New Aquaponics Center Unveiled in Montello

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The new Aquaponics Innovation Center in Montello, a partnership between the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and Nelson and Pade Inc., opened on Thursday, April 23, with a facility tour. Nelson and Pade has more than 20 years of experience with building aquaponics facilities. They partnered with UWSP to help foster a workforce trained specifically in aquaculture. The facility is currently raising walleye and a variety of produce.

The 4,800 square foot center was designed as an outlet for biology students to gain hands-on experience. A $677,000 state economic development grant funded the center.
More Students Need to Enroll in Summer Classes

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Students who aren’t graduating the spring should consider enrolling in a summer course. I took COMM 101 last summer, and I’m happy I did. I wasn’t excited about the course, but I knew I couldn’t endure 16 weeks of it, so taking it over break seemed like the best option.

While it definitely wasn’t easy and I worked on readings and speeches for at least three hours each day, I was only in the class for three weeks. The time passed quickly, and suddenly I finished the course and earned three credits.

I’ve enrolled in both summer and winterim courses during my time at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and I’ve enjoyed the experience. Because I’ve done this, I have the option to graduate in two and a half years, and I’ll be finished with my undergraduate degree in a little more than half the typical time.

In summer 2014, 1,723 students, including non-UWSP, continuing-education students, took advantage of the opportunities these courses offer, and I hope more students enroll this summer.

Enrolling in general classes during break gives students more freedom to take classes they need during the fall and spring semesters. General classes tend to be pushed aside during the semester when coursework for classes within a major becomes the top priority. By taking classes during these periods, students are able to focus on doing well in only one class, making it easier to succeed. For those unable to be on campus, UWSP offers nearly 130 fully-online classes that are still open for registration and additional continuing-education courses, allowing students to travel and explore different parts of the country while also earning credit.

Summer classes are also cheaper. For the 2014-2015 academic year, they’re $321.23 per credit, versus the fall and spring tuition price of $378.46 per credit. College students have to appreciate saving money.

So, for those who need to complete general courses or need something to do during break, enroll in a summer course. It’s worth it.

‘Disney: Wish Upon a Cure’ Comes to Campus

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Relay for Life took on a magical theme of “Disney: Wish Upon a Cure” this year as 200 students, alumni and community members came together to support a cure for cancer by raising $1,300 in donations on April 25.

“Each hour there’s a new theme or activity,” said Hallie Evenson, Colleges Against Cancer public relations chair. “There’s a spaghetti-eating contest that goes with ‘Lady and the Tramp,’ a magic carpet and race on a towel or blanket around the track like ‘Aladdin,’ and for ‘Cars,’ there’s an activity where you build your own car out of a cardboard box and race it around the track.”

Other events included Cinderella’s Lost Shoe, Finding Dalmatian Spots, a villain lap and a Disney singalong.

“The favorite event was Dude Looks Like A Princess,” said senior event lead Angela Obermeier. “Guys dress up like ladies and ask for donations and do dances and things. It’s always one of the favorites.”

Obermeier’s favorite part of the event is when people start doing things they would not normally do.

Obermeier relays for her brother who was diagnosed and died 10 years ago.

“At 3 a.m. we have the talent show, and this year there was an interpretive dance of the birthing process and the stages of life that was improvised on the spot and won,” Obermeier said.

Water pong, rock climbing, Zumba and a photo booth were also available to participants.

Megan Schlefe, senior arts management major, said her favorite events are water pong and karaoke because she likes getting to know other people.

“It was super fun last year, so I came all the way from Appleton to do it again this year,” Schlefe said.

This excitement fulfills one of the goals Kaylee Bast, sophomore entertainment chair, had for the event. “I just wanted to make sure people have fun and keep coming back,” Bast said.

Bast became involved with the event in high school when her father was diagnosed with cancer.

“My father passed away from cancer when I was 16,” Bast said. “Watching him and his struggle and helping him inspired me to do the same for other people.”

Evenson’s favorite part of relay is the luminary ceremony allowing participants to honor those who have been lost through small lights.

“We turn the big light off and it’s beautiful,” Evenson said.

The common misconception of Relay for Life is that participants are required to run or walk all night.

“People set up tents and sleeping bags and nap,” Evenson said. “People come and go, but we’re trying to encourage more people to stay there all night. It’s definitely not a running thing, though. It’s leisurely and you...
University Finds New Ways to Offer Internships

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The university is setting up a simple, electronic way for businesses and students to connect and establish internships and mentor programs efficiently.

"I want to partner with our local businesses, including the Chamber of Commerce, to develop new opportunities that can establish a really connected community between the university and Chamber of Commerce," said David Eckmann, special assistant to the chancellor for economic development. "It's getting really competitive out there, and business customers are looking for opportunities to identify talent, so that means being a partner with the university or technical-college system."

Eckmann hopes to establish a link within business websites, directly linking a website of profiles to students who are interested in certain fields. Businesses would be able to view the student profiles and contact them if they meet the corporation's criteria for internships or mentorships.

The main goal is to connect internship programs more easily to businesses and other corporations. "This is a team effort and since I was in a business field, I would put in the effort to make a profile if that increased my chances of finding an internship," said John Fula, education major.

"The internships have helped me pinpoint exactly where I want to end up," Tamboli said. "Plus, having even a little experience in your field makes it so much easier to be employed upon graduation."

Eckmann hopes the program will bring talent and assets from the university to the community, businesses and nonprofit organizations.

"We are also working with the Career Services team to develop a proactive measure in order to get a marketing team out there," Eckmann said. "I think students will have a much greater success rate with engaging people their own age or younger, so we would love to start a student ambassador team."

The student ambassador team would travel to various schools in the area or in their hometown to represent University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and spread the word about the various internship opportunities available through UWSP.

"This is a team effort and since students are passionate and have a lot of pride in their university, I think this would be a great opportunity for them to connect with the community in different ways," Eckmann said.

He believes in the internship programs currently offered through UWSP and Career Services. He said he wants to focus on talent development above all else.

"We are developing talent in the students here and then when they become citizens, they will bring those skills to the community," Eckmann said. "If we don’t have that growth in population, we won’t have the revenues to support the public good we all enjoy."

Eco Fair Organizations Engage Community

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The 2015 Eco Fair, sponsored by the Environmental Educators and Naturalists Association, brought together ecologically-minded groups from the university and Stevens Point community in celebration of the 45th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22.

"The fair is a good way for people to get the word out about certain environmental issues they are involved with," said Anna Radske, junior environmental education major.

The theme this year was "Bee Aware Eco Fair." Several booths highlighted the implications of a declining bee population. One booth also allowed visitors to make beeswax candles, and another displayed bee-friendly plants.

A concert finished off the event, featuring local bands Red Tide and Bill.

Michelle Wastart, association member, presented an educational jeopardy board on several natural resource topics.

"It’s my first year here, and it’s looking like a good turn out of people," Wastart said of the event.

Courtney Ross and Joel Bhard, divestment campaign members, asked attendees to write down potential personal losses from climate change on a ribbon. The ribbons are now on a tree outside the DUC.

Students for Sustainability, a student organization, allowed attendees to plant seeds and take them home. Compost collected from the school garden created the soil for planting, said Abbi Carlson, public relations officer for the organization.

The natural history museum made its first appearance at the fair. Elizabeth Deitelhoff, museum employee, said the fair gave people a hands-on feel for some artifacts since most of the museum is hands-off.

"Surprisingly many are unaware of the natural history museum in the library," she said. "This is a good way to inform people."

Farmshed was also at the fair. Olivia Ehlers, community outreach coordinator for Farm to School, said it is important for the community to have a presence at campus events.

"Many students end up working in Stevens Point, so it helps to start getting them involved now," she said.
Community Veterans Gather to Gain Interconnections

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The Veterans Club of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point hosted a meet and greet event, allowing local organizations to network, on April 23.

The event showcased the club's fundraising success for groups like Veterans Outdoor World, Camp American Legion and the Never Forgotten Honor Flight.

The club raised $1,444 for Never Forgotten Honor Flight and $700 for Veterans Outdoor World and Camp American Legion. It obtained money through fundraising events, including ice fishing competitions, a Packer raffle and a 5K run in the fall.

"We like to work with clubs and organizations on campus as much as we can but being a specialty group, there are community veterans' organizations that we can work with beneficially," said Joshua Fager, club president.

When together, club members like to connect with each other.

"Decades apart but the stories don't change, just the places and the names," Terese Barta, adviser for the UWSP Veterans Club and associate professor of biology. "The experiences and its impact on you as a human-being is pretty much the same."

Many business owners and community members talked with attendees.

"We didn't really know what to expect going into it, but everything that did occur was awesome," Fager said. "We had people talk to each other and work together to find connections."

David Chrisinger an instructor of the "Back from the Front: Transitioning from the Military to Civilian Life" course, spoke at the event. He provided students and community members with the opportunity to hear about the class and how Chrisinger has opened a new door for veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

Around 40 people attended the meet and greet, gathering to speak about the past as well as the future.

Final Exam Dates will be Restructured in Fall 2015

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Fall 2015 final exam dates will be split between two weeks, running from Dec. 16-22, due to state law, federal law and University of Wisconsin System guidelines.

"It will be interesting to try out," said junior Nathanael Rice. "It really depends on the student's final exam schedule because it may benefit some but hurt others."

UW-Stevens Point offers five final exam dates each semester.

"Crossing these five final exam days over a two-week period is not something new for UW-Stevens Point," said Dan Kellogg, registrar and director of new student orientation. "In recent years, the overlap of weeks occurred in 2010-11 and will occur again in 2015-16. In 2005, the five-day exam period also included a Saturday exam date."

State law indicates the academic calendar must include 39 contiguous weeks from start to finish, and the university is prohibited from beginning classes before Sept. 2.

"During a four-month semester, we must include 15 to 16 weeks of instruction and attempt to end the exam period before December 23," Kellogg said. "The fall schedule, with two-fall classes before Sept. 2. university must ensure that no instruction or attempt to end the exam period before December 23,"

Tolstedt said the university is exploring other ways to structure classes. He said administrators are considering weekend and night classes or a switch to a competency-based system where all classes would be online, then once a student demonstrates competency, they would be finished.

"All of this stuff is in the works, and we're trying to figure out how to make ourselves more available for the students' needs and desires," Tolstedt said.

Tolstedt said, "Typically, the university ensures that there is a reading day between the last day of instruction and the first day of exams."

"If we went to 60-minute classes and then had a whole week that was preparation time for exams, that could break it up quite easily," Tolstedt said. "The question is would students actually take that week to study or would they do what most students do and take that time to work so they can pay the bills."

Since the fall term is not beginning until Wednesday, Sept. 2, the university must ensure that no instruction takes place on either Monday, Aug. 31, or Tuesday, Sept. 1. In addition, all Monday courses will not meet on Labor Day, Sept. 7.

"To make up for this loss of two Mondays and a Tuesday, fall instruction ends on Tuesday, Dec. 15," said Todd Huspeni, interim associate vice chancellor for teaching, learning and academic programs.

"We would be happy for students and faculty to know that the rule about when we can start a fall term is a Wisconsin law for public institutions," Huspeni said. "We'd see much greater flexibility if we were not so constrained by our start date."
Students of all academic standings and majors gathered outside Pray-Sims Hall on Sunday, April 26, to spread awareness and protest Gov. Scott Walker’s proposed budget cuts. Chants such as “cut the cuts” and “we are unstoppable” could be heard across all corners of campus as the group walked and rode bicycles through residence hall areas and Lower Debot, eventually winding up at Old Main for a public forum.

Initially, they split into three groups and went into various halls to recruit more protesters. “I’m just trying to get the word out,” said Joe Paoletti, sophomore conservation planning policy major. “I want to get people to contact their representatives and explain how they feel and how this will affect them.”

Many students who participated had just returned from a meeting with students from across the state about saving shared governance. It was organized through the United Council of University of Wisconsin Students. Brewster Johnson and Cailie Kafura organized the event with the help of others who made signs and brought friends. In addition, the group used #makingourpoint as a way to stay united on social media.

Matt Rosner, senior computer information systems major, said he participated with the intent of informing other students about their rights as citizens. “Political action is really what matters,” said Tyler Smith, vice chair of College Democrats of Wisconsin. “People in office who are making the decisions we might disagree with are there because they did just that. They ran for office.”

Amanda McGovern, president of the United Council of UW Students, said it is especially important for students at smaller schools to make their voices heard. “Some legislators are only talking about UW and UWM,” she said. “They are forgetting about smaller schools like UWSP and Superior that can’t handle this drastic of a cut.”

No more rallies are scheduled for the rest of the semester, but the group is brainstorming other creative ideas to get more people involved and informed, including an opinion-writing workshop.

Relay for Life occurs during the last weekend of April every year and is open to everyone. “Relay for Life is for everyone and is fantastic to come to,” Bast said. “It’s a great way to be with family and friends and be active on campus for a great cause.”

Zoe Page, senior survivorship chair, explained how being involved really makes a difference. “Donating just $10 is so great,” Page said. “If everyone does that, it really adds up and makes a difference.”

Page’s inspiration comes from her uncle’s cancer diagnosis. “I do Relay for Life because I’ve been affected by cancer and others I know have been affected by cancer, and it’s a way to give back and make a difference to find a cure,” Page said.

Students protest cuts in front of residence halls.

Second Student Opposition Sparks Conversation

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ENVIRONMENT

Woodland Sports Team Wins Fifth Victory

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Woodland Sports team of 11 men and nine women secured its fifth straight victory at the 63rd annual Midwestern Foresters’ Conclave in Carbondale, Illinois on April 18.

Conclave is a series of traditional wood-cutting and forestry-related academic competitions. It is considered the championship of Midwestern collegiate timber sports. Eleven teams from around the Midwest attended this year’s conclave.

Kate Witkowski, co-leader and team captain, said the team owes its success to experienced leadership and a dedicated practice schedule. The team formed in 2007, and some of its early members competed in the eastern United States where the level of competition is high.

The team practices an average of twice per week and several Pointers have competed in national collegiate and professional competitions. The final event at conclave is part of the Stihl Collegiate Series of timber sports, and the winner qualifies for the national competition.

"It’s really helpful to have that experience on the team," Witkowski said. "We have some people that are really driven to do well in it."

Students competed in 25 events ranging from serious, physically demanding, chopping and sawing to more lighthearted competitions like match-splitting and tobacco-splitting. Academic skill-based events such as lumber identification, tree identification and compass navigation took place throughout the day. Individual winners received points, and scores were totaled for each school.

The team is partially funded by the UWSP chapter of the Society of American Foresters but does fundraise. "We have some pros in the area that come out and help," Witkowski said. "We’re not a beer-drinking team that throws axes. We’re a sports team."

Senior Andrew Roelse said he joined the team as a freshman and enjoys the camaraderie with teammates and competitors. He enjoys conclave because competition is for collegiate competitors only. Many timber sports competitions, Roelse said, are open to professionals and the general public.

Roelse competes in an event called double buck where he and teammate Paul Watson use a crosscut saw to cut through a log as fast as possible. "Every time I go and saw, I like to think of myself as an old Finnish lumberjack making his last cut for the day," Roelse said. "I like to remember the history."

Bringing home a win is important to the team and the university, but competitors value fun and sportsmanship. Roelse said competitors share advice and encouragement throughout the weekend.

"Winning kind of establishes your place as a forestry school," Roelse said. "We always try and help everyone out a bit."

Paul Doruska, faculty adviser, said turnover is expected this year and recruiting will be important for success moving forward.

Witkowski said the fall semester will be a big recruiting time for the team. She said anyone with an interest in timber sports is welcome to join, regardless of skills or experience. Women are particularly encouraged to join.

"You don’t have to be a forestry student," Witkowski said. "It’s really fun. You get to be part of an inclusive group."

Trees, Shrubs, Fruit Planted in Honor of Earth Week

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Volunteers and members of Students For Sustainability planted approximately 600 plants across the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus during its annual Earth Day event.

The planting took place on April 24, and volunteers finished in about three hours. Tom Girolamo, owner of Eco-Building and Forestry company, provided the plants that the club paid for. The total cost of the event was just over $10,000, most of which came from a Green Fund award.

A freshman wildlife major said he decided to help with the planting when he noticed people working as he left a class building. "I’m excited to see these things grow," he said. "It’s good to see the fruits of one’s labor."

Abbie Carlson, public relations officer, said members tend the plants on campus year-round, but Earth Week is a good opportunity to take action and be an advocate for sustainability in the community.

"As a student on campus, it can be really hard to make a difference you can see," Carlson said. "Let’s do something to make the campus better."

The group strategically planted shrubs, vines, fruit and a half mile of hops throughout campus. Club officers consulted with Girolamo and Chris Brindley, building and grounds superintendent, while selecting areas.

Plants improve campus sustainability by providing food, creating shade and reducing soil erosion. Providing community benefits through landscape design and management is a main component of the sustainability movement and a goal for the club.

Carlson said the club is focused on planting edible and low-maintenance species. Plants requiring little care are desired because fewer staff and resources are used in sustaining them. Facility Services, the department involved in building and grounds, is expected to lose staff if the proposed state budget is approved.

"We’re planting a lot of perennials and low-maintenance things," Carlson said. "We’re trying to make it easier on the grounds crew."

Junior Dylan Couch said he joined the club because he was interested in sustainability and gardening. He said the planting is a good way to bring people from different majors together to improve the campus.

"It seems like a lot of people actually care about this," Couch said. "But I think there is definitely room for improvement."

Getting support for sustainability-oriented projects can be challenging. Couch said he believes environmental awareness is something people should keep in mind at all times.

"Not everyone shares the same ideas," Couch said. "I think this event would have the same meaning if it wasn’t held on earth day."
A Complete First-Round 2015 NFL Mock Draft

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It is that time of the year again for the NFL Draft, beginning on April 30 and concluding on May 2. Here’s my mock draft predicting all 32 picks in the first round.

01. Tampa Bay Buccaneers: Jameis Winston, QB, Florida State: number one pick is Winston, who is considered the top quarterback in the draft. Despite all his off-field problems, Winston is the most pro-ready of the position due to his size, accuracy and arm strength. He is a proven winner who Tampa Bay needs for the future.

02. Tennessee Titans: Marcus Mariota, QB, Oregon: Mariota will likely be selected next. He could go to the Titans, but it is possible that they may trade with a team who covets Mariota more. His arm strength, speed and ability to throw out of the pocket makes Mariota a dynamic quarterback.

03. Jacksonville Jaguars: Dante Fowler Jr, DE, OLB, Florida: Jacksonville stays in state with the selection of Fowler. Considered one of the top edge rushers, Fowler is versatile and athletic for his size. Head coach Gus Bradley keeps building his defense with Fowler on the edge.

04. Oakland Raiders: Leonard Williams, DT, USC: The Raiders once again get one of the best players in the draft by choosing Williams. He has key tools such as explosiveness, power, size and athleticism, all of which Oakland will love on its defense alongside Khalil Mack.

05. Washington Redskins: Vic Beasley, OLB, Clemson: With the loss of OLB Brian Orakpo, Washington found its replacement in Beasley. One of the more natural pass rushers in the draft with his quickness, Beasley will benefit playing across from Ryan Kerrigan.

06. New York Jets: Amari Cooper, WR, Alabama: Under new management, the Jets go with the safe pick of Amari Cooper on offense. Considered one of the top receivers in the draft, Cooper adds depth to the group with Brandon Marshall and Eric Decker already there. The only question is who will be throwing the ball.

07. Chicago Bears: Randy Gregory, DE/OLB, Nebraska: Many would think the Bears would draft a wide receiver to replace Brandon Marshall, but with Cutler as quarterback a wide receiver is not going to turn things around immediately. With new head coach John Fox and defensive coordinator Vic Fangio, the Bears aim to rebuild its defense with the selection of Gregory. Despite his off-field issues, this can be a boom pick for the Bears.

08. Atlanta Falcons: Shane Ray, OLB, Missouri: New head coach Dan Quinn wants to rebuild the Falcons defense and he does that by selecting Ray to be an upgrade for the poor Falcons’ pass rush. Ray possesses quick speed when jumping off the snap and finds the ball quickly. (By the way, note: This mock was done prior to the Monday, April 27 news of Shane Ray being cited for marijuana possession).

09. New York Giants: Brandon Scherff, OL, Iowa: Offensive lineman are never flashy picks, but the Giants have the top lineman prospect in the draft with the intent of protecting Eli Manning. Scherff continues the tradition of Iowa offensive lineman in the first round as a terrific run block and possessing quick lateral movements as a pass blocker.

10. St. Louis Rams: Kekeith White, WR, West Virginia: The Rams lack dynamic playmakers on offense and need to address that. White possesses good hands and quick acceleration when separating away from defenders. He is also strong when it comes to obtaining yards after a catch.

11. Minnesota Vikings: Trae Waynes, CB, Michigan State: Vikings fans will have to wait for a top CB, Waynes. He was the top rated CB in the draft since head coach Mike Zimmer adds to his up-and-coming defense with the selection of Waynes. Waynes played a lot of man-to-man coverage alone in college, which the Vikings need in a cornerback in order to compete in the NFC North.

12. Cleveland Browns: DeVante Parker, WR, Louisville: With the suspension and many problems of Josh Gordon, the Browns take Parker as their new number one target for the quarterback whenever that may be.

13. New Orleans Saints: Alvin Dupree, OLB, Kentucky: The Saints have many holes to address. With their first pick in the first round they address the OLB position. Dupree is the highest rated OLB on the board at this point. Dupree is considered a development project by scouts but has the athleticism and physical ability to develop.

14. Miami Dolphins: Breshad Perriman, WR, Central Florida: Miami needs to improve its wide receiving core for quarterback Ryan Tannehill. Despite signing Greg Jennings, the Dolphins select Perriman who has risen on draft boards as a large and aggressive receiver who uses his strength to make catches.

15. San Francisco 49ers: Danny Shelton, DT, Washington: The Forty-niners have many holes on defense, and Shelton will start their rebuilding process. As a top nose tackle in the draft, he will help the Niners in the middle. Shelton has learned from veterans like Justin Smith.

16. Houston Texans: Nelson Agholor, WR, USC: With long time wide receiver Andre Johnson gone and young youngsters, the Texans draft Agholor to pair with DeAndre Hopkins. As one of the top receivers and pass catchers, Agholor should help improve the Texans offense.

17. San Diego Chargers: Todd Gurley, RB, Georgia: Despite his injury concerns, when healthy, Gurley is considered the top running back prospect and has been compared to Marshawn Lynch and Adrian Peterson. He is a tough prospect for the Chargers to pass on.

18. Kansas City Chiefs: La’el Collins, OL, LSU: With some of the top receivers off the board, the Chiefs go for value when drafting Collins to improve the offensive line instead of reaching for a wide receiver.

19. Cleveland Browns: Malcom Brown, DT, Texas: Considered one of the better interior prospects, Brown can be another piece to an up and coming defense that needs to improve, which will help his ability to penetrate the line of scrimmage.

20. Philadelphia Eagles: Byron Jones, CB, Connecticut: This is speculation because nobody knows what Chip Kelly will do, but at this pick he chooses a cornerback to fulfill a need. Jones has great athleticism, which showed at the combine and seems like a Chip Kelly pick.

21. Cincinnati Bengals: Andrus Peat, OT, Stanford: With both offensive tackles entering the final years of their contracts, the Bengals get value drafting Peat as one of their key lineman for the future.

Pittsburgh Steelers: Kevin Johnson, CB, Wake Forest: A cornerback is the biggest need for the Steelers since it has been a weakness for the past couple seasons. Johnson can improve the secondary with his good-coverage ability.

22. Detroit Lions: Melvin Gordon, RB, Wisconsin: With Gordon still on the board, the Lions pull the trigger and pass on A.D. Peters. Adding Gordon could create a more balanced offense for the Lions, especially with Gordon’s ability for big runs.

23. Arizona Cardinals: Shaq Thompson, ILB, Washington: Cardinals need help from the linebacker position, and Thompson is a good fit. With his versatility, Thompson is one of the most intriguing prospects in the draft and has the athleticism the Cardinals are looking for in their linebacker.

24. Carolina Panthers: Landon Collins, S, Alabama: Carolina’s strength is defense, and it strengthens with the addition of Collins to secondary. Collins is a solid defender especially tackling in the open field.

25. Baltimore Ravens: Eric Rowe, CB, Utah: Cornerback is one of the most eminently need for Baltimore, and the Ravens take a safe pick in Rowe. He isn’t a big-name prospect but has all the abilities needed to play the position at the pro-level.

26. Dallas Cowboys: Arik Armstead, DL, Oregon: This was a surprise fall for Armstead in this mock, but Dallas once again gets great value in the first round. Armstead could be a good fit on the Cowboys’ defensive line, especially with the teachings of defensive coordinator Rod Marinelli.

27. Denver Broncos: D.J. Humphries, OL, Florida: Offensive tackle is a big need for Denver, especially with an aging Peyton Manning as quarterback. Humphries is one of the top prospects still on the board, and the Broncos fill a need in the first round.

28. Indianapolis Colts: T.J. Clemmings, OL, Pittsburgh: Colts require a right-tackle position, and Clemmings could fill that need right away. Clemmings is considered one of the more athletic lineman in the draft, which could help keep Andrew Luck upright.

29. Green Bay Packers: Eric Kendricks, ILB, UCLA: This was a tough pick to make with cornerbacks Marcus Peters on the board, but the Packers passed due to his off-field issues. Thompson usually finds cornerbacks in later rounds. Drafting Kendricks finally gives the Packers the athlete inside linebacker they have been missing for years.

30. New Orleans Saints: Devin Funchess, WR, TE, Michigan: The Saints traded away Jimmy Graham and Kenny Stills, and the team needs to find replacements for Brees. Funchess may be a stretch at 31, but he can develop into Jimmy Graham’s role with Drew Brees throwing the ball.

31. New England Patriots: Marcus Peters, CB, Washington: After losing cornerbacks Darelle Revis and Brandon Browner, the Patriots take Peters. He is considered the most talented cornerback prospect, but his off-field issues are why he isn’t picked before the Patriots take players with similar issues before.
Hard work and steady progression paid off for Kadie Flynn, junior women's track and field thrower, who is ranked No. 1 in the nation in discus and No. 2 for hammer throw.

"One of the great things about Kadie is her limits are unknown. Every year she surpasses the goals that we line up for her; there hasn't been much of a plateau in sight," said Amy Krzykowski, throws coach.

Flynn took 16th in hammer at the outdoor national championships last year and seventh in the discus throw.

"I stayed with my seed for hammer, but I was ranked twenty-first going in for discus so I almost didn't make it," Flynn said. "But I had a big PR of about two meters."

Titis outdoor season Elynn broke the hammer throw record twice with a distance of 55.85 meters. Following her steady improvements, Flynn had what she described as a phenomenal meet where she first broke the record.

"This year has been crazy," Flynn said, "I didn’t even know I would be doing this well. My coach always told me I would be number one in the nation for discus, but when people tell you that stuff you don’t think it’s real."

Flynn started throwing when she was encouraged to become more involved in athletics. Sports involving hand-eye coordination did not interest her, so she joined swimming, as well as track and field.

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Krzykowski said Flynn’s mindset is that hard work is necessary to become what you wish.

"Even as a freshman, upperclassmen were looking to Kadie to lead," Krzykowski said. "She would push at practice and in conditioning. It’s easy to take it easy or skip part of your lift, but she never did that."

Krzykowski also said Flynn is humble and an athlete who truly loves her sport.

"She doesn’t do this for the glory or pride, she does it because she truly enjoys it," Krzykowski said. "I know she has so much more in her, and I hope she never loses that part of her."

Senior Cara Jansen agreed with Krzykowski.

"She is just an amazingly humble and caring person," Jansen said. "She achieves amazing things in throws constantly but never wants to be the center of attention. She always asks the other athletes how they did first."

Jansen has been throwing with Flynn for three years and is proud to compete with her.

"She’s goofy at practice and doesn’t take things too seriously, but when it’s time to get work done she is very focused," Jansen said. "She is one of the most motivated athletes I’ve ever met."

Flynn said she would like to place as an All-American again for both events at nationals this year.

Krzykowski said she would like to see Flynn produce a 50-meter throw in discus and at least a 57-meter throw in hammer. Flynn is currently two inches off the discus school record, and Krzykowski said she can see Flynn continuing to break her own school records.

"Being ranked so high comes with a lot of pressure from coaches, teammates, and even friends and family," Jansen said. "I want her to remember why she throws and enjoys it because it’s over faster than she realizes."
Students and Community Members
‘Take Back the Night’

CAROLINE CHALK
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“Take Back the Night” is an annual event held to empower and support domestic and sexual-violence survivors, organized through the Women’s Resource Center and sponsored by Promoting Awareness Victim Empowerment.

The fraternity Sigma Tau Gamma will perform a step routine at the event, a dance performance common among fraternities.

Attendees will march through campus and Stevens Point. Loren DeLonay, Women’s Resource Center’s promotions coordinator, said attendees will chant and hold candles during the march.

“The march is aimed to support women that have been attacked and raise awareness for women who have been sexually assaulted,” DeLonay said.

According to DeLonay, the event gives survivors the opportunity to find support they may not have otherwise.

Bri O’Dell, Women’s Resource Center’s resource coordinator, recalled last year’s march as her favorite part of the event.

“I think the biggest take away that people can get from it is the sense of unity and that we are all in this together,” O’Dell said. “Even though not everyone is a victim, most women in their lives have experienced harassment or know someone who has.”

Sigma Tau Gamma has performed at the event for three years. Peajee Howard, Sigma Tau Gamma’s president, will perform in the step performance. Howard has been stepping since he was seven years old.

“I love the atmosphere at the event and being able to give back to the community,” Howard said. “We need to start promoting a culture here that gives back, and coming to this event is an easy way for students to give back.”

The event will take place outside on Apr. 30 in the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s sundial.

Students Share Opinions on Smoking Ban Effectiveness

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At the start of the 2014 fall semester, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point banned all tobacco product use on campus.

Students had mixed feelings when UWSP announced the ban. As the end of the spring semester approaches, students still have conflicting opinions.

Derek Steger, sophomore graphic design major, smokes a few cigarettes per week. Steger supports the ban.

“I think the ban was a good step for the school,” Steger said. “I think that universities should take precautions when it comes to their student’s health.”

Steger lives off campus and said he is not bothered by the ban.

“Even though I smoke sometimes, I look at the perspective of people who can’t stand smoking at all,” Steger said. “I understand that they like their space and do not want people smoking at the university that they attend.”

Steger feels the ban has been effective since he has noticed an increase in the amount of students smoking off campus.

Aidan Bakken, sophomore forest management major, occasionally smokes cigarettes and disapproves of the ban.

“I feel like smoking on campus does not affect anyone on campus that drastically,” Bakken said. “I think if you’re outside, the smoke dissipates quickly so secondhand smoke is not that much of an issue. It’s not going to kill you.”

Bakken does not feel that the ban is effective because people will try to find ways around the ban.

Amanda Wallis, sophomore communicative disorders major, sees pros and cons of the ban.

“One of the reasons I don’t agree with the ban is because I feel like people should have the choice and opportunity to smoke,” Wallis said. “It is legal for them to smoke, and it does take away some of their personal rights. However, I think it is best for the campus to have this ban because it does promote a healthier student body.”

Wallis does not smoke and since the ban was enforced she has noticed less people smoking around campus.

“I don’t think that it’s necessarily fair that those who smoke cannot smoke on campus, but all they have to do is step off campus and smoke,” Wallis said. “It’s not that hard to find somewhere else.”
Students Plan for Life After Graduation

EMILY NOEL SHOWERS
POINTLIFE EDITOR
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Kelsey Ballard

Q: What has college been like as a triple major?
A: My majors are social work and sociology, as well as child, youth and family studies. Social work and sociology go together but child, youth and family studies was a course load all on its own. While the extra courses added more time and work on my plate, I feel I gained a thorough understanding of human services and family development which will benefit me in the future.

Q: What are your aspirations after college?
A: In the next year or so, I plan to apply to graduate school to pursue a master degree in social work. I have a passion for children and families and would like to develop programs in some capacity to improve family functioning. I am also going to actively look for volunteer opportunities overseas, specifically in youth and community development.

Q: Where do you see yourself five years from now?
A: I hope to have my master's degree and be living out west, preferably California. Either that or working and living overseas. Whatever I am doing, I want to be working to improve the lives of people in some way.

Q: What advice would you offer to incoming students next year?
A: Step out of your comfort zone. Take advantage of every opportunity you have at UWSP. Your time in college is going to be some of the most important years in your life. My time at UWSP helped me discover myself and my passions. I don't have it all figured out yet, but through professors and friends, I feel so much more confident about my future.

Q: How has your time at UWSP changed you?
A: Coming into college, I felt very lost and unsure of who I was and what I should do with my life. My time at UWSP helped me discover myself and my passions. I don't have it all figured out yet; but through professors and friends, I feel so much more confident about my future.

Q: What has college been like as a triple major?
A: I have been organizing students around their rights for the past four years, and I absolutely love my experience there. I hope to continue to be an activist and can see myself working in non-profit development. I look forward to organizing people on any issues they are passionate about.

Q: How have you changed throughout your experience at UWSP?
A: My time at UWSP has really taught me that when you are passionate about something, you can find others who love it as well. I found a home in the Women's Resource Center and connected with some of my classmates on issues we were studying. There are ways we can connect with each other on this campus that we never even think of.

Q: Where do you see yourself five years from now?
A: I don't know where life will take me. I have found myself enjoying so many different things, but I hope that I can continue to do what I want to do. Whether that is activism work, going into politics or working in a human resources department. I want to do something I enjoy and that makes me want to wake up in the morning.

Q: What advice would you give to incoming students?
A: Never give up on what you care about. Whether it's making sure you have amazing grades, or you are truly passionate about a specific issue like environmental justice. Do what makes you excited to get up in the morning. Don't give up on things that make you excited because those are things you could end up doing for the rest of your life.

Couple Maintains Sustainable Lifestyle

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Claire Ault and Connor Fischer, who will be married in September, moved this past winter to Fischer's family's hunting cabin for a more sustainable lifestyle and to connect with nature.

"The cabin has no running water, they shower once a week, produce most of their food and are preparing foraging and to stick with it," Ault said. "Foraging is very detailed work," Ault said. "We are determined to become more comfortable with foraging and to stick with it."

"We have lived on this earth for 23 years, and it has provided so much pollution." They try to avoid purchasing food from grocery stores because they want to become more connected with their food and water sources. They pump their water from a nearby well and forage for food in the wild.

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"Foraging is very detailed work," Ault said. "We are determined to become more comfortable with foraging and to stick with it."

"Dandelions, normally considered weeds, are a spring staple in Ault and Fisher's diets. They toss them in a salad and scramble them with an egg."

Ault and Fischer keep busy with do-it-yourself projects. When they become accustomed to living on minimal resources, they hope to move their home across the country.

"Our motto has been we go wherever the wind takes us," Fischer said. "One year we could be teaching environmental education, and the next year we're ski bums working at a ski resort."

Before they constructed the tiny house, they built a chicken coop to gain building experience. "It's just a chicken coop, so it doesn't matter if we screw up on it unlike our tiny house," Fischer said.

Fischer said living sustainably has heightened his senses. "I saw the same trees and blades of grass day after day, but when spring came, I began to notice them grow and leaf out," Fischer said. "It is amazing to watch the journey of life. You can sense the rain coming by the smell of the air, and after a rainfall, you can feel the plants drinking and notice them grow more."

Ault said they are free from distractions and noise pollution and are in touch with their surroundings.

"In suburban America, there are always sounds of planes and cars," Ault said. "In the prairie, it is pure silence where you'll pick up on the sounds of wildlife."
Right now, science fiction cinema is mostly a world of flashy, big-budget adventures. The "Star Wars" effect has rippled for decades, putting intimate, philosophical science fiction on the back burner.

"Ex Machina" portrays how this genre is at its absolute best when it embraces special ideas as much as it embraces special effects. I love stuff like "Star Wars" and "Guardians of the Galaxy," but those movies are focused on creating awe and wonder. As movie-goers, we also need art that provides unique perspectives on the human experience. Science fiction used to be a hotbed for those things. "Ex Machina" harkens back to the days of Philip K. Dick and Isaac Asimov. It presents a story pertaining to how the way we treat robotics says a lot about how we treat our fellow humans.

The story revolves around Caleb Smith, a young programmer who wins a chance to spend a week in the estate of his reclusive boss, Nathan Bateman. It is like a twisted "Willy Wonka" scenario with robotics instead of candy.

Caleb gets more than he bargained when discovering that Nathan wants to use him in an experiment to evaluate the humanity of a new, sophisticated android named Ava. The drama arises when Caleb discovers there is more to Ava and Nathan than what he can see on the surface.

"Ex Machina" is a mystery on many levels, so I will not spoil any of its revelations. I will only say it poses fascinating questions about the nature of existence and about how gender and sexuality apply to the future of robotics.

I have spent a long time contemplating the messages that this story tries to get across, something the strange world of science fiction can cause better than any genre. It is something this genre should never lose.

"Ex Machina" can only be faulted for being a bit slow, and more importantly, for perpetuating some of the sexist notions I sincerely believe it wants to subvert. Other than those complaints, it is a complex, wonderfully-acted character study that earns 8 electric sheep out of 10.
Album Review

'MC III'

Mikal Cronin’s new release, ‘MC III,’ is a supersonic pile-driver for the ears. This album originated from this past year’s tour with fellow East-coaster, Ty Segall. As the third LP for the Californian singer-songwriter, it features one well-constructed pop song after another and is his first release under the Merge record Label. Classically trained from the California Institute of Fine Arts, Cronin’s wide musical knowledge truly comes through.

Every song features wonderfully arranged orchestral parts, which Cronin arranged and played himself. His guitar-driven pop anthems are also perfect for anyone’s summer mixtape.

The first side of the album begins with an upbeat powerhouse song, “Turn Around,” which is designed to blow the listener away. The song swells, as a wave of guitars, strings, and drums crash over your ear drums.

If up-tempo guitar rock is your thing, “Say” is the perfect song for you. It opens with a driving bass, drums, and a cowbell and then evolves into a full-fledged rock song, complete with a guitar solo.

Finally, Cronin brings the energy down for the final song on the A side, “I’ve Been Loved.” This mellow, acoustic anthem showcases his talent as an arranger through thrilling string parts which dazzle the ears.

Side B relates Cronin’s coming of age story; how he moved from California to the Pacific Northwest to go to school, as well as dealing with isolation, debilitating back pain and a loss of self.

He refers to this era as a pivotal time in his life, and the music reflects that. “I Alone” features a soft movie score-like texture and provides a perfect view of the isolation Cronin felt. Conversely, “IV Ready” is a driving force reminiscent of ’90s college rock stylings.

MCIII, is an exceptional piece of music that I highly recommend to anyone who appreciates driving guitar rock and exhilarating string arrangements.

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French 75

The French 75 is a classic cocktail perfect for celebrating graduation and the semester’s end. It’s easy to make and will undoubtedly delight any celebration guests with its bubbles and hint of sweetness.

**French 75**

1 ounce gin
1 ounce simple syrup
3 ounces sparkling wine or anything with bubbles
3/4 ounce lemon juice
lemon twist

Combine gin, simple syrup, lemon juice and ice.

Shake and strain. Add sparkling wine and lemon twist.

Recipe adapted from imbibe.com.

The Pointer does not promote the consumption of alcohol for people under age 21. When consuming alcoholic beverages, please drink responsibly.

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Photo courtesy of domainehome.com
Students took a break from studying to express their creative sides.

SIEO Provides Art Therapy to Students

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The Student Involvement and Employment Office’s Arts In Pieces provided students art therapy to relieve the stress of finals on April 22.

Mariah Pfundheller, SIEO Student Leadership and Marketing Coordinator, said the event is part of a leadership program the office hosts every year.

"The purpose of Arts In Pieces is to educate students on different ways to deal with their stress, since this is such a stressful time with finals at the end of the year. Liz Gilmore did a great job at educating students on how they can approach stress in a healthy way," Pfundheller said.

The intimate event started with Elizabeth Gilmore, SIEO’s Greek Life and Leadership Coordinator, talking about various ways to manage stress. Suggestions she provided included visual imagination, breathing exercises, Tai Chi and art therapy.

Gilmore said the event helps students learn relaxation techniques.

"We talked about identifying stressors, how relaxation responses are good for reducing stress, practiced a few relaxation techniques and ended with painting," Gilmore said.

"We offer this program so students can learn real tangible skills for stress reduction and relax by painting."

Within the last hour, each student received a canvas, watercolors, and paints to help express themselves and release stress. Art materials provided were free of charge from SIEO.

Participants painted various quotes, animals, and scenic landscapes.

"Art In Pieces was an extraordinary time," said Hannah Piencikowski, elementary education major. "It was relaxing, creative, and a great place to meet new people who enjoyed painting and expressing themselves."
The 17th annual Soiree Musicale took place on April 24th.

Soirée Musicale Showcases Music Talents

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A night of fun, talent and excitement surrounded the 17th annual Soirée Musicale, a fundraiser for the scholarship fund designated for University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point music students, on Friday, April 24.

Faculty, alumni and students prepared for the event, which is the largest of its kind, with tickets priced at $50 for guests. Students who received scholarships were active during preparations. Many scholarships were awarded to incoming freshmen.

"The Soirée Musicale is all about raising money for music scholarships for incoming freshmen as well as upperclassmen," said Amy Bakken, Soirée Musicale co-chair. "The Central Wisconsin community loves and supports musicians at UWSP and this is a great way for them to give back, insuring growth and excellence in the students that come here.

On an entertainment level, the Soirée Musicale is a fun evening filled with entertaining music from the students, as well as our very talented faculty."

The theme of this year’s event was "Anything Goes," which is also the title of a 1930’s musical. The musical takes place in a cruise ship, which was incorporated into the Soirée Musicale set design.

"The Soirée Musicale is a wonderful convergence of passions: the passion of the musicians in presenting a high-quality, engaging program, the passion of the event organizers, who work tirelessly and engage their ingenuity in planning and delivering the event, and the passion of the audience members, who are so supportive of these young musicians," said Patricia Holland, UWSP Music Department chair. "The scholarship funds raised through the Soirée Musicale allow us to support outstanding music students, and we are so grateful."

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   Sometimes I Sit And Think And Sometimes I Just Think

2. **Avid Dancer**  
   1st Bath

3. **Mountain Goats**  
   Beat the Champ

4. **Modest Mouse**  
   Strangers To Ourselves

5. **Lower Dens**  
   Escape From Evil

6. **Death Cab for Cutie**  
   Kintsugi

7. **Vetiver**  
   Complete Strangers

8. **Sufjan Stevens**  
   Carrie Lowell

9. **Dan Deacon**  
   Gliss Riffer

10. **Villagers**  
    Darling Arithmetic

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*Image credit: The Pointer*