure they were okay. They claimed they were waiting for the bus. The bus schedule was verified and PS went back to let the students know the bus was on its way.

The city road dispatched an ambulance to the science building to respond to a female student who passed out. Officers were dispatched to assist in the situation.

A facility service member removed two smoke detectors in the Berg Gym. It will take about an hour.

Friday, Feb. 14

Received an elevator call from Delzell and didn't hear anything but a phone tone on the other end. PS called front desk of Delzell and requested that they check the elevator. They did and it was empty.

Student called reporting that his keys are missing. They keys are on an orange and black lanyard that says "Port Edwards." The car key is black with the words "strattec" and an orange square toy figurine.

Numerous calls informing PS the power in the Schmeeckle Reserve Center and the Wood lab is currently down. Facility Services informed PS that power was expected to be working at 3:15.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Staff member from Knutzen Hall says there is a person that is banned from campus. He is eating in Upper DeBot.

THE POINTER

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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*.

UWSP Awarded Green College Honor Roll

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For the third year in a row, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point was placed on the Princeton Review's Green College Honor Roll.

The Princeton Green College Honor Roll, which is known for its education services in helping students select and get accepted into colleges, is a measure of a how environmentally aware and responsible an institution is on a scale of 60-99.

"The project, now in its sixth year, offers a measure of how environmentally friendly schools are," said Shelly Janowski, the Sustainability Program & Policy

Specifically, the honor roll considers whether students have a campus quality of life that is both healthy and sustainable, how well a school is preparing students not only for employment in the clean energy economy of the 21st century, but also for citizenship in a world now defined by environmental challenges, and how environmentally responsible a school's policies are.

UWSP is among 22 colleges in the United States that has received a Green Rating of 99, the highest score possible, and it is the only college in Wisconsin to make the list.

"It is well deserved, but depending on how questions are weighted, it may be more challenging to make the list each year," Janowski said.

For example, if native plants as part of landscape management are weighted highly, UWSP would rate on the low scale because plants are chosen based on their hardiness in the Wisconsin climate and their ability to provide color throughout the year.

"UWSP is a natural resources college and planting consideration is given to woody plants that meet the needs of outdoor classroom and teaching needs of courses," Janowski said. "The recommended tree species can either be a native or non-native species as long as they fit within the tree selection guidelines found in our campus tree plan."

Another example would be lowimpact dining.

"Although our dining services run a very sustainable operation, we don't offer vegan choices for every meal, so if that question is weighted high, we might not get as many points," Janowski said.

The Princeton Review tallies scores based on information it receives from colleges.

"UWSP provides data to the Princeton Review, but we don't know how the questions and responses are weighted each year," Janowski said.

UWSP has qualified as a greenrated school for the last four years. The campus's overall commitment to sustainability practices help with its ratings, including having a healthy and sustainable quality of life and preparing students for employment and citizenship in a world defined by environmental changes.

One of the biggest things that UWSP has been recognized for is its Operations and Waste Management Facility, which features a pilot wastewater treatment plant, a microbiology lab, and a connecting recycling center.

"We also have a good start on

a solid composting program," said Dave Barbier, the Sustainability Coordinator. "I think going forward community outreach will become more predominant, as well as overall student awareness and education."

The campus also has a strong sustainability commitment when it comes to facilities, whether through the Green cleaning program, electric vehicles for on-campus transportation, or through a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification programs for new buildings and LEED standards for retro furbishing the Resident Halls, which participate in recycling programs and a vermicomposting program.

"Each residence hall is equipped with recycling chutes and there is an on-campus Resource Recovery Center, combined to achieve an impressive 40 percent waste-diversion rate," Janowski said.

"It is an important educational step for positive change in our culture and something that is already happening in the private and public business world, as well as many government agencies," Barbier said. "Developing a campus where students are educated about ideas, like the Triple bottom Line and the Natural Step, will better prepare them for the workforce after college and make them more attractive to employers as well."

UWSP is currently working on a few things to make the campus even more sustainable in the future, including a zero food waste system, sustainable to-go food systems for dining, better biking infrastructure, a sustainable movie series, a more sustainable move out process, and it has an energy conservation measure

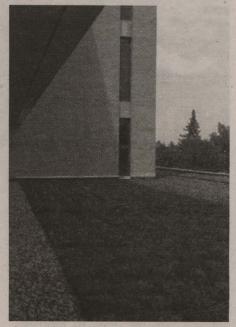


Photo courtesy of uwsp.edu

UWSP protects water quality through storm water management practices, such as the green spaces on the roof of the library.

pending state approval.

"Sustainability is not just about the environment. It's an important piece, but it's also about people and economics," Barbier said. "That is the Triple bottom Line. Plant people and profit. We need to start spreading that message and making sure students know how to look at problems through that lens."

To stay up to date with sustainability on campus, you can visit their Facebook page.

"We are in the middle of a year ongoing campaign to increase our numbers so students, faculty and the community can stay more informed about what we are doing," Barbier

GIS and Marshfield Clinic Collaborate on Mammogram Follow-up

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The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is looking to follow up on their collaboration with Marshfield Clinic to continue researching missed mammograms in relation to the proximity of screening

The 2010 study funded by the Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation was led by Adedayo Onitilo, M.D., ontologist/haematologist at Marshfield Clinic. He collaborated with Professor Doug Miskoviak, a GIS education specialist at UWSP.

The study was published in November of 2013 in the American Journal of Roentgenology and has since gained international attention. It will also soon be published in the Rural and Remote Health Journal.

"The findings derived from this

study revealed that patterns and trends in geography matter and can have a great effect on public health," Miskoviak said.

Miskoviak pointed out that when women miss mammograms, they miss the opportunity to detect and diagnose breast cancer in its earliest stages of development. This is especially dangerous for younger women for whom the cancer is typically more aggressive and will be at a higher stage when treated.

The GIS team at UWSP converted addresses from Marshfield Clinic's health records of 1,300 people from 2001 through 2008 to data points and then used a road network to analyze travel time the proper facilities.

"The farther women are away from facilities, thirty minutes seeming to be the turning point, the less likely they are to be diagnosed early on. Seasonal factors also have an influence. Women are less likely to go to their appointments in the winter when it is more difficult to get around," Miskoviak said.

According to a news brief on the study from UWSP's website, "each additional minute of travel time decreases the odds of undergoing at least one mammography examination in five years before diagnosis. Those who missed five of their last five lived twice as far from the nearest mammogram facility as those who missed none."

In addition, the news brief indicated that "women who had not undergone mammography screening in the year before diagnosis were 12 percent more likely than those who had mammograms to be diagnosed with late stage breast cancer."

minimize To help missed mammograms, the study suggests of enhanced usage mobile mammogram equipment to reach areas in which women do not have

direct access to care.

Another suggestion is to maximize the use of patients' time by scheduling a mammogram at the same time as a routine check-up, flu shot, or other medical appointment.

Miskoviak indicated that he hopes to work with Marshfield Clinic again for a follow-up study involving 13,000 patients from 2008 through 2012 which would feature a control group to further aid the process. The research team is currently seeking funding for this project and hopes to receive a grant to get students involved.

Dr. Onitilo is also interested in investigating the geographic trends in relation to pancreatic cancer and other diseases and comparing trends by city.

"GIS can identify solutions to real problems. Maps can reveal patterns that may not be invisible to us otherwise," Miskoviak said.



hoto by Emily Hoffmann

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Former art professor Richard Schneider has donated his land, valued at \$100,000, to the Portage County Parks Department.

This land was called Woodtick Woods under Schneider's ownership, but will now be open to residents, and students at the Trainer Natural Resources building.

"You can guess why it's called that, especially in the summertime," Schneider said.

Schneider explained that the land will now become a part of Jordan Park that is located northeast of Highway 66. Jordan Park has the Plover River running through it and, with Schneider's donation, will expand by 51 acres adding to the 271 acres of land, including 85 acres of Jordan Pond

"I didn't think of it in particular as a gift to students, though I was aware they would be using it," Schneider said.

When evaluating his time as a professor at the University, Schneider recalled the social relationship he shared with the Department of Natural

Resources. Although Schneider was an art professor, he spoke fondly of the broader campus community.

Schneider is also known for his work on the mural that spans the outside wall of the Trainer Natural Resources building.

"I don't do things. I get people to do things for me," Schneider said. As he recollected his experience working on the mural, Schneider recalled the monumental group effort that allowed for the mural to come into the position it is today. Schneider remembered traveling to the dormitories on campus to recruit students as volunteers for the project. At the time, community members were also crucial players with volunteering.

"You could have walked up and volunteered yourself. It was that simple," Schneider said.

Schneider recalled this experience as his fondest memory at UWSP.

"Nothing can top the mural," Schneider said.

Schneider's elaborate background in pottery allowed for him to educate former Chancellor Lee Sherman Dreyfus in 1975 as to what type of material would work best for the 150 foot tall mural that remains today.

The mural is atop a brick surface, and Schneider's efforts involved accounting for temperature changes in regard to what artistic material would suit the wall's environment best.

The mural was finished in 1982 and invoked a great community pride that is resemblant of its final motto, "E Pluribus Unum," meaning, "From Many, One." The use of this end quote was a reflection of the many people, the amount of time and the thousands of bricks that make up this one mural.

As with the mural, Schneider recalls his donation as something where, "circumstances just happened to drop into place."

"I never imagined the land as a gift, but it just worked out. I'm delighted to be able to do it," Schneider said.

Schneider recalled purchasing the land at a fairly cheap price, from a logger about forty years ago. Schneider mentioned that when he evaluated his taxes, he hadn't expected his land to be worth so much.

"I was fortunate enough to purchase it at a relatively inexpensive time," Schneider said.

When deciding what he wanted to do with his land, he considered his children. His son lives in Maryland, while his daughter resides in Iola, Wisconsin. Seeing little interest from his family in acquiring the land, he contemplated his options. His ultimate decision, was donating it to the Portage County Parks department.

First, Schneider consulted the North Central Conservancy Trust when approaching his donation. The North Central Conservancy Trust is a non-profit organization that was established to hold conservation easements on privately owned property, as well as to hold title on donated properties. For Schneider, this was important to address.

This means that mining, land development and agriculture will not be allowed on the property. On their website the North Central Conservancy Trust's mission starts with: "endeavor to protect, worthy scenic, working lands and environmental resources for the benefit of the people of Central Wisconsin." This property is now part of that mission.

Schneider graciously concluded that he felt the land would impact the community in a positive way, a feeling he was happy to inspire in residents and students.

Local Counselor Volunteers time to Benefit Students

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Robert Miller, director of Riverwood Counseling Associates in downtown Stevens Point, has agreed to conduct four pro-bono counseling sessions per week to assist the overflow of students at the university who are in need of immediate counseling.

Alyssa Oltmanns, Gender and Sexuality Outreach Coordinator for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, serves students from the lesbian gay bisexual and transgender communities as well as sexual assault victims and students struggling with their identity.

When she noticed that students were being turned away from the UWSP counseling center and were also unable to pay for outside counseling sessions, she made it a priority to get them the help they need.

Oltmanns reached out to the Riverwood Counseling Center first because Miller is a licensed counselor who is familiar with students. His qualifications caught Oltmanns' eye and he volunteered to help after she explained the need for a long-term counselor.

"It was a far-fetched kind of dream thing, I didn't expect to get a response so quickly," Oltmanns said. "Robert is a gracious guy who believes in helping, and he has a personality that jives well with college students."

Miller, a licensed professional counselor and substance abuse counselor, has volunteered to conduct four free hour-long appointments each week for any of the students Oltmanns serves.

"Alyssa made it clear there is a need and students aren't being served, and if I can provide assistance there, I'll do it," Miller said.

Oltmanns' explained the UWSP Counseling Center is unable to meet all of the students needs due to a combination of low staff numbers and a large campus population.

"There is a high demand on campus for counseling services. The center usually focuses on helping students with short-term needs," Oltmanns said. "With Miller teaming up to help out, I can make referrals to him for students who are unable to get an appointment here."

Miller is able to meet with students sooner, which helps eleviate the long wait for appointments through the Counseling Center.

"Most likely, I'll be able to get students in the same week they request an appointment. I have the time to do it and I'm happy to help," Miller said.

Prior to living in Stevens Point, Miller worked as a high school counselor, then transitioned to working in residential and patient programs in Colorado for chemically dependent individuals. He is very experienced in working with youths and adolescents and is willing to accommodate UWSP students.

"I had a professor in grad school who encouraged volunteerism and giving back to the community and I agree with that philosophy. Helping students at UWSP is the right thing to do," Miller said.

Counseling is an outlet for people that keeps them safe and gives them

the care they need.

"I suffered from depression in college and I want people to know they can get better before they get worse. Our goal is to get students to make it through college triumphantly," Oltmanns said.

Not only is Oltmanns excited about the opportunity, but students on campus applaud Miller for going out of his way to service students.

"For some reason the university doesn't have the resources to help all of the students and the thought that he is volunteering hours is very generous," said junior Katherine Larson.

"It isn't his job to help the university, so the fact that he is stepping up is admirable," said sophomore Haley Vanderhill.

The new partnership between Miller and Oltmanns will be most beneficial to students seeking counseling help and are unable to receive it through the university.

For more information or a referral, contact Alyssa Oltmanns by phone at (715) 346-2596 or by email at Alyssa.Oltmanns@uwsp.edu.

SPORTS

Five Keys to the Brewers' Success this Season

WILL ROSSMILLER wross460@uwsp.edu @willrossmiller Commentary

With spring training in full swing it is time to talk some baseball. More specifically, some Milwaukee Brewers baseball.

The Brewers have a shot at the playoffs this season if a few things go in their favor. If the following five pieces of the Brewers puzzle fall into place, we could see Milwaukee playing some October baseball.

1. Ryan Braun: We have heard all the apologies, but now it is time for Braun to go out and show Brewers fans what he can do. There will always be a question of the extent steroids affected Braun's game. The easiest way for Braun to get people to stop talking about the steroid issue is for him to prove that he can play at an all-star level without help from performance enhancing drugs. Even if Braun can give 80 percent of his previous seasons' performance, which would be around 30 home runs and 90 runs batted in, he would be viewed favorably again by Brewers fans and baseball.

2. Staying Healthy: Despite Braun's suspension last year, the Brewers came back strong the second half of the season, after a dismal first half. But that comeback was limited by the team's health late in the season. During the year many regulars were on the disabled list for a significant amount of time, including Aramis Ramirez, Tom Gorzalanny, Jim Henderson, Marco Estrada, Yovani Gallardo, Rickie Weeks and Braun. That does not even include Corey Hart and Matt Gamel who missed the entire season because of injuries. Besides the players sustaining actual injuries, some players got worn down at the end of the year, resulting in poor performances. Jean Segura had an outstanding first half, but because he played almost every day, was fatigued at the end of the year, which hurt his production. The Brewers also have to make sure that Jonathan Lucroy does not get too beat up behind the plate. To do this, they must give him days off or play him at first base on some occasions.

3. The First Base Position: The days of Corey Hart manning first base are over, and the experiment of Yuniesky Betancourt as well. Last season Milwaukee had started seven different players at first. While the opening day starter is not clear, the level of competition for the job is going to be more competitive this spring. At the end of last season, Juan Francisco was steady at the position, providing a lot of pop but still was striking out too much. Two candidates

were brought in during the off-season to help get production out of the position. Milwaukee brought back Lyle Overbay. Do not expect the same production Overbay provided eight years ago with the Crew. His batting average has dropped significantly in the last few seasons, but he still provides solid power and good fielding. Another player the Brewers



Photo courtesy of brewers..mlblogs.com.

signed was Mark Reynolds. There is no questioning Reynolds' power. He has 202 home runs in this seven-year career, but there is his problem with strikeouts. He led the league in strikeouts from 2008 to 2011. If Reynolds can limit the strikeouts, he can be a great piece in the middle of the lineup. It may not be the best situation, but if one of the first base starting candidates sticks, the lineup will be in a healthier state.

4. Back End of the Bullpen: In recent years, there has not been a more recurring problem for the Brewers than the constant issue of closing out games. Last year the Crew had the sixth most blown saves in Major League Baseball. In 2012, Milwaukee led all of baseball with 29 blown saves. Role clarity is in place for the bullpen this year with Jim Henderson returning as closer. Henderson pitched well last year, but

sustaining success has eluded him in the past. If he can be a constant force in the ninth inning, minimizing blown saves, will help the Brewers overcome their previous late inning struggles. With John Axford gone and the return of Francisco Rodriguez, there is some turnover in the bullpen, but it should be for the better. The Brewers traded Norichika Aoki to the Royals for Will Smith, a power lefty, initially viewed as a starting rotation candidate but now figures to be one of the top relievers for the Brewers. If Milwaukee can figure out its seventh, eighth and closing relievers, they should have a stable bullpen. A solid bullpen is a necessity in postseason play, so if the Brewers want to experience success, they need to have confidence in their late relief.

5. Younger Players Stepping up into Feature Roles: In order for this team to be successful, two specific younger players are going to have to play up to the expectations that were set by their debut's last year. Scooter Gennett and Khris Davis both have an opportunity to begin the season as Milwaukee's opening day starters. Davis has the leftfield spot almost all to himself, but Gennett will have to beat out Rickie Weeks for the everyday second baseman job. Gennett has shown that he has the bat of an everyday starter. Now he just has to prove that last season wasn't a fluke and that he can sustain those numbers for an entire season. If Davis can continue his power production, 11 home runs in 136 at bats, he will be a great addition to the starting lineup.

If these five pieces turn out alright for the Brewers, they could be looking at a possible trip back to the postseason. There are a lot of questions about this team, but they are all possible strengths.

THIS WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS Thursday, Feb. 20

Men's hockey vs. UW-Rivers Falls at 7 p.m.

Men and women's swimming at WIAC Championships

Friday, Feb. 21

Wrestling team at Augsburg College at 7 p.m.

> Men and women's swimming at WIAC Championships

Saturday, Feb. 22

Women's basketball at UW-Stout at 3 p.m.

Men's basketball Senior Night vs. UW-Stout at 7 p.m.

Men and women's track and field in Eastbay/ Pointer Invite

Men and women's swimming at WIAC Championships

Tuesday, Feb. 25

Women's basketball in WIAC Tournament Quarterfinals at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 26

Men's basketball in WIAC Tournament Quarterfinals at 7 p.m.

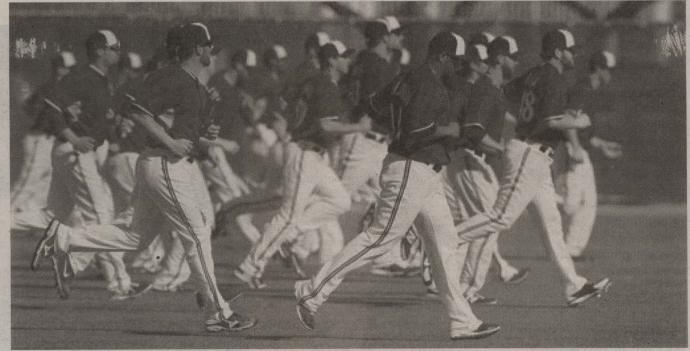


Photo courtesy of bigstory.ap.org.

Play4Kay Game Takes on Special Meaning For Two Pointers

UWSP ATHLETICS

From brat fries to basketball, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's basketball fights for more than just victories on the court.

Since its inception, Ministry Health Care's Project EmbraceTM has had, at the core of its mission, the desire to provide patients battling cancer with the comfort of a warm, fleece blanket.

And since 2008, the UWSP women's basketball team, in conjunction with a nationwide initiative by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, has partnered with Project Embrace to aid in its mission.

This season the Pointers have once again raised money under the umbrella of the WBCA's Play4Kay event and will keep the funds local, supporting Project Embrace.

But the 2013-2014 drive, which culminates in the annual Play4Kay game in which the Pointers don their pink jerseys, takes on an even greater meaning for two student-athletes.

Seniors Jenna Pitt and Claire Glodowski both from nearby Amherst, Wis., shared how this year's event has taken on an even greater meaning.

Pitt's grandmother passed away from ovarian cancer after years of

battling intense treatment. Currently, Pitt's aunt has been diagnosed with brain cancer and only has a few weeks left to live.

Glodowski has recently had two family members diagnosed with breast cancer, her grandmother and her aunt. Both were diagnosed within two weeks of each other.

"The pink game means more this year," Glodowski said. "It makes you

think of how much of a fighter people are who have been through cancer. We play this game for them to show we are here to support."

"This event allows us to be a part of something bigger than just a basketball game," Pitt said. "It gives us the opportunity to give back to our community, especially to those in need."

While it has been difficult, both

have found that this event, along with the strength and support of family and friends, have gotten them through the tough times.

"Seeing the number of people that have been touched by cancer is remarkable and having the opportunity to present the money we have raised to those who are such strong individuals and have faced extreme adversity is an indescribable feeling," Pitt said.

Linda Cook, the program creator, inspired project Embrace. After receiving three special blankets during her own battle with breast cancer, Cook wanted to share with other cancer patients the special feeling of warmth and comfort during treatment.

Each patient in the oncology center at Saint Michael's Foundation receives a warm, fleece blanket as a constant reminder of comfort during their journey.

"It's an event that makes you appreciate everything you are given in life and to not take anything for granted," Glodowski said. "It is incredible to see all of the people and fans who come to the game to support our program and all of the people fighting the battle against cancer. It is truly remarkable."

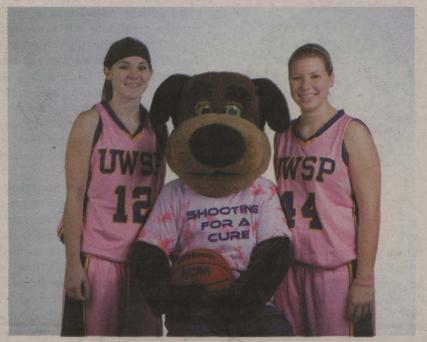


Photo by Jack McLaughlin Seniors Pitt (12) and Glodowski (44) pose with Stevie Pointer.

D'Avolio Shines in Sophomore Season

MARTY KAUFFMAN

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Only appearing in six games last year, Nick D'Avolio has made an impact this year playing center for the men's hockey team.

D'Avolio has been playing hockey since he was 3 years old and has spent three years playing junior hockey in Canada, Chicago, and Minnesota before coming to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

This year as a sophomore, D'Avolio has tallied 15 points on ten goals and five assists in 22 games.

Head coach Chris Brooks credits D'Avolio's offseason training as a big step forward for the center.

"Big development for him was offseason training and developing. He is bigger, faster, stronger," Brooks said.

Brooks believes D'Avolio's physical development has helped him in other parts of his game.

"His physical side has helped his mental game," Brooks said.

D'Avolio said his first year was a learning curve and gave perspective to where he was at in his game. Playing in only six games gave him the motivation to be better.

"I had a whole new mindset. Anything that it takes to be where I need to be," D'Avolio said.

He spent the offseason training on the ice everyday of the week and off-ice three to four days a week. Feeling confident coming into the beginning of the year, D'Avolio knew his training had already helped him improve.

Early injuries to team members provided D'Avolio opportunities to play and he took advantage of them.

"Early injuries got him in the line-up. He earned his way to get playing time," Brooks said.

D'Avolio has not taken the playing opportunities for granted this year.

"Makes you appreciate what you got. You have to take advantage of opportunities," D'Avolio said.

D'Avolio describes himself as a power forward and his work ethic as the best characteristic of his game. Coach Brooks agrees that D'Avolio's work ethic is one of his strengths.

"I'm not going to accomplish anything without working hard," D'Avolio said.

"He works hard and he loves the game. Nick's just

another piece of the puzzle," Brooks said. "He chips in offensively and he wins draws on face-offs."

Brooks hopes to see D'Avolio build off his success this season, and grow as a player. D'Avolio, when asked about his expectations for the future, took the focus off himself and focused more about the team succeeding.

"Keep doing what we are doing everyday and to be successful as a team and win," D'Avolio said.

The Pointers are coming off a weekend that saw them sweep a two game series against last seasons D-III National Champions UW-Eau Claire.

The Pointers currently stand third in the D-III national rankings with an overall record of 18-3-2.



Photo by Jack McLaughlin D'Avolio slaps a shot at goal in a game earlier this season.

POINTLIFE

Continued from page 1

sheet over my head when I sleep so my head doesn't freeze. You get used to the cold."

While the sub-zero cold has been a slight annoyance at times, Greenwood says it is all part of the experience.

"It's only a problem when my lantern has a hard time lighting and when I wake up in the morning and have to put my clothes on before I start the wood stove, which usually goes out during the night," Greenwood said. "It's also difficult to keep my water from freezing, which really isn't a big deal because I can just heat it up on my stove."

Greenwood stores his food that can be frozen in tin containers.

"The tin is to keep mice out, which I really haven't had much problems with, besides one time when I was gone for a few days and mice, along with chipmunks, stashed acorns all over my teepee including my bed," Greenwood said.

Greenwood stores food that cannot be frozen, like his wild, canned food, in a wooden box buried in the ground inside the teepee.

"The ground stays at a relatively constant temperature and prevents the food from freezing," Greenwood said.

Greenwood cooks with cast iron pots and pans on his wood stove during the colder months, and during the warmer seasons, he likes to cook outside in his fire pit.

"I prefer to eat wild foods because of their high nutrient content and lack of pesticides, but I do go to the grocery store once in a while for basic things like bread, cheese, eggs, fruits, and vegetables," Greenwood said. "But I am actually starting to prefer the taste of wild foods over cultivated."

Greenwood showers at the hockey rink after intramural hockey or at a friend's house if necessary.

"Showering every day is really

not healthy for your skin, but people seem to think it's necessary," Greenwood said.
"I usually shower twice a week, and I have never had anyone tell me that I smell bad. The smoke from my stove basically eliminates all other odors so I always just smell like a campfire."

Greenwood plans to live in a teepee for at least a few more years and then move on to other sustainable dwellings such as wigwams, yurts and log cabins.

"I refuse to live in a conventional home with all of the unnecessary amenities," Greenwood said.

Greenwood says that living in a teepee has allowed him to experience more of the joys of nature.

"Like sitting in my bed calling to the owls outside or listening to the woodpecker as it excavates the trees," Greenwood said. "Most days I get to watch the sunset, and every night I make it a point to look at the stars."

Greenwood says that he is more aware of the changes in weather and the seasons by living outside as well.

"For example, I never realized how long the fall colors lasted until I watched the progression day after day," Greenwood said.

"I would like to invite anyone who is interested in living closer to the earth or an alternative lifestyle to come out to my teepee and have a cup of tea and talk about living off the land, primitive living, and crafting," Greenwood said. "I want to share my experience and the joys of sustainable living."



Photo by Emily Hoffmann

Gerrid standing in his tepee among many animal skins and an assortment of baskets he has made.

Isolated Among 9 Million People

KIMMARIE GIEBEL kgieb901@uwsp.edu COMMENTARY

Studying abroad changes a person. You may have heard this before but may be unsure as to why.

Here in London, they say Americans and English are separated by a common language. That cannot be more factual. Many American and English words have different meanings altogether.

Life here is fast, which I expected, but it is so fast that people will run into you like you are non-existent when walking down the sidewalk. I

have grown to love it here, but this was a new experience for me.

I am optimistic and bubbly so I struggled with the fact that it is not customary to hug people when you meet them or to make eye contact on the street in London.

People prefer to keep to themselves, which at first felt very isolating. I could go an entire day and have no human contact or conversation with someone. I was out of my comfort zone.

At first I did not know how to react to this lack of human contact and interaction. As I continued to experience this in my daily life, I

started meeting people at my internship and near where I live and started having conversations about this isolation.

I eventually realized that people here are not unfriendly, rude or unhappy. They simply have been

taught to keep to themselves unless spoken to.

I have adapted to a new culture but have realized that if I want interaction, I need to initiate it.



Freeze Fest Brings Winter Joy to Students

MARY MARVIN

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Winter can be harsh for Wisconsinites, especially when we are seemingly endlessly trapped indoors. Freeze Fest is a week planned with winter in mind to get students out of the dorms and into the snow.

Freeze Fest is a competitive event where each residence hall is a team. The fest goes on for one week, with each hall competing to be the best.

For each event that students participate in, their hall earns points. This goes towards their team at the end of the week, when it is revealed who had the most students join in the fun.

Freeze Fest has been going on for over five years and is put on by the Residence Hall Association, which often hosts large events for the students in the halls.

"We never had something big for students to get involved in during these slushy, depressing winter months until Freeze Fest started." said Lauren Seward, special events chair for the Residence Hall Association.

It has now become an annual event, with RHA teaming up with dining services, Outdoor EdVentures and Centertainment Productions.

Hundreds of students partake

in Freeze Fest. The first event on Monday night, a bonfire at the Allen Center, had one hundred students in attendance. Students could also be involved with activities such as Tugof-War and 'dog sled races,' where four students pulled a sled manned

Freeze Fest include a snow sculpture competition, judged by the faculty and staff in the Residential Living Department, and a cookie decorating contest which any student can partake

Outdoor EdVentures is getting



Photo courtesy Residence Hall Association

May Roach residents celebrate their sled race victory at Freeze Fest on Monday.

by another student.

Other events coming up during

involved with a "Battleship" event

to be held in the pool. Four students

will get into a canoe as a team and try to sink the other "battleships" using only buckets of water.

After the Pointers hockey game on Thursday night, there will be latenight ice skating at the Willett ice arena. This ice skating event has been popular in the past.

Wrapping up Freeze Fest is an open concert held in Lower DeBot on Friday at 9 p.m. where We Are the Willows will be playing.

Other student organizations are getting involved in Freeze Fest. The Cupboard is benefiting from students bringing canned goods to the events which earns extra points for their

On Tuesday, RHA teamed up with dining services and hosted a "Pancake Extravaganza" as a fundraiser for The Cupboard.

Although students are a big part of the events, they are also at work behind the scenes.

"We have a huge number of volunteers who are making Freeze Fest happen, and without them Freeze Fest wouldn't be what it is today," Seward said.

Freeze Fest will end on Friday, Feb. 21 after a successful week of winter fun.

Soup and Substance Offers Fuel for Hungry Minds

MYKAYLA HILGART

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The Student Involvement and Employment Office offered the first Soup and Substance event of the spring semester last Tuesday. The event featured a guest speaker who offered advice to students regarding volunteer work and how to market those experiences when seeking employment.

Tiffany Hughes, the marketing and outreach coordinator at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Portage County, offered some information about the benefits of volunteer work, suggestions on how to get involved, and tips on how to incorporate that experience into resumes and

This information was shared over enormous pots of soup and baskets of rolls provided by the Dreyfus University Center food court that were free for the taking.

Hughes made it clear that students should aim to begin volunteering in high school if possible. It is not something that should be put off until the last semester of college.

"Putting off volunteer work makes employers cringe, so just start early and show your dedication," Hughes said.

Hughes made a point to mention that volunteer work will benefit students the most if they relate it to their area of study and/or intended career field. For instance, students looking to go into the human resources field should seek volunteer opportunities that heavily involve interpersonal communication skills with a variety of people. This could include volunteer work at retirement homes, day cares or schools.

While volunteering is nearly essential for human services jobs, the experience is valued by employers in every career field.

"Employers are humans just like you. They want to see that their applicants care. Dedicating your time to a cause shows that you are reliable, unselfish and give back to others," Hughes said.

Hughes also mentioned that while listing all volunteer experiences is impressive, having one or two standout long-term volunteer causes is ideal and will make a larger impact on employers.

To best incorporate volunteer experience into resumes, Hughes recommends using intriguing, detailed phrases and to include the skills obtained through those experiences.

If an employer does not directly ask about volunteer experience, it is still possible to mention it when asked the general questions such as, "What is something unique that you can bring to this company?"

In closing, Hughes said that confidence is key in any interviewing process and that volunteer experiences must be presented with

"Instead of asking yourself why you would be hired for this job, ask yourself why you wouldn't be hired," Hughes said.

Hughes suggested Big Brothers Big Sisters as a valuable volunteer experience and mentioned the upcoming campus event, Big for a Day, on March 8 which will allow students to see what it would be like to volunteer for the organization.

There will be two more Soup and Substance events throughout the course of the semester, both of which will also be focused on student life.

"I think these events are a great experience to discuss different topics and opportunities with other students. I came to this event because I am looking to gain more volunteer experience," said Sijia Xiang, a junior majoring in family and consumer

"The goal of Soup and Substance is to educate students on a wide variety of topics. This semester it is more focused on student life, while last semester was focused on different interest topics such as women's rights and composting," said Maria Pfundheller, student leadership and marketing coordinator at SIEO.

Pfundheller organizes all of the Soup and Substance events and says that all three of the topics set for this semester were widely suggested by students who attended the events last semester.



Photo by Emily Hoffmann

Tiffany Hughes from Big Brothers, Big Sisters addresses students about marketing their volunteer experience at Soup and Substance last week Wednesday.

Love in the Laird Room

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Love was in the air in the Laird room on Valentine's Day as singles from across campus gathered for Centertainment's speed dating event.

More than 50 students signed up for the event last Friday and even more students walked in as the event began.

"I think it went as well as it could have, I was very happy with the turn out," said Emily Wisniewski, a music education major at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point who coordinated the event.

The Laird room was lined with tables adorned with candles for students to talk to their various "dates." Each person had less than two minutes to introduce themselves and talk with the person sitting across from them until they rotated to the next person.

Of the population of students that showed up, the majority were male, which proved to be a bit of a surprise to some students that attended, but did not dampen their spirits.

"I think it's cool that they offer

events for non-couples on Valentine's Day," said Joe Kluetz, a psychology major at the university.

John Schoneman was in charge of running the event and was there early making sure that everything was in order before students arrived.

"There is a lot of a logistical stuff to worry about," Schoneman said.

The event itself was planned last semester by Wisniewski who was asked by Centertainment to plan something on the holiday.

"One of my dates fell on Valentine's Day so I figured some kind of dating event would be great," Wisniewski said.

Wisniewski was also in charge of making posters and running promotions for the event.

"I got a lot of emails saying the sign up sheet was full and asking if they could still come to the event," Wisniewski said.

Throughout the course of the event, students had a sheet with the first names of everyone they talked to and marked whether or not they wanted their contact information after the event. Every pair of students that both marked an interest in

contacting one another was emailed that person's information later in the week.

Speed dating seemed to be a success as the air buzzed with excitement throughout the course of the event. Some lucky students who showed mutual interest in one another will soon have the opportunity to go on dates, hopefully lasting longer than two minutes. But the event allowed everyone involved the chance to beat the single's blues on Valentine's Day.

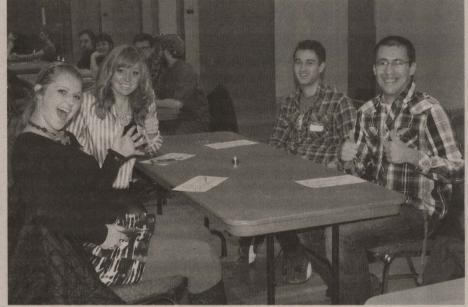


Photo by Morgan Schwantz Students speed dating on Valentine's Day.

Thoughts of an Indecisive Almost-Graduate

MOLLY FARLEY mfarl172@uwsp.edu COMMENTARY

Four or so years ago, many of us dressed in our (then) stainless University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point sweatshirts, were nudged through the front doors of our homes and onto the path of collegiate academia. Shocking as it may be, three months are all some of us have left of that journey.

Now, in our freshly purchased suits and pencil skirts, we are being nudged into interviews. Into engagements. Into reality.

Let's define "reality," here; reality is what we think we are supposed to do. Reality is walking the stage, smiling for a photo with a degree in hand, paying student loans and finding a suitable career for the next 40 years. That seems pretty normal, doesn't it? Realistic?

We have relentlessly considered various post-college ideas and plans over the past year as we have strived to wiggle our way into that normalcy. Or, we have avoided them at all costs.

Either way, we have had some inkling about the direction our futures will take; some will walk across the stage only to walk across another, earning a second degree to hang on the wall. Some will thrive in their career, bouncing to work with a smile and friendly greetings each day.

But what about the rest of us? What about the people who, after four years of uncertainty, still have not found clarity or made any decisions? What about those of us who, perhaps, don't want a plan?

Reality is not always defined as above. Sometimes reality is defined by the things a person deems most important. For me, it is defined by many things, but most importantly, it is defined by not having a plan.

Without plans after college, my future is not certain, and I may not have the privilege of clicking my heels into a building at 7:30 a.m. every morning, but I will tell you what my future is: unlimited.

Sure, that's terrifying. I think that's the reason most people do not forsake their plans; not having one defies societal expectations. It prohibits security.

I am not so sure I want security. Security after college means that my life has already peaked. It means that the wonders and terrors of Belt's, Schmeekle, blue book essays, befriending strangers, Polito's

befriending strangers, Polito's and decoding the architecture of the science building have been the best days of my life.

Undoubtedly, those things have indeed been an incredible experience. But I cannot imagine reminiscing in my old age (probably still wearing that UWSP sweatshirt), wondering why I let myself coast into an average life after college.

I want to challenge you, instead, to think of your future as your "glory days." The possibilities in the impending days are limitless. We are so capable. We have what it takes to do anything. If your dreams have been stifled by "reality," I want you to consider redefining

your reality.

If your reality is paying student loans, then think about the fact that one of the fastest-growing organizations in the world, Pencils of Promise, was started by a college dropout with \$25 in his bank account. You will always have debt, school-related or not. You will not always have youth and boundless opportunity.

You are part of a generation—part of this time, this one time, that will someday be inscribed in history books. You have the chance to advance your generation, this time in history, with the things you do in your life.

For some people, those things do not have to be earth shattering or paradigm shifting (though that is strongly encouraged), but rather, they are found within in the choices we make for ourselves and others each day. How are you using the time you have?

If you are ready to jump into a job or get married, do it. Do it and be proud of it. But if you have been dreamily staring out windows over the last few months, drowning in thoughts of "what if," "reality" and "I wish," then perhaps you should reconsider security. Perhaps you should allow yourself to fall into the great unknown, hold off on functional cars and pretty homes, and discover the things you are capable of.

Graduation does not mean the end of your reign; graduation is your release into what you have been waiting for—what the world has been waiting for.



CLASSIFIEDS AND OPINIONS

90 FM ALBUM REVIEW



Damien Jurado Brothers and Sisters of the Eternal Son'

DYLAN SHANAHAN dshan230@uwsp.edu

This album is singer song-writer Damien Jurado's 11th album and 7th album on the label Secretly Canadian. The Seattle based artist released Brothers and Sisters of the Eternal Son Jan. 21 of this year.

It shook the earth with its impactful, cognizant lyrics mixed with instrumentation that varies and brings indie music to a whole new eminence.

The album blissfully grabs your ears and makes you listen; it's just something you can't turn away from. Something as bold as this album can only be characterized in Joshua Tillman's own words, "You might go as far as to call it a religion, and your religion is a character in his religion. Damien Jurado made up his own Jesus because a Damien Jurado album needs a beautiful Jesus."

The album art has Wisconsin roots as well because the dome

featured on the cover is Milwaukee's own Mitchell Park Conservatory Dome placed in some odd alternative universe. Daniel Murphy, the artist behind the cover, has done other notable Wisconsin related cover art, such as the Grammy award winning Bon Iver's self-titled album.

When it comes to the music, tracks such as "Magic Number," "Silver Timothy" and "Silver Donna" show such innovation in terms of musical dynamics and lyricism, it's enough to make you melt.

The most accessible aspect of the album is definitely the polyphonic expression and articulation of each song's form. It reels you in with enigmatic openings only to come through in full force with a sonic landscape that would make Mozart shudder.

Every time I listen to this album it's the first time every time and that's something you can never take away from an artist's work; it's just that

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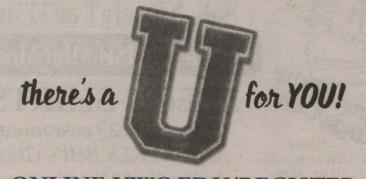
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Puzzle by Kiah Hardy

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New to HBO: "True Detective"

WILL ROSSMILLER

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If you have HBO or have access to an HBO GO account, then you need to check out the original series "True Detective."

The eight episode mini series is right in the middle of its inaugural season and has caught the attention of audiences and critics alike.

The show's creator, lead writer, and executive producer is Nic Pizzolatto ("The Killing"). He provides an impeccable story with a witty and dark script.

The show follows two detectives, Matthew McConaughey ("Dallas Buyers Club") and Woody Harrelson ("The Hunger Games") as they follow a deep and dark mysterious case.

The two characters are polar opposites as far as personality goes, but their methods of detective work are incredibly effective.

The show is based in Louisiana and offers a beautiful backdrop of bayou scenery that, coming from the Midwest, I'm not familiar with.

Every episode has you on the edge of your seat, with each weeklong break between episodes feeling like a month long wait.

For those that are worried about getting into another long-term commitment with a show, there is no need to worry. Each season is a different story. The eight episodes are basically an eight-hour movie, making it a small commitment for viewers.

The music, produced by T-Bone Burentt ("O Brother, Where Art Thou?"), is outstanding and fits into every scene that it is placed.

I may be a little biased, but since "Breaking Bad" now finished, "True Detective" is is my favorite drama currently on television.

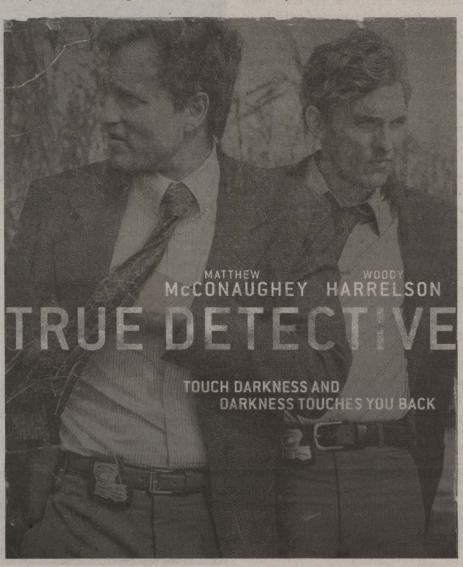


Photo courtesy of digilib.bu.edu

The Crucible Captures Fear on the Stage

AARON VOEKS

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Jenkins Theatre in the Noel Fine Arts Center is alive with activity this month as students in the theatre department gear up for their performance of the "The Crucible."

"The Crucible" is based on the Salem Witch Trials of 1692 and portrays a town torn apart by girls claiming to be attacked by witches. The situation escalades horrifically as more members of the town are accused of practicing witchcraft.

Alex Gudding, a senior Bachelor of Fine Arts acting major, plays John Proctor in this production. Being one of the leads, he is a large part of the work that goes into the show.

"My favorite part is being able to utilize all of the skills I've been garnering and really putting them into one solid character," Gudding said.

Gudding also shared his experience stepping into the shoes of John Proctor to really capture his emotions

"The role is really forcing me to explore areas of myself that I've never had to delve into before," Gudding said.

Cast members aren't just limited to upperclassmen, though. Katie Bowler, a freshman BFA actress, plays Betty in the show.

"I'm really enjoying being able to work with other members of the theatre department," Bowler said.

Bowler described the transition between high school stages and college stages as a pleasant one.

"Everyone is so focused here and it is lovely and encouraging to me," Bowler said.

However, student involvement does not stop with the acting crew. Students take on all parts of the production including set design, costuming and make up.

Lindsey Paquette, a senior Bachelor of Arts actress, is the assistant director of the show.

"My duties are to assist Jared, our head director, with anything he may need," Paquette said. Being assistant director does not just mean getting the faculty coffee either.

"He asks for my input on how to block and stage things. He's always asking if I have ideas to make things work better," Paquette said.

When asked about how the audience will react to the show, all three students responded by talking about fear.

"I think the audience is going to be facing their fears through the characters," Paquette said.

Both Gudding and Bowler shared similar remarks.

"Fear is ever present in this show and that is something that drives every character," Bowler said.

Attendees of "The Crucible" can expect to see an exiting show full of brilliant student actors, meticulously practiced stage action, and an expression of fear as they have likely never experienced before.

"The Crucible" opens on Feb. 28, with performances March 1-2 and March 6-8

JinMan Jo Art Exhibit Provides Social Commentary

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The Scarabocchio Art Museum located in downtown Stevens Point at 800 Main St. is featuring the JinMan Jo exhibit until March 20, giving the community an opportunity to explore one of the city's most industrial exhibits.

"The purpose of JinMan Jo's exhibit is trying to discuss a lack of interaction in society," said Anna Conrad, a volunteer gallery attendant at the Scarabocchio Art Museum.

Conrad elaborated on the distractions that University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students face today with the existence of popular social networking sites such as Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. These are relevant in nearly every aspect of a students daily life.

"It is a pessimistic exhibit," Conrad said.

Conrad's feelings about the exhibit seem to align with the artist's interpretation of his own work as Jo elaborated on in promotional cards for the exhibition.

"I have been motivated to explore and interpret identity and self consciousness in society and to express this in my sculptural works," said Jo who is also an assistant professor for the 3D fountational course for the UWSP art department.

One of Jo's pieces called "Scream Without Sound" is valued at \$85,000 while "Self Consciousness II" is valued at \$78,000. Conrad felt that the industrial look of Jo's sculptures may attract a male audience.

"These pieces are very tactile, industrial and textured qualities that may be appealing to young men," Conrad said. Conrad went on to express her gratitude for being able to have the exhibit at all.

"This is an opportunity for students to value what professors do outside of the classroom. Also, work of their peers may be featured," Conrad said.

Works of UWSP students as well as works of Ben Franklin Jr. High School students are scattered throughout the upper level of the Scarabocchio Art Museum.

Jo's focus on societal commentary may be fascinating to those visiting the exhibit throughout the months of February until mid-March.

"I have great concern and distress as I view the world in this current condition. I take the energy of these feelings and use them to express my hope for humanity, for others, and for myself," Jo said.

Jo's attention to the status of current human interaction is a theme throughout his exhibit. This focus may just invoke discussion about conversational habit for those who visit, and perhaps, for Jo's interest, spark change in the way we interact.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Two Dudes, One Film - "The Lego Movie"

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Movies can be viewed in many ways. One view is from a consumer standpoint and another is from a more technical standpoint, like that of a filmmaker.

For these film reviews we will analyze movies from both perspectives in order to give an in-depth look at the world of cinema.

This week we will be reviewing "The Lego Movie," directed by Phil Lord and Christopher Miller ("21 Jump Street"). The movie features an ensemble cast with Will Ferrell, Will Arnett, Elizabeth Banks, Morgan and Chris Pratt, among others.

The story follows Emmet, voiced by Pratt, as he tries to save the Lego world from President Business, voiced by Farrell.

When a story's main subject is focused around Legos, it brings a bright and vibrant color pallet.

We saw this movie in 3-D, which we felt brought depth and life to an otherwise inanimate object. With 3-D comes stereotypical effects and gimmicks such as objects popping out at the viewer.

"The Lego Movie" did the exact opposite. It utilized this technology to its advantage without it becoming blatantly obvious to the audience.

With the title of the movie comes certain stipulations, viewers can expect everything to be made out of Lego. However, they use this ploy in a very creative and clever way,

such as explosions, water, and clouds, among others.

The music of the film was like a typical child's movie-- catchy and upbeat. This added to the excitement and cheerful tone of the film.

There are many big names attached to this movie, but each voice actor played a character outside of their normal realm. We had no idea which actors were attached to each character within the story.

The main exception to this rule would be Morgan Freeman's character. He plays almost a godly figure, which brings us back to "Bruce

The writing in this movie was not what one would normally expect. It was funny on multiple levels. Lord and Miller provided laughs for all ages, even adults.

This was not like a typical children's film. It was a genuinely smart comedy for adults and provided slapstick humor for the younger age demographic.

The main reason we think this movie is worth seeing would be its nostalgia factor. Most adults had or know what Legos are and the film transports you back to your childhood with one of your favorite toys.

The emotional value was equal across the board for all viewers who grew up with Legos.

We both agreed with audience and critic's opinions regarding this film. We both felt reluctant to see the film due to the possible plot deficiencies, but we both came out pleasantly surprised.



Photo courtesy of collider.com

An Evening Out with SGA-Kristen's Riverwalk

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This week, myself and a few members of SGA headed to Kristen's River Walk, located at 1140 Clark St. in downtown Stevens Point. Joining me was Charlie Greiber, Ryan Specht, David Boardman, Kiah Hardy and Geoff Murray.

Kristen's has a strong Wisconsin supper club vibe with a cozy bar in the front with upholstered booths and more simple tables and chairs in

The crowd gathered here tonight had something much more important on their minds than just good food and drink. They also gathered for trivia. Kristen's features a volunteer driven trivia night each Wednesday at 7 p.m. The regulars here for trivia are subdued and friendly, with a median age hovering in the 30s. A family of four sits in a corner, with a large stained glass sailor ascending from behind them. They play as team "My Little Pony."

A muddled voice intermittently rises over older pop songs while posing questions that are just night for everyone from the jock to the computer nerd. It is a very relaxed atmosphere with no need to register online, hand someone your email, or sign up for some annoying rewards program. You just walk in a tad before 7 p.m. and let the gentleman at the bar know your group would like to play.

I ordered the Bloody Mary to start with. Garnished with a pickle, olives and a mushroom, this bloody is a welcome change from bland storebought mixes. I recommend ordering it spicy and mixing half of the beer chaser in when you are about done with the drink.

Kristen, the owner, is proud to use fresh local ingredients when available and offers one of the best homemade bloody mixes in town. It is immediately apparent that she loves her business and wants to make sure you have a great visit.

For an appetizer I ordered the spinach and artichoke dip. I was immediately disappointed, as it had the appearance of tzatziki sauce mostly sour cream with only a sprinkling of spinach throughout the mixture and five slivers of artichoke.

the right difficulty to make it a fun The sauce was bland and lacking texture. I found myself digging through the sour cream in search of morsels of flavor without any luck. Geoff and I could not actually bring ourselves to finish this dish and pawned it off on Ryan who is willing to eat almost anything.

> For the main course, I ordered the Cajun blackened burger. Unlike the appetizer, this is a must try in Stevens Point. The burger was rich, fatty and spicy. The meat was a perfect medium rare, browned on the outside with a juicy pink middle. Generous portions of pepper jack cheese and jalapenos coated the top of the burger, between two lightly toasted sesame seed buns.

> Ryan ordered the Caribbean jerk sandwich, which he described as being very mild and not at all overpowering. The sandwich was nice and had good flavor but won't knock you on your ass. If you're looking for traditional Caribbean spice, you won't find it here. The chicken was perfect - not too dry or moist.

> Charlie ordered the patty melt, which he thought was pretty good. The patty was covered in caramelized onions that were undeniably

delicious. The marbled rye was toasted and not soggy. The patty was cooked perfectly to order and in the end was a nice Wisconsin standard worth ordering again.

David and Kiah ordered the baked French onion soup, which they described as decadent. It was heavy on the onion, with fresh, crisp onions saturating the soup and abundance of nicely browned cheese layering the top. They both recommended this

We all agreed that Kristen's fries are some of the best in town. They are straight and natural cut, with skins left on here and there. Not too crisp and not too limp, the fries were loaded with flavor. I would have killed for a nice curry sauce to go with

Overall, Kristen's is a must visit if you're living in Stevens Point. You will not find white-linen high class dining here and the menu is not too extensive, but they make one hell of a burger and fries. With an assortment of delicious beers on tap, a caring bartender, and friendly patrons, Kristen's personifies the ideal Wisconsin bar & restaurant.