

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

September 11, 2014

pointeronline.uwsp.edu

Volume 59 | Issue 2

Theatre Department Kicks Off the Year with Orientation and a Picnic



Continued on page

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This year, students enrolled in the Theatre and Dance Department at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point prepare for another rigorous course load, but not without kicking off the year with a picnic.

Gary Olsen, the department chair of theatre and dance, knows just

how demanding the program is. The purpose of the orientation, held in the Noel Fine Arts Center, is to inform students of the expectations and how they can flourish in their majors.

"The hope is to provide the students with tools and information to be successful," Olsen said. For Olsen, it is important that the students know exactly what the expectations are and

the steps they can take to meet those expectations.

At the beginning of orientation, the students split up into smaller groups based on their majors. Afterward, all theatre and dance majors came together to discuss important issues for the upcoming year.

"We have guest speakers talk

to the students," Olsen said. "We also have representatives from the counseling center and the Tutoring and Learning Center come in."

The guest speakers help inform the students of the resources available to them if they find they require those services. LGBTQ+ friendly organizations are also identified.

Following the orientation,

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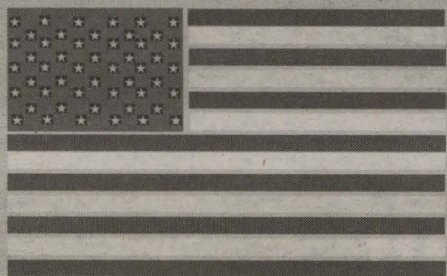


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The Pointer

NEWS



As We Remember the Past, We Must Prepare for the Future

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Today marks the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on our nation. We are reminded of the destruction and loss of thousands of lives.

That morning, I remember sitting in my first grade classroom watching the television. I wondered why these acts were important enough to interrupt my reading class. My 6-year-old brain could not understand the severity of the attacks or how they would affect our nation's future.

When I got home from school that day, my parents were watching the news. The terrifying scenes seemed to be on a loop, and every time they played on the screen, showing the planes crash into the twin towers, I finally began to understand. I became more frightened and realized that maybe my home in the seemingly indestructible United States was not as safe as I always thought.

In the coming weeks, I worried that planes would crash into my school or someone would take over

my bus on my way to school in the morning. Even though those scenarios were highly unlikely since my town contained no more than two bars and a gas station, the fear was real.

Though most of that day's tragedies aren't always on our minds, we do need to remember this horrific event. I am thankful that I no longer have that same unnerving feeling of an attack as I did as a first grader. I need to take a few minutes on this day to remember that feeling, though, and to be thankful that our troops no longer have a substantial presence in the Middle Eastern.

As President Obama prepares our nation for airstrikes against Islamic extremists in Somalia and Yemen, I remember the fear I had as a young girl facing the unknown fate of our nation. Today, we are reminded of more than our loss on Sept. 11, 2001. We are reminded that the fight for freedom is not easily won and that the war against terrorism will continue.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Wednesday, September 3rd

Student called and stated that he found his bike and wanted the lock cut off it.

Friday, September 5th

Female called requesting a ride home from the CAC because she did not have another mode of transportation.

Saturday, September 6th

Student and his mother called to speak to an officer about the ticket they received for parking in the fire lane on Isadore Street.

HEC staff member called in to report skateboarders on the railings behind the Berg gym and was concerned about safety.

Female in the suites called in to report that bikes were just laying there with no evidence of owners nearby.

Individuals who possessed open intoxicants were spotted running away toward Neale and Baldwin.

THE POINTER

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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.

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Senator Tammy Baldwin Discusses College Affordability with Students

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Sen. Tammy Baldwin met with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students at a round-table event last Thursday to discuss the affordability of higher education and loan debt with the intent of bringing students' concerns to Washington.

"Tuition has skyrocketed," said Sen. Baldwin. "It would be ideal to see the work penalty eliminated and have college become more affordable for everyone, regardless of their background."

Baldwin is a co-sponsor of the Bank on Students Act, which would allow those with outstanding student loan debt to refinance at the lower interest rates currently offered to new borrowers. The bill was obstructed in June and Baldwin wants the Senate to vote on it again.

According to the Department of Education, 25 million people would benefit from this legislation.

Many students that attended the discussion believe that financial illiteracy is one of the major problems affecting student borrowers.

"I have not paid that much attention to how much my total debt is and I am not exactly sure how it is calculated," said junior English education major Andre White.

Students think that if there had been more opportunities for them to learn about the workings of financial aid and loan debt in high school, borrowing money in college would have gone smoother.

"My scholarships actually equal out to be more than my tuition, so I had to start paying that money back out of pocket," said junior political science major Rika Calvin. "It is a bittersweet feeling, but I wish I had known about this override status."

Baldwin is also introducing the Working Student Act, which would increase the amount working students can earn without decreasing

their need-based financial aid offerings.

Sometimes, students simply cannot afford to accept unpaid internships and job shadowing, despite the valuable experience they provide. Many need more summer income to support themselves during the academic year.

"I have to work summer jobs out of the field I am going into so I can make more money, but then I do not always gain the experience I need," said senior psychology major Courtney Gonnering. "In the process, I make enough so that I am not eligible for grants."

Baldwin's main objective is to see higher education be made more affordable for everyone so they have the opportunity to set themselves up for a successful career and earn a higher wage. In turn, that higher wage will allow them to buy homes, automobiles and start businesses to strengthen the economy.

United Way Ensures Students are Aware of Resources

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United Way of Portage County collaborates with 34 partner programs and agencies to create opportunities and lend a helping hand to all members of the community, including University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students.

"We want to reassure students that they are indeed citizens of Stevens Point," said John Jury, a United Way co-chair. "There sometimes seems to be a glass wall, but students are just as big of a part of the community as everyone else."

Students often become affiliated with United Way through volunteer activities.

"Volunteering does not take that much time, and there are so many specific skills that can be acquired from it," said Dory Jury, a United Way co-chair. "It is a great opportunity to work with children, be a mentor and give back to the community."

Students frequently volunteer through Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Salvation Army's Hope Center,

Learn for Life, and a variety of other programs supported by United Way.

The Jurys stressed that many people find their life's work through volunteering. It is not only a way for students to improve their resumes, but also an opportunity to gain hands-on experiences that cannot be achieved in the classroom setting.

"We want to reassure students that they are indeed citizens of Stevens Point,"
— John Jury, United Way co-chair

Students also become involved with United Way through employment and internships.

"A number of our directors were students at one time," said David Morgan, the CEO of the Stevens Point Area YMCA. "That includes our senior director of operations, senior director of youth development, school age child care director, facility

services director, foundation director and many of our full-time teachers. It has been a great relationship."

Morgan said the YMCA childcare center's success can be directly attributed to the support United Way provides.

"It allows us to continue to provide scholarships for families so

students can go to school without the financial burden of child care costs."

Students can also directly receive assistance through United Way.

"Although it is not the ideal situation, we have seen students that get suspended and just have nowhere to go," John Jury said. "We temporarily put them up in the Hope Center."

United Way's communications and marketing director Scott Steuck said students should also be aware of United Way's 2-1-1 number. Whether emergency assistance is needed or an individual wants to inquire about community service or volunteer opportunities, they can simply call at any time to be connected with an operator for free confidential information.

"I think that it is very valuable for students, especially those who are nontraditional, to be aware of the programs that are available to them in the community," said Katie Cronmiller, the Student Government Association vice president.

Former Administrator Donates Land to UWSP

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A retired administrator and educator for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has recently donated 14 acres of property in northeast Portage County to the UWSP Foundation for education and research.

Burdette Eagon donated the land located four miles north of the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station. The station hosts programs that focus on educating adults and youth on the important balance between the environment and the community.

The land will be used by undergraduate students researching stream studies on Flume Creek and those participating in wildlife observation. It will also be available to children attending school field trips and day camps.

"This wonderful gift of land is just one more demonstration of a lifetime of dedication by Bud and Sarah Eagon and their family to the ideals of education at UWSP," said Christine Thomas, the dean of the College of Natural Resources. "Thousands of school children each year will benefit from lessons on this beautiful property under the careful guidance of UWSP students, faculty, and staff of the CWES. The CNR is grateful to the Eagons for this opportunity."

Students are equally excited about this chance to expand their knowledge of the greater Portage County area.

"I think it was a wonderful and selfless gift Eagon gave," said communication major Marissa Mahnke. "Students here are all very focused on what we can do to give back to the environment. Having access to all of that land and water will help us do that."

CWES director Scott Johnson said the land will be incredibly beneficial to the students using the facility. With the frontage on Flume Creek, students will have access to a Class 1 trout stream that flows into the Little Wolf River.

"People do not understand how exciting this is for a land use planning major and for any type of natural resource major, in fact," said junior Sydney Swan. "To have another nature reserve to study and research will create a really intriguing learning environment for us."

The land was named in honor of Eagon and his wife, who passed away in 2000. Before it was the Burdette and Sarah Eagon Nature Education Preserve, the land was considered an oasis for the Eagon family. For 30 years, the Eagons would hike through the land admiring the abundant amount of trees and flowers, showing their seven children the importance of nature.



Photo by Scott Johnson

Former administrator Burdette Eagon and the sign designating his land donation.

"My children have always been so impressed with the services that UWSP offers, and I thought they would put the most use to the land," Eagon said. "It is good to get outside and see what you find."

Eagon served as vice chancellor of academic affairs for the university's School of Education. After 33 years of service, Eagon retired in 1984. Aside from his numerous accomplishments serving on the administration board,

Eagon also created and implemented the Native American Center at UWSP in 1978.

"Bud and Sarah have been wonderful supporters of UWSP for many years, and this land donation is an outstanding example of their lifelong commitment to education," said Chancellor Bernie Patterson. "We are grateful for this generous gift and pleased to continue the Eagon legacy at this nature preserve."

UWSP Research Team Contributes to Renewable Energy Research

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This summer, associate professor of chemistry Jason D'Acchioli and a team of students conducted original research that could potentially be used to lessen dependence on petroleum in today's changing climate.

Their research focuses on improving the catalysis process in creating hydrogen with new compounds. A catalyst is anything that speeds up a chemical reaction by lowering the amount of energy that a reaction needs to occur. In what is called a water-gas shift reaction, liquid water and carbon monoxide are put under pressure to form carbon dioxide and hydrogen.

While the exact mechanism is unknown, the research is focusing on creating better molecules to drive that process. As it stands, the materials used in most industrial catalyses are expensive, rare metals.

The materials the lab here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point range from \$250 to \$400 for a single gram. In trying to

balance efficiency and affordability, the research team is working on designing new molecules that will hopefully improve the conversion.

Sophomore biology major Alex Eschmann was pleased that she was able to stick around campus during the summer and earn credit in addition to getting paid to do research.

"I really like that I was able to help create something that nobody ever had before," Eschmann said.

Eschmann worked primarily with a material called osmium, but the lab also worked extensively with ruthenium and iron.

"Ruthenium is an interesting material to work with because its catalysis works at ambient temperatures," D'Acchioli said.

This is particularly useful in industrial settings because a majority of the energy used in producing hydrogen gas is creating the right reaction conditions.

The first phase of the research was designing the compounds, and this fall the team is going to test the efficacy of their creations. After

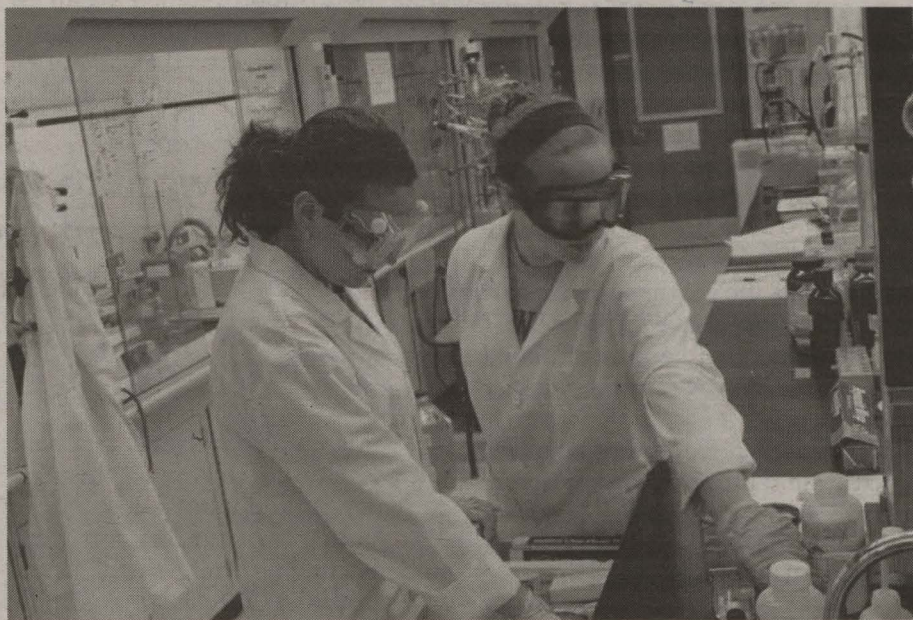


Photo by Scott Tappa

Eugenia Wulff-Fuentes and Alexandra Eschmann do research that may lessen dependency on petroleum.

seeing if the compounds work, the next step will be to optimize their use by changing the reaction conditions. While optimistic about the project's future, D'Acchioli mentioned that the research slows down during the school year due to busy schedules.

With the end goal of complete independence from fossil fuels, D'Acchioli and his research team can stay motivated and passionate about their work as they continue the search for a better way to produce hydrogen gas.

Founder of To Write Love on Her Arms Visits Campus

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Jamie Tworkowski, founder of To Write Love on Her Arms, came to campus Wednesday to discuss his nonprofit organization as the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point starts its own chapter to help people who suffer from mental

illness.

The organization aims to erase the negative stigma that depression has and also lend support to those suffering from self-inflicted harm and addiction.

The event started with slam poetry—artist Sierra DeMulder reciting her poems. In her poems, she

covered subjects such as depression and anorexia. Following her thought-provoking performance, Tworkowski took the stage to tell the story behind his organization.

"I think the organization is important because it's bringing attention to a taboo subject," said sophomore English and philosophy major Kelly Krill.

Throughout his presentation Tworkowski mentioned that his organization strives to get people talking about issues that are considered taboo. He was inspired to draw attention to these issues after seeing a friend struggle with some.

Tworkowski explained the origin of the organization's title comes from the hateful words his friend carved on her arms. His friend suffered from depression and addiction. After witnessing her struggle, he made it his goal to help her write love on her arms.

"I think the organization is amazing," said sophomore arts management major Lauren Jenquin. "It's a great source for those who are struggling."

Jenquin first found out about the organization through Myspace in 2008. She felt compelled to attend the event because she thinks the organization is inspiring.

Some students attended the event for more personal reasons.

"I was able to relate to some of the topics that the Tworkowski touched on," said sophomore criminal justice major GaNou Yang.

Yang enjoyed hearing the story behind the organization as well as the number of people that depression affects.

"I don't know a lot of people that suffer from depression, and it made me realize that it is more common than I expected," Yang said.

Tworkowski wants his organization to be an outlet people can use to talk about their issues and help prevent them from feeling alone.

He hopes that speaking at schools all over the country and world will help bring light to subjects that have been in the dark for so long. Getting people to talk about their problems and seek help is the first step in writing love on their arms.



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

Jamie Tworkowski, the founder of To Write Love on Her Arms.

SPORTS

Spud Bowl Celebrates Agriculture in Central Wisconsin

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The 28th annual Spud Bowl took place on Sept. 6 at Goerke stadium with a Pointers' victory against Albion College. The Spud Bowl raises awareness of potato agriculture in Central Wisconsin.

"It's about creating awareness and celebrating how important agriculture is to the lifestyle in central Wisconsin and we're honored to be a part of it," said head coach Tom Journell.

One of the highlights of this year's event featured the second annual Spud Run/Walk. The event also featured a spudmobile, detailing a brief history while giving away free potatoes.

"Raising awareness about local agriculture with an event like this is important because agriculture plays a large role in our local economy and accounts for more than 150,000 agriculture-related jobs in our region," said Tony Romano, former Spud Bowl committee chair and Pointer football alumni.

Activities started at 4 p.m. with the Spud Run. Participants received a t-shirt, a choice between French fries or a baked potato, and a ticket to the game. Awards were given to the top three racers in each age group.

"The Spud Bowl is something that brings the whole community together. All of Stevens Point can take pride in it and I can take pride

in playing in it," said senior captain defensive back Zach Vallasfskey.

Spud Run participants are not the only people who received potatoes. Prior to kickoff and during the first portion of the game, free spuds were given out to anyone who wanted them.

"We're going from 500 to 1000 servings of potatoes this this year, we ran out before the game started last year," said Spud Bowl liaison Ann Ninnemann.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team headed into the game with a Spud Bowl record of 23-4 facing the Albion Britons for the third time in Pointers' history. Both of the previous games resulted in victories for UWSP.

Fortunately, as the last of the potatoes were given away and after a slow start, the Pointers were able to turn the game around. The game resulted in a 42-31 Pointer win.

"I love the atmosphere every year. We always get a big crowd," Vallasfskey said.

With this win under their belts, the Pointers hope to head into a successful season.

"The whole league will be tough. Looking at the schedule will wear you out but I always tell my guys three things: play hard, play smart, and play together. Even though we don't say it out loud everyone knows we're looking for the conference title," Coach Journell said.

In addition to bringing the



Photos by Jack McLaughlin

UWSP defeated Albion College 42-31 in the Spud Bowl last Saturday.

community together for agricultural awareness the proceeds are used to award scholarships to students that, among other criteria, have a farming or agricultural background.

"It's really nice, giving back to farmers in Central Wisconsin and their families that go here," Journell said.

Each year multiple scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$750 are distributed.

"This year we gave out five \$750 scholarships. The students need an

agricultural background, but they don't need to major in it," Ninnemann said.

For nearly three decades, the Spud Bowl is still a big hit. More than 50 different companies have sponsored the event that helps support our local farmers.

"There aren't many activities more exciting than college football under the lights, especially the home-opener. Get out, get involved, and enjoy the game with your fellow Pointers," Romano said.

Three Things to Know About the Packers

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The Green Bay Packers lost to the Seattle Seahawks 38-16 in the NFL season opener on Sept. 4.

After the loss, the Packers now prepare for the New York Jets to come to Lambeau Field in week two. Here's what everyone needs to know about the Packers after week one.

1 The offense will get back on track:

During training camp the hype of the no-huddle offense the Packers would run was hyped as much as the opener. The belief was the offense would be able to move fast not allowing the praised Seattle defense to be set the entire game, but the offense was stopped most of the night. Aaron Rodgers called the Seahawks' defense "a great defense" after a rough night that saw him held to an average of 5.7 yards per attempt. It didn't help that they only threw the ball to one side of the field, as Rodgers avoided Seattle cornerback Richard Sherman all game. Don't expect similar results this week against the Jets; the Packers will

2 The defense has work to do:

There's been hope for the last couple seasons that the Packers defense have fixed their problems and are capable of being a top five defense again. In Seattle that wasn't the case. The Packers gave up a total of 398 yards to the Seahawks. Missed tackles was the biggest flaw for the defense as Seattle running back, Marshawn Lynch, ran the ball 20 times for 110 yards with two touchdowns making the defense look inadequate. The inside linebacker position has been a problem for a couple seasons and it was non-existent in Seattle with only eight total tackles. Brad Jones had one of the worst games of his career missing tackles, dropping an

interception, and having an ill-timed penalty. The other starter, AJ Hawk, was rarely mentioned during the game, only tallying four tackles. For the defense to succeed the linebacker position needs to make plays, and the defense needs to make tackles or else teams will run all over them just like Seattle. The loss of nose tackle, B.J. Raji, showed as Letroy Guion was dominated most of the game, and his play will need to improve for the defense to succeed. For the many negatives there were some positives. The duo of Clay Matthews and Julius Peppers had some good pass rushes throughout the game. Cornerbacks Sam Shields and Tramon Williams played solidly, while rookie Ha Ha Clinton-Dix made some rookie mistakes, but showed great potential with his awareness for the ball as he was in the right spots all game.

3 The season is a marathon:

It's always nice to start the season with a win, but the Packers have now lost the season opener three years in a row. The worst thing about that statistic is those losses have come

to Seattle Seahawks and the San Francisco 49ers who are the teams the Packers need to beat if they want to win a Super Bowl. With that being said, this Packers team is in a good position because they're one of the best teams in the NFL. After losing week one last season the Packers dominated the Washington Redskins at home 38-20. Don't be surprised if that happens again. Injuries will still be a problem as they have already begun with B.J. Raji already out for the season, and injuries suffered to Bryan Bulaga and Eddie Lacy in week one. The injuries to Lacy and Bulaga seem to be short term, but injuries will always affect the team and the philosophy if next man up will continue. The loss in Seattle wasn't good, but the Packers can learn from playing the defending champions and make adjustments for the rest of the season to make sure they're not dominated like that again.

SPORTS

Women's Soccer Prepares for 2014

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After a tough season in 2013, the women's soccer team united and prepared to compete in 2014 for a conference championship.

Head coach Megan Schmidt feels great about the potential of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point team this year after a tough season.

"Last season I compared it to the Packers with a young team, we had injuries and played a lot of close 1-0 games that didn't go our way," Schmidt said. "This past season gave the team motivation to work harder in the off season to make this team successful."

Junior forward Jillian Ross agrees with her coach that the 2013 season was enough motivation for this year.

"We all came in ready and in good shape looking to not have similar results from last season," Ross said.

The Pointers opened the season with a tough schedule. They feel it shows they can compete and continue to progress as a team.

"The schedule is tough and there might come losses, but I think we learn more from playing tougher teams than beating bad teams 5-0," Schmidt said.

After starting 0-2, UWSP beat St. Olaf 4-1 giving the team a much need confidence booster.

"St. Olaf is great competition, and this last game was nice to put goals in the net and get a huge weight lifted off our shoulders," Schmidt said. "The variety of goals was impressing and when you keep scoring those types of goals it gives you the confidence to take the risks scoring those goals."

Ross led the team that game, tallying two of the four goals, but credits her teammates for her success. "We trusted our system, then connected and created opportunities with a lot of passing patterns in practice, and we clicked very well by breaking down their defense," Ross said.

The team feels they have a strong bond on and off the field.

"We all love each other, we are like sisters and best friends on and off the field," Ross said. "It's more than just a teammate to teammate relationship."

The unity of the team is something Schmidt noticed this season.

"This team's chemistry and respect for each other is greater than I have seen in years past," Schmidt said. "They know each other very well, they know how to push each

other, show everyone respect, and there's always going to be someone there to help."

Schmidt feels the tough competition will prepare the team for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Schmidt wants the team to believe they can be the best in the WIAC.

"I will always pick us number one. We are not okay with being average, and I want the mindset for our team to be the best," Schmidt said. "We are a tough team and that's our tradition."

The coaching staff has given the teammates the motivation to give it their all every time they go on the field.

"If they expect us to be number one we have to go out there and play like number one," Ross said.



Photos by Jack McLaughlin

Left photo: Soccer team huddles before game against St. Olaf. Right photo: Jillian Ross puts a shot on net against St. Olaf.

Pointers Tennis Sights Set on Spring Tournament

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After narrowly missing a top four position in the conference, entrance into the spring tournament and the qualifying round to the national tournament last year, the women's tennis team is determined to achieve those positions this season.

"I would say our biggest goal is to be fourth in conference and go to the spring tournament. We were so close last year," said senior captain Kristen Finstad.

Last year the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's tennis team had its most successful season in five years. The team finished fifth in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, missing fourth place by just one point.

"We are a young team, and we are going to continue to grow. We have a bright future ahead of us,"

said second year head coach Deena Gordon.

The Pointers graduated two of their top singles players and are now looking to replace those players, in addition to vacant doubles positions.

"We have a really nicely balanced team with everyone pushing everyone. We are working hard to find the new doubles teams and the best fit for doubles partners. We have some of last year's freshmen stepping into those singles spots," Gordon said.

Hayley Schlueter and Katelyn Asfeld return to the team as sophomores and will be filling those available singles spots. Finstad and fellow senior captain Molly Hendries will be returning to the doubles scene.

"As a team, we had a lot of improvement last year, but this year we want to get even better," Hendries said.

Last season's improvement will

act as a stepping stone as the 2014 season gets underway.

"Our lineup is deeper this year. Almost everyone is equal," Finstad said.

In an effort to better the team, the players are looking to better themselves.

"I want to better my personal record, improve all around, and do my best my final season," Hendries said.

Finstad also wants to improve her personal record and end her last season on a high note.

"I want to leave an imprint by doing my best as a senior and a captain," Finstad said.

Gordon is proud of the leadership roles both Finstad and Hendries have taken. She is also happy to see the team bond staying strong.

"I am really excited about our seniors bringing in positive

leadership. We all have each others' backs. We are such a close-knit group," Gordon said.

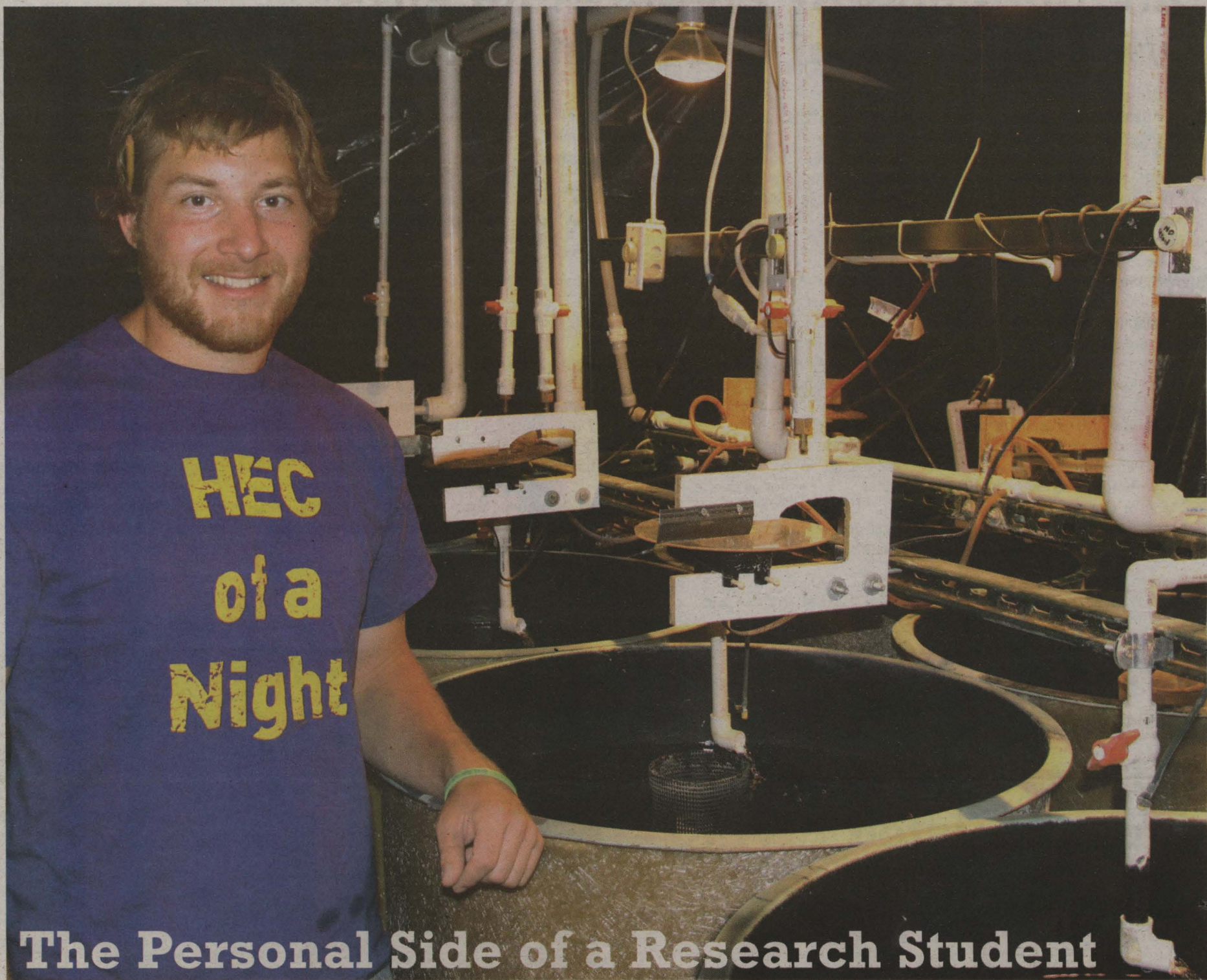
Saturday, the Pointers faced one of their toughest opponents, the Eagles of the UW-La Crosse. Unfortunately, after two prior wins, the match marked the first loss of the season.

"Whitewater is always the toughest, but La Crosse is probably number two. The match will be good for us," Hendries said.

The Pointers see the match as a test and a building block. The excitement will be high at their home opener, and the team is looking to fill the stands.

"Don't forget to come support us at our first home match on Sept. 13 against UW- River Falls. We would love to show all of our fans what we can do. This year is going to be a good year," Finstad said.

POINTLIFE



The Personal Side of a Research Student

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Bridging the gap between devoted researcher and college student is Samuel Hempel, a senior fisheries management and biology major, who is heavily involved in the activities he cherishes.

Many may imagine a research student as a stereotypical "nerd" or the overachieving "teacher's pet," but Hempel is far from that.

When asked how he spends his free time, Hempel said, "Anything outdoors. I just really like to be outside."

Hempel is an avid outdoorsman and has hunted for almost 10 years. He has fished even longer.

To feed his admiration of the outdoors, he is a member of the Fly Fishing Club and the Rugby Team. He strikes a balance by managing time for weekend-long fishing trips and fall Rugby games while finding time to conduct research.

Originally, Hempel researched chemistry with professor Mike Zach. Currently, Hempel works on a fisheries research project with Professor Chris Hartleb.

Over the summer, Hempel spent time in Bayfield, Wis. at the

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point ran Northern Agriculture Demonstration Facility. The NADF is a research building dedicated to improving fisheries and fish farming techniques.

Hempel's project focused on comparing outdoor pond walleye with indoor formula fed walleye once they were both transferred to minnow feed.

Hempel's work ethic paid off. Hartleb said the NADF manager appreciated Hempel's work so much that Hartleb received a call asking when he was graduating to offer him a job.

"He's been great," Hartleb said. "We look for students who are responsible and eager to learn. Sam fits the bill perfectly."

Hartleb also expressed that fellow students who worked in the lab enjoy having Hempel around.

When Hempel graduates this spring, he wants to attend graduate school at Michigan State University.

Upon first glance, Hempel seems like a typical UWSP student. He loves the outdoors, and gets involved in his school. However, under the surface, he is a hard-working, dedicated scientist who has a positive impact whenever he is in lab.



Photos courtesy of Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility

Top photo; Sam and his research project.
Bottom photo; The Atlantic Salmon from Sam's research project.

POINTLIFE

Environmentally Aware Students Offer Opinion of Greenest Campus

EMILY SHOWERS

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Students feel that even though the campus has been named the greenest in the state, there is still room for improvement.

Three students, who are avidly involved in sustainable living, shared their opinions about the campus and how sustainability is affecting their way of life.

Junior Bailey Matthys is titled greenest resident on campus, and it is her job to spread the word about sustainability. Matthys is proud of the campus, but believes a lot more needs to be accomplished.

"We have done these initiatives, but one of our main goals is to get students to acknowledge them," Matthys said.

According to Matthys, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has excellent initiatives, like the recycling program. However, not many people are aware of it. Matthys said a lot of students are confused about what they can and cannot recycle.

Taylor Christiansen, president of Students of Sustainable Living, said the concepts of sustainability like recycling, composting and using products with less packaging, appear to be common knowledge around UWSP. However, along with Matthys, Christiansen acknowledged that there is a divide among students who are engrossed in sustainable living and those who are not as aware of it.

"I definitely see a big disparity between people that are really sustainably-minded and students I

have talked to who have no idea these initiatives are happening," Christiansen said.

Christiansen expressed that her path to a more sustainable life was forged from the people she interacted with.

"There is social sustainability, which is making sure I'm surrounded by a good network of friends and like-minded people that can help me find the most sustainable ways of living," Christiansen said.

Along with finding like-minded people, junior Jenny Teeters expressed that engaging in the topic with people of similar interests assisted her in making her biggest lifestyle changes.

When asked what sustainability issue she was most passionate about, Teeters said, "It's got to be something with the community."

Teeters explained that building up a community to be sustainable is important so more awareness is instilled in people's minds.

"What you put into your community is what's going to come out," Teeters said.

Overall, Teeters thinks UWSP is an accepting campus, and the people are open to expanding their knowledge on sustainability.

"I'm happy that being a hipster is in style because it's really eye-opening to people who want to follow through with those practices," Teeters said.

To these students, UWSP is an excellent campus for sustainability, but students have to actively engage in the topic to fully develop an understanding of what is happening in the world of green living.

Relaxing With Residents - Students Volunteer at North Crest Assisted Living

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A group of students volunteered Saturday at the North Crest Assisted Living home in Stevens Point to interact with elderly residents.

After piling into a campus van and driving the short distance, the students spent time with residents. The Student Involvement and Employment Office provided this volunteer opportunity, and it is one of the many volunteer events they sponsor.

While at the home, activities ranged from keeping the residents company to playing games, such as bingo or flippo.

In the midst of a friendly bingo game, Frank Jelinski, the group's comedian and long-time Wisconsin resident, told the group he was, "Happy to be alive and glad that the students come to visit."

He was full of witty comments and kept conversations interesting throughout the afternoon. Each time Jelinski got bingo and received the corresponding piece of chocolate, he was quick to stash it in his breast pocket.

His quirks were a hit with the student volunteers, and residents like him created a truly enjoyable experience for everyone.

"Volunteering at the home was a good experience," said senior Nicole Hillman. "Meeting new people

and doing something good for the community at the same time."

It was Hillman's first time volunteering at the home and her friendly disposition added to the group.

Another resident, Ginny Hendrickson, vocalized her appreciation to the students who made the trip.

"I love all the humor and different personalities," Hendrickson said.

Hendrickson had some quirks of her own. "All women love chocolate," she told the group as she scored her first piece. She grew up in Plover, and shared plenty of stories about the old days.

When asked why students should volunteer, SIEO Service Events Coordinator Morgan Koth said, "Spending time with the residents allows volunteers to gain valuable life experience and a unique perspective on a variety of situations."

"An event like this is a win-win situation for both the residents at the assisted living home and also the students who volunteer there," Koth said.

These weekend afternoons are not only a great way to get involved and improve the community, but are a lot of fun with the right attitude. SIEO has two more trips to the home this semester and anyone interested can apply. The residents love having students around and it is a great chance to develop connections.



Photos by Emily Hoffmann

Top photo; SIEO volunteers play bingo with the residents at North Haven on Sunday.
Bottom photo; Kristin Lensmeyer, junior, chats with North Haven resident, Lucille, who will turn 100 years old next month.

OPINIONSAND EDITORIALS

Giving Trees

BRADY SIMENSON

When I was a child, one of my least favorite books was “The Giving Tree,” the bittersweet story of a loving tree that is willing to do anything to make a young boy happy. The boy takes apples, takes branches, and eventually, cuts the tree down to nothing more than a stump. The tree is happy though. It knows that the joy in life is not from the taking, not from the receiving, but from the giving. But I didn’t quite understand that. I just thought it was stupid and unfair. Where was the happy ending? Why didn’t anything good ever happen to the tree? Is that what life is like? You do countless nice things for people, and it gets you nowhere? The years passed by. I grew up, and I didn’t give the book much more thought. It slipped into my distant memory, the lonely tree in the back of mind, waiting for the boy to pay attention to it again. I didn’t have much reason to though, at least, not until my friend Ben gave me one. Ben Kollock is an Urban Forestry major here at UWSP. He has planted and cared for countless trees all over the city. He’s sold trees to people, planted them for people, and given advice to people on how to care for

ones they already have. Friends of his even joke that he’s like a local Johnny Appleseed, leaving a legacy of trees in his wake wherever he goes. I’ve known him for about six years, and I swear he’s spent half of that time telling me about forestry. He tells me names of plants I’ve never even heard of, he explains why some leaves have ridges instead of smooth edges, and he tells me what those fuzzy little barbs on certain branches are for. I honestly don’t remember most of the things Ben tells me about trees, but I’m always happy to listen, always happy to hear him talk about one of his greatest passions. While I may often forget about some of these conversations with Ben, there is one conversation with him I’ll remember forever; the day he told me that he has leukemia. I stood there in shock as he explained everything to me over the phone. It was the first time I knew what an “out of body experience” felt like. This wasn’t happening. This was a movie. I could turn it off whenever I wanted, right? This was what made me think of “The Giving Tree” again. Ben is one of the most giving people I have ever met in my life. He helps people whenever he can, heck, he helps animals and plants whenever he can. If there’s ever a living thing that

needs help, I know that Ben is going to do it. This is a guy who has spent so much time giving whenever he can, and this is what life gives back to him? Maybe that’s why I didn’t like that book as a kid? Because I knew the lesson was all too true. You give and you give and you give and the world just takes and takes and takes. I’ve never been happier to be wrong in my entire life. Once word started to spread about Ben’s leukemia, an amazing thing happened. I discovered that Ben hadn’t just been planting trees for all of these years, but had also been planting seeds of friendship all over this city. His family’s roots go deep throughout central Wisconsin, and his network of friends branches out even farther than that. Ben’s friendship and kindness had touched a lot of lives over the years, and all of these relationships were about to bear fruit for him. Benefits were held all over Stevens Point (including here at UWSP in the Laird Room), and donations came flowing in from friends and family, coworkers and fellow students, people Ben hadn’t spoken to in years, and sometimes, even people he had never spoken to at all. I want to say that an entire army of people came out of the woodwork to support

him, but with Ben, it would be more appropriate to say an entire forest sprung out of the ground. It’s been several months since Ben was first diagnosed, but things are already looking great for him, and he isn’t far off from being able to return to UWSP. The money that’s been raised has been a huge help, but it’s important to me to let everyone know that more help is still needed. He’s not the type to ever ask for it, so that’s why myself and all of his other friends have been doing it for him this whole time. Ben has given a lot to me in the years I’ve known him, and has given a lot to this community he loves so much. I hope more than anything that during this time when he needs it most, this community can continue giving back to him, through events and a website called istandwithben.com, which is dedicated to raising money for his cause. Some stories like “The Giving Tree” teach lessons through melancholy, but the story of Ben Kollock shouldn’t be like that. Ben isn’t like that as a person, and he shouldn’t be like that as a story. This chapter of his life deserves a happy ending.

Mary Burke Will Stand Up for Student Loan Borrowers

ZACH MADDEN

Wisconsin is in a student debt crisis. Today, more than 750,000 Wisconsin citizens hold federal student loan debt, with thousands more facing massive amounts of debt from private lenders. The average student is graduating with \$22,400 in student loans, paying nearly \$400 a month for almost nineteen years. They’re saddled with mountains of debt before they even walk across the commencement stage. Depending on a part-time job to pay for college is no longer a viable option. In the past twelve years, tuition has doubled for Wisconsin residents, meaning higher debt loads for most students who want to pursue a college degree. Few are fortunate enough to have help from their family, others have scholarships and grants, but so many students

receive no assistance at all. Unfortunately, throughout his first term, the message Scott Walker sent to students in Wisconsin is clear: college affordability is not a priority. That is why young voters plan to choose Mary Burke for governor this November. During his first term, Scott Walker’s only responses to the crisis have been to cut funding to the UW System by \$250 million to reduce funding for the technical college system by 30 percent, and to propose an election year stopgap to freeze tuition rates for another two years. Cuts and freezes make good talking points for Walker’s stump speech, but they do not make college affordable in the long term. Tuition is only climbing higher and Scott Walker’s idea to extend the current UW system tuition freeze does not solve the problem of the skyrocketing

cost of education or truly ease the burden borrowers face each month. In fact, Walker and Republicans have ignored common sense solutions from Democrats to make higher education affordable and reduce the debt burden graduates face each month. Democrats like Mary Burke are committed to ensuring that every person in Wisconsin can earn an education and has a chance to succeed. Mary’s plan “Invest for Success” dedicates an entire strategy with action steps on how to make college affordable. It includes many of the same provisions of the Higher Ed, Lower Debt Act introduced by Senate and Assembly Democrats, like allowing students to refinance loans at reduced rates, deducting college tuition payments from taxes, and increasing how much they

can deduct on state tax forms. In addition, she wants individuals to know what they are signing up for from the very beginning by providing students and their parents with the necessary information to be smart loan consumers. With just a few weeks left until Election Day, it is time for students to embrace the possibility of making college affordable once again and unite behind Mary Burke, a proven leader who will work day in and day out to help students in every corner of Wisconsin. Zach Madden is a student at Edgewood College and is Chair of College Democrats of Wisconsin. Phoenix Rice-Johnson is a student at UW-Madison and Vice Chair of College Democrats of Wisconsin.

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

College Students—Turn Off Your TV

HARLEY FREDRIKSEN

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We have all been there before: what starts as harmless channel grazing turns into a five-hour couch potato session. You did not plan on watching T.V. that long, but now that you have. What is the big deal? It is Saturday and you still have another four hours to kill before you start drinking again anyway.

This cycle was all too familiar to me; T.V. filled the gaps as the perfect complement to a busy lifestyle. Watching T.V. is not actually doing anything at all. We sit back as the continuous stream of audio and visual input is passively absorbed, permeating and interrupting our thoughts. This is where it becomes a problem. How can you expect to collect and organize your thoughts, let alone have an original one, when all your free time is spent staring at a screen?

We are giving T.V., and any number of screens we choose to fill our time, a free pass simply because we enjoy them. But like most things, moderation is key. T.V. certainly has its place in society. It is an effective way to spread information and to deny its entertainment value would be senseless. With that being said, here are a couple of reasons why you should consider reducing your exposure to T.V.

1. It is not good for you.

There are no shortages of studies showing that children's television viewing habits while growing up are influential on their adult health. Poor fitness, higher cholesterol, and an increased likelihood of smoking were just a few of the adverse effects that accompanied excessive childhood television exposure later in life. Though it may not be known exactly how watching too much television causes this change that does not mean it is not happening. Children's brains are certainly in a more crucial stage of development, and consequently more susceptible to these types of effects; but growing up does not give you special immunity to them. It is not a stretch to speculate that sitting motionless on a couch for 4 hours might not be healthy for you. In fact, a study was conducted that showed you actually burn more calories while sleeping than you do watching T.V.

2. You will have more free time.

Pure, unadulterated, priceless free time. You could read a book, you could ride a bike, you could build a snowman, you can do whatever you want. When you step away from the T.V., the range of possible things you can do increases exponentially. Variation used to mean switching from Comedy Central to the Discovery Channel. Now it means you can camp out in the woods one day and pick up a new instrument the next. When you compare T.V. with the real world, choosing a

channel was not much of a choice at all. This newfound range of things to do is bizarre at first, and you will feel a bit like an eccentric as you try them, but that should not stop you. Every expert was a beginner at some point.

3. Your grades will get better.

All that free time has to accomplish something, right? I would argue that if you truly enjoy what you are studying in college, a part of that free time would certainly turn into study time. Study is a dirty word these days-- I like to think of it as learning. You can over-study for an exam, but you cannot over-learn a topic. School is supposed to be fun and learning and sharing ideas are at the center of a true education. Once you make this distinction, you realize that what is more important than the GPA or the test scores you leave with are the people you have met and how they have changed you.

4. You will talk to people.

The scariest but possibly most valuable side effect of cutting T.V. from your life would have to be talking to people more. Television and consumer technology are putting up barriers to real communication when they should be doing the opposite. I am as guilty as anyone else because it is so easy and comfortable to pull out your phone to avoid an awkward situation or to turn to the T.V. when you cannot think of what to say. It is comforting no doubt, but incredibly unnatural. Throughout

human evolution, communication has been the main driving force of intellectual and personal growth. To witness and participate in a culture where we want nothing to do with one another is both disheartening and frightening, but making an effort to watch less T.V. and become less technology dependent can help change that.

Albert Einstein said it best: "I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots." Einstein had a lot of impactful proclamations, but he should not be reduced to a handful of words between quotation marks.

We are at our best when we are creating, sharing, and exchanging our ideas. Without discussion, viewpoints never change and nothing is accomplished. In this sense, our dependence on technology is a deterrent to social change. What Einstein foresaw in his quotation was the 'barriers' to communication that have slowed this change. He envisioned a progressive, adaptable society that encouraged curiosity and embraced compassion for all living creatures. As we welcome the distraction of endless media, we will be on our way of building a better world. Nobody really knows what life is about, but trading in the T.V. to get out and experience the real world is a step in the right direction.

CLASSIFIEDS

Life

By Jonathan Seymour



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Author Stacey Springbob Talks "What I've Learned from Never Having a Boyfriend"

JULIA FLAHERTY

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Stacey Springbob, a student at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, is not your average college student. In the past year, Springbob has worked hard to publish and promote a book that chronicles her life of never having a boyfriend. Springbob explores the lessons she has learned, the laughs she has shared and the supporters she has been lucky enough to call friends throughout her biography.

"What I've Learned From Never Having a Boyfriend" is about exactly what the title states," Springbob said. "It's my story about being single my entire life and what it's taught me."

Springbob said her book's table of contents is laid out by objectives so readers can understand exactly what she has learned from never having a boyfriend.

"Each chapter goes into detail about those ideas with stories of my humorous fails at love and the real moments anyone could relate to," Springbob said.

When describing what inspired her to write "What I've Learned from Never Having a Boyfriend," Springbob said it began as a leisurely activity that turned into a more professional goal.

"The book was something I did in my free time," Springbob said. "I didn't tell anyone about it. My sister was the only one who really knew about it until it was written."

Amanda Springbob, Stacey Springbob's younger sister, said

Stacey's book made her feel ecstatic, and said they have always been close as sisters. Amanda said that she looks to her older sister as both a leader and role model. She credits her as being a driven 'career woman.'

"I think Stacey's book is exactly what young people need to hear about relationships and being honest with themselves," Amanda said.

Amanda also said that she feels students will learn to be real with themselves through reading her sister's biography.

"I find it both infuriating and awe-inspiring how brutally honest she is. Not just with other people, but also with herself and I think the fact that she knows herself so well is what has made her so successful," said Amanda.

Stacey said that writing her book acted as an escape that allowed her to 'write to every girl,' whether that girl was without opportunity either because of the demands of her relationship or else.

"I had a friend who was complaining about her boyfriend, and after a while I just thought to myself, 'I could write a book about all the things I learned from not being in a relationship,'" Stacey said.

Kailey Pritzl, a former co-employee and friend of Stacey's, said that her book is relatable on many levels.

"I love her book," Pritzl said. "It literally narrates most high school kids' lives with heartbreak and transformations within the high

school experience. It's not often that someone writes a biography on relationships that are actually accurate."

Pritzl said that Stacey's book helped her develop her own dating mantras and reassured self-acceptance.

"The ideology she signifies is best summarized by, 'I know that in any area of life, in any relationship a person has with another human being, love means respect in every culture and on every place in this world... you don't go into a relationship to accept bullshit,'" said Pritzl.

"Stacey has definitely helped me out multiple times with advice for my first year in college solely based on ideas from her book."

Stacey's book is available for purchase on Amazon.com.

"I am now working to use my story through motivational speaking," Stacey said.

Stacey also said that she hopes readers will continue to relate to her story and take her advice for its honest value.

"I just want people to step back and realize if they are that girl who stayed back after graduation

for her boyfriend, that guy who is trying to figure out what girls want, or just someone who feels alone in figuring out life, that they need to take a moment to decide what they want for them," Stacey said. "Relationships can be great. I'm not against them at all, but many people stay in relationships that tear them down."



Country Artist Brett Young Rocks The Encore

ANNA WELTON

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The Encore Room in the Dreyfus University Center was packed with people on Saturday, Sept. 6 as crowds gathered to watch country singer Brett Young perform.

Young is currently touring universities throughout the nation, sharing his original songs as well as a few covers of modern country hits.

Centertainment worked hard to set up this event. Julia Ludwiczak, the centertainment productions center stage coordinator, shared details about how the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point brought Young here.

"The Centertainment staff heard Young perform at the National Association for Campus Activities convention in St. Paul last spring,"

Ludwiczak said. "We go as a team to listen to different speakers and performers, and decide collectively about who we want to bring to campus. This allows us to bring some bigger names in for a lower price when other colleges in the area book them around the same time."

Young's concert began at 8 p.m. and Loren De Lonay was the opening act. Lonay played a mix of original songs as well as covers, one being Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful."

Freshman Kelsey Nelson offered her own opinion about Lonay's opening act.

"Her original songs were magnificent," Nelson said. "I almost had the nerve to ask for a CD. The lighting in The Encore was amazing. How they can change the colors and everything whenever they want. The

sound was perfect. It was never too loud or soft."

Following a short set change, Young came on stage and opened with Keith Urban's hit song "Cop Car." Young's set was well received by audience members. It seemed that even those who did not initially expect to enjoy themselves appreciated Young's music once his concert began.

"Even though I'm not a fan of country music, I think that Brett Young did an exceptional job with the songs he performed," freshman Drake Schroeder said.

Both Lonay and Young seemed to make valiant efforts to communicate and connect with their audiences through music. This effort created an intimate performance for concertgoers.

Freshman Taylor Wilcox expressed her feelings about the performance.

"The concert was outstanding and both of the artists were extremely humble and seemed to truly connect with the audience," Wilcox said. "I still cannot believe that UWSP was able to get them on our campus."

Nelson felt a particular connection with Young's performance.

"Brett Young was so funny," Nelson said. "I loved every story he told to go with his songs. Getting to shake his hand was the coolest."

It seems that Young's concert at UWSP's music hotspot created an opportunity for students to connect over new experiences, whether that was exposure to unaccustomed music genres or newly acquainted campus environments.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Continued from page 1

students and professors reconvene at Iverson Park for a picnic. This picnic gives students and professors an opportunity to socialize and get to know each other.

Senior musical theatre major Abbey Imner has attended orientation and the picnic for four years. Imner said she finds it helpful for new students to meet professors and become familiar with the department.

"The picnic is a great way for us to socialize and ask questions about the program," Imner said.

Ruth Daniels has been doing administrative work for the Department of Theatre and Dance for eleven years. She offered her take on the department's tradition.

"The picnic helps the freshman get acquainted with the faculty and students," Daniels said. "It is very low-key and relaxed."

The students will work together on dances and shows all year; therefore it is important for them to form good relationships with one another. The relaxed environment

the picnic provides makes it a good place for the students to form those relationships.

"It helps the freshman when the upperclassmen take them under their wing," Daniels said.

Daniels believes it is important for students in the program to get involved, and the upperclassmen can help encourage the freshman to do so. In the eleven years that Daniels has worked for the department she has seen it grow and become better known.

"The students that come here really have a passion for theatre and dance," Daniels said.

The orientation and picnic are there to help these passionate students start their journey toward success.

New students especially benefit from the orientation and picnic because it helps them become acclimated with the program. It is important for all students in the program to have good relationships with one another and be fully prepared for their future endeavors.



Photo by Marielle Schuchardt

Theater and dance students enjoy their orientation picnic.

UWSP Students List their Favorite Off-Campus Dining Locations

ANNA WELTON
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While the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is often applauded for having a great on-campus meal system, students cannot help but feel treated when leaving campus for meals.

Some UWSP students were able to develop a list of off-campus restaurants other students should seek out this semester when rewarding themselves with an off-campus meal. While there are many options, Noodles and Company, Charcoal Grill, and The Wooden Chair seemed to be the student's fall favorites.

Noodles and Company is within walking distance of the campus dormitories. They offer a wide variety of pastas, salads, and sandwiches for around \$6 to \$10. Takeout is also an

option for students on the go.

Junior Kalynne Hibbard said that a perk of eating at Noodles and Company is the friendly atmosphere.

"I love the fact that I can see familiar faces when I go to Noodles," Hibbard said.

Charcoal Grill is further away from campus. They offer a wide variety of options for students that want to dine in. With a menu ranging from burgers, to flat bread, to salads, Charcoal Grill is accommodating for all diets and allergy restrictions with fair prices.

Peter Buck, the assistant general manager at Charcoal Grill, said that the restaurant offers something special for college students, especially for those new to campus.

"Charcoal Grill has a great atmosphere," Buck said. "A lot of first and second year students come here

with their parents after move-in day."

Buck described the large floor space at Charcoal Grill as being accommodating for bigger parties, while their booths offer students a comfy space to seat all their friends.

Junior Demetrius Walker attested to Charcoal Grill's positive atmosphere.

"I like the atmosphere and cleanliness of Charcoal Grill. The service and burgers are good," Walker said.

While Charcoal Grill is a student favorite for dinner and lunch-hour meals, The Wooden Chair, located in downtown Stevens Point, draws in a happy breakfast crowd. Students are drawn to their excellent breakfasts and even bring their families along to enjoy their morning specials.

Though only open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Wooden Chair brings in

a lot of Pointers with their fair prices and distinct atmosphere.

Freshman Dylan Hartwig recalled his first time eating at The Wooden Chair this semester.

"It's adorable, quaint, and everything someone would need for a relaxing breakfast," Hartwig said. "The brick walls add an emphasis to the rustic feel. It was lovely and I recommend it to anyone for a brunch date with family, lovers or friends."

The Stevens Point area offers new plates to incoming or experienced students across the board. With such diverse cuisine, affordable prices, and a variety of places to try, it seems that off-campus dining is one step toward discovering the broader community of Stevens Point.