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SIEO Volunteers Assist with Farmshed

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On March 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Student Involvement and Employment Office hosted a volunteer opportunity at Central Rivers Farmshed.

The opportunity is part of Service Saturdays, and volunteers worked with Growing Collective members. Students assisted in everyday tasks around the facility, such as inventorying plant containers and setting up tables in the greenhouse.

"Service Saturday brought the joy of true community development to all who volunteered and a deep sense of belonging," said Brewster Johnson, student volunteer. "It was an educational experience that respected the values of Farmshed."

The Growing Collective's mission is to strengthen the local food community and support Farmshed's Greenhouse Project. According to Farmshed's website, hundreds have volunteered to assist in transforming

the Sorenson's Garden Center.

Olivia Ehlers, Americorp Farm to School community outreach member for Farmshed, led the Service Saturday. A recent graduate at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, she is among a handful of other college students interning at Farmshed.

Led by volunteer coordinator Taylor Ann Christiansen, Farmshed Fridays also bring in students and community members, Ehlers said. Cleaning pantries and re-potting plants are just a few of the tasks volunteers can help with, and there is an optional potluck offered afterward.

"Monthly community potlucks bring together a lot of university and community members of all ages," Ehlers said. "It's good to see the students involved with local food initiatives and interacting with the community."

Additionally, dietetics and nutrition students can complete practicum hours by volunteering through the Farm to School program, Ehlers said.



Photo courtesy of Brewster Johnson

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EDITORIAL

UWSP Should Focus on Sustainability to Attract Students

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As we face budget cuts and battle other universities for students, we need to consider investing in our sustainability initiatives.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point frequently ranks among the most sustainable, green universities in the United States for its solar panel use, wastewater treatment plant, gardens and other environmentally friendly initiatives.

The latest recognition came from Mother Nature Network, which named UWSP one of the "17 amazing green colleges." The university hasn't compiled a list of all recognitions, according to Sustainability Director Dave Barbier, but he did say the most accurate, objective sustainability awards are from the Princeton Review and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

The association awarded UWSP a gold ranking with a score of 68.81 in 2012. UW-Oshkosh was the only other UW school, with a gold ranking and 72.9 points.

Unlike the past three years, UWSP was not named to the Princeton Review's 2015 Green Honor Roll.

We need to be the most sustainable and most environmentally

friendly university in Wisconsin, and one of the best in the nation, to stand out to prospective students, especially those pursuing natural resources degrees.

According to the Princeton Review's 2014 College Hopes and Worries Survey, 61 percent of students and 60 percent of parents care about universities' environmental responsibility.

UWSP Admissions' virtual campus tour for prospective students does not highlight these recognitions, which is an opportunity missed when students are unable to visit. The residence hall virtual tour does feature green initiatives in the dorms, but for less than a minute of video.

We should promote sustainability online to attract students who haven't yet gone through the process of a campus tour or a conversation with an admissions counselor.

This is an issue for all of us. We should work to raise our standards and become more environmentally friendly. Our newspaper's printer, Print N'Press in Waupaca, uses soy-based ink and recycles all extra paper, but we also are evaluating our paper distribution and checking the cost to switch to recycled paper.

Although we work hard to be sustainable, we need to focus more on green initiatives and promote UWSP as a sustainable, green campus.



BUDGET PROPOSAL UPDATE

Budget Cut Preparations Target Services, Courses

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Administrators are preparing for a 25 percent loss of state support to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, meaning the possibility of cutting the Student Academic Advising Center, Career Services and reducing First Year Seminars.

"These offices are what help students figure out what they want to do

for their careers," said first-year undeclared major Kirk Prince. "If they can figure this out, they are more likely to stay in school."

"Our offices are currently in jeopardy, but the discussions are still going on," said Angie Kellogg, director of Career Services and the center. "I really feel that this decision would have an impact on campus."

She said many students who are undeclared, about 20 percent of every

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PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Sunday, Mar. 1

Pray-Sims staff member called to report an individual stuck in the elevator with no injuries.

May Roach staff member called to report a resident with a possible concussion.

Monday Mar. 2

Student called stating she was being harassed and would like to speak to an officer.

Stevens Point ER called stating a student from earlier left his emergency contact information card there and they were unsure what to do with it. Officers picked up the card and delivered it to the on-duty hall director at Pray-Sims.

CCC staff member called from her office to report an odor of gas in the entrance area off Lot E.

Baldwin staff member called to report someone skateboarding in front of the hall, probably on the railings.

Tuesday, Mar. 3

Staff member called stating he and several other witnesses saw a beige or gold Nissan hit a black Subaru. A female exited, looked at the vehicle and drove off.

Student called to report a man in a blue coat and hat approaching and following students, saying nonsensical things to them. He was spotted with a book and flashlight.

Wednesday, Mar. 4

Staff member from HR called to report a male subject in his 50s wandering the halls of Old Main. They did not know his purpose for being in the building.

Neale staff member called stating a student had made a threat to burn down 601 Division St.

A car was found parked on the sidewalk in front of Thomson and Watson.

Thursday, Mar. 5

Student called stating her personal possessions have been missing since last semester. When she first noticed this happening, she spoke with her roommate and informed her that she was welcome to borrow items as long as she asked first.

Female called to inform base that her daughter fell on the cement located by Lot R.

THE POINTER

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

Judicial Branch of SGA Looking for New Court Justice

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The Student Government Association's judicial branch is looking for an additional supreme court justice to oversee the SGA election process and make decisions on student organization cases.

"Holding a position in SGA enables people to let their voices be heard in a formal setting, expand their knowledge about what the university offers and hone key skills that will be beneficial in the future," said Associate Justice Ariana Vruwink.

A full judicial branch court is made up of a chief justice and four associate justices.

"We are the elections committee, so we create the ballot, verify the applicants and make sure they have the correct signatures," said Associate Justice Adam Swanson. "After elections, student organizational conducts begin."

Swanson explained that chapters 17 and 18 of the University of Wisconsin System set guidelines as to how individuals in organizations are supposed to conduct themselves. If there were a disruption of these standards, the organization would attend a hearing before the court and



Photo courtesy of thefullcourtpress.org

state its case.

"We would determine sanctioning from there, which could be as light as an apology letter and as heavy as disbanding their organization for six years," Swanson said. "Your job is just to help other students make better choices in the future."

The judicial branch is also responsible for auditing student clubs and organizations. The court plans to audit all organizations within the

next two years.

"We want to make sure the organizations are running smoothly so that all prospective members of these clubs feel welcomed and enjoy their experience," Vruwink said. "As you audit, you get to learn about the wide array of student organizations at UW-Stevens Point and the fun activities students can take part in."

The court currently meets twice a month in the Dreyfus University

Center, room 054. Depending on the number of student organizational hearings, that number might increase.

"It's not at all time-consuming," said Chief Justice Robert Lyke. "I've already gained great communication skills and networking opportunities through my time [as chief justice]."

Applications are found on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point website. Students can also contact Lyke at rlyke719@uwsp.edu for further information.

"We're looking for a student who's responsible, and if you have been involved with other student organizations before, you are sure to stand out," Lyke said.

Vruwink said bylaws and statutes, which student organizations and SGA must follow, can seem a bit intimidating at first, but everyone in SGA's judicial branch is welcoming and more than willing to give a helping hand.

"Becoming an associate justice is a great way to get involved on campus and is something that students can put on their resume or scholarship application to stand out," Vruwink said. "Acquiring a position in SGA enables students to expand various skills that future employers will be looking for."

Continuing Education Offers Workshop on Drugs

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Communities across Wisconsin struggle with drug addiction. To help spread awareness and promote community engagement, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Continuing Education department will offer a substance abuse workshop focused on recent drug trends from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday, March 27, in the Alumni Room of Dreyfus University Center.

The cost is \$89, and registration is available online at the UWSP Continuing Education webpage.

Melissa Dotter, coordinator of the Drug Free Communities Program of the Marathon County Health Department, will present the workshop. The content is intended for students, mental health professionals, members of law enforcement and any other interested individuals.

One course credit in Social Work 395 is available for students who attend the workshop along with additional meetings. Credit is offered at the normal rate of tuition per credit, which is \$378.46 for a Wisconsin resident.

Julie Hellweg, program coordina-

tor of UWSP Continuing Education, said the workshop will cover a variety of hot topics on drug abuse and prevention, but will focus on heroin addiction. Workshops like Dotter's are offered about once a year, and always stem from current issues.

"That's an unbelievably growing epidemic in Wisconsin," Hellweg said. "It's crossing social and economic boundaries."

Dotter said older illicit drugs like heroin are re-emerging, and legal drugs like new alcohol and tobacco products are becoming popular. She will provide insight into the latest trends, address addiction basics and discuss how communities may help and treat those who seek support.

"It's such a complex issue," Dotter said. "Every community is different and needs to join in the fight."

Dotter has a master's degree in community mental health and completed her undergraduate studies in criminology. She has worked in substance abuse prevention since 2001 and helps point drug-using individuals and their families in the right direction, but said it is a person's own choice to get treatment.

"I use the duck in a dirty pond analogy," Dotter said. "You can take a dirty duck out of a dirty pond and



Photo courtesy of recovery.org

clean it up, but if you put it back into the dirty pond, it's going to get dirty again."

Dotter's approach to substance abuse prevention includes up-to-date education, as well as awareness and strengthening of coalitions or sup-

port organizations. She said without adequate financial backing, it can be very difficult to gain support for substance abuse.

"We need to look into what different systems can do to support those people," Dotter said.

Summers Accepts MCLA Presidential Position

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Greg Summers, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, will start on July 1 as 12th president of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams, Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts state Board of Higher Education unanimously approved Summers for the position on Tuesday, March 10. He was one of 59 applicants from around the country.

Salary range and contract details are being finalized. According to an online database on Madison.com, Summers' salary for the 2014-15 academic year is \$160,156. Mary Grant, 11th MCLA president, earned \$243,212 in 2014, according to an article in *The Berkshire Eagle*.

"I'm excited to have new personal and professional opportunities at MCLA, both for myself and for my wife and kids," Summers said. "I've been blessed to have lots of opportunities here at UWSP to help manage the changing landscape of higher education, from curricular and co-curricular reform, assessment and

accreditation, to advancing strategic plans, new budget models and partnerships for economic development. These experiences will certainly be useful as I move into my new role."

He said he owes a great deal to his colleagues who have entrusted him with many opportunities and responsibilities.

Chancellor Bernie Patterson is taking suggestions for an interim replacement for Summers' positions.

"Right now I have a list of maybe a dozen or more possibilities, but I will be consulting with the vice chancellors and deans and some of our directors as well as the provost's office, and then we will be issuing a call to campus," Patterson said.

He said there is likely to be added stress any time there is a disruption in leadership, and especially during the planning regarding the state budget proposal.

"That's just how organizations function," Patterson said. "We will certainly deal with that, and we have processes in place, because this does happen."

Summers applied for the position last fall before the budget crisis materialized.

"You always worry about the potential impact of this kind of leadership change, especially in the midst of this kind of budget concern," Summers said. "Still, I have tremendous confidence in my colleagues within academic affairs, and I'm sure they will work to ensure that the transition goes smoothly."

Patterson said he is honored MCLA looked to UWSP as a campus that nurtures faculty and staff to their full potential, and is not surprised the college decided on Summers.

The nationwide search for Summers' replacement will begin this semester.

"We will be in contact with Faculty Senate to initiate the process," Patterson said.

He said Summers' greatest impacts on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are his efforts to reform the General Education Program, his hand in the creation of A Partnership for Thriving Communities, UWSP's strategic plan to build relationships throughout Central and Northern Wisconsin; and his help with the revival of convocation.

MCLA, which has about 1,500

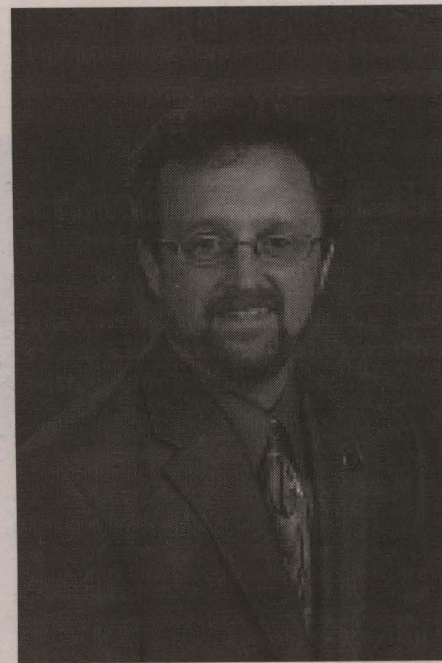


Photo courtesy of uwsp.edu

undergraduates, is part of the state university system and has been the state's public liberal arts college since 1997.

The Massachusetts Board of Trustees was impressed with Summers' passion for higher education and eagerness to become involved in the Northern Berkshire community.

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first-year class, turn to the services for guidance.

"We [SAAC] help students develop educational plans and with the decision-making process for a major as well as just helping them ease the transition of college and with what other issues come up," Kellogg said. "We hear from students every day saying they don't know what they would do without this office, so we worry about the loss of this service."

Jana Schlei, lead peer adviser for the center, said she was undeclared as a freshman.

"I wouldn't have picked UWSP if it weren't for programs like this to support undeclared students," Schlei said. "Meeting with peer advisers as a freshman helped me so much. When you get here at 18 years old, it is a whole new world and everything is confusing and overwhelming, then throw on top of that that I didn't have a major. The peer advisers helped me adjust to college life and showed me how to take control of my academic planning."

Career Services helps students explore majors and careers, prepare for the job search, find jobs and internships and locate information about graduate school.

"I use Career Services at least once a semester when applying for jobs or internships, searching for them, the cover letter and resume, preparing for interviews, the whole process," Schlei said. "I would not be as successful without their help."

Other students have differing opinions.

"I understand that the university

has to make cuts," said James Jansen, sophomore computer information systems major. "While they're nice services, they're not necessary. Classes are my necessity."

Kellogg referenced a survey that had been done of all incoming students, and 94 percent said academic advising and career counseling were the most important services a university could provide.

"It doesn't seem to make sense that those are services we would be getting rid of at this time, particularly at a time where student retention and success are so important," Kellogg said.

"We know students want jobs and want to be employed after college," Kellogg said. "That's what our office [Career Services] helps to do. We also continue to provide services for alumni long after graduation and services for a lifetime. We're one of the few offices that do that."

Kellogg does not think there is a plan in place for where students could turn if these offices are cut. She said these responsibilities would likely be assumed by faculty, but discussions are preliminary.

"This does take a large knowledge and skill set as well as time and accessibility to work with students," Kellogg said. "You just wonder how that will be adequately absorbed. Faculty and staff are already going to be asked to do more and more with less time."

Last year, there were more than 4,000 appointments between the two offices.

Kellogg said many students, fac-

ulty, staff, alumni and employers are standing up and voicing their opinions on this potential cut.

"We have a lot of people with a strong voice providing feedback, so we are hopeful that we might still be able to change things and turn things around," Kellogg said.

Chancellor Bernie Patterson said no matter where the decisions turn, outcomes will be detrimental.

"We have not made any big picture decisions yet," Patterson said. "Everything is in the conversation stage. This is just the beginning of the conversation."

"It comes down to what is the best out of several bad alternatives," Patterson said.

Scaling Back First Year Seminars

Provost Greg Summers proposed eliminating FYS for direct savings, about \$400,000, and moving faculty to other academic areas.

Professor Mary Bowman, chair of the General Education Committee, said the committee passed a resolution on Feb. 13 encouraging the provost to allow FYS to continue.

Summers said the program will still be available, but there will likely be cuts to the number of sections offered and to additional hiring to allow professors to teach sections.

"We are still basically gearing up our program, so we don't know a lot of the impact it's having here, but we know from research elsewhere that it really helps, especially students who maybe wouldn't have succeeded in college, do well," Bowman said. "A

lot of people believe it's got great potential."

Bowman has taught FYS under "The Lord of the Rings" section since it was in its pilot stage four years ago, agrees that the program has potential and personally enjoys teaching it.

Sophomore philosophy major Ethan Cates took an FYS course on Jesus in music and film during the 2013-14 academic year, the first year the courses were officially a requirement.

"I think the courses open up your mind to other things and improve writing skills, but I don't necessarily think they should be required," Cates said. "Because FYS is required, I think it automatically lessens motivation because of the time commitment when there are more relevant courses to take. It could be a beneficial elective, though."

While some students found direct benefits from these courses, such as improved study skills, others thought their time could have been spent elsewhere.

"I think a class on how to write papers would have helped me and other business majors more," said Cody Gabryshak, junior accounting, business administration and economics major.

Bowman said the General Education Program is already relatively "bare bones," and the committee felt these cuts were not strategic for the relatively new program, which is designed to create strong study skills, acquaintance to campus and connections with other students who have similar interests.

Parking Advisory Board Proposes Raising Parking Fees

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The Parking Advisory Board will propose a two-year plan that would annually increase both parking permits and meter fees.

“I think it’s essential to raise prices if they want to have more room for people to park,” said Hailee Mattmiller, biology major.

I think it’s essential to raise prices if they want to have more room for people to park.

- Hailee Mattmiller, biology major

ple to park,” said Hailee Mattmiller, biology major. “Last semester when I drove to campus for a 10 a.m. class, even Lot Q would be full.” The proposal explains that over the next two years, parking passes will increase from \$118 to \$154 and

metered parking will increase from 50 to 75 cents per hour. Tyler Forsythe, chair of the board, said the largest concern is that there will not be adequate commuter and event parking for students and visitors. He foresees metered parking going from 50 to 60 cents next year and 75 cents the following year. He said parking passes will probably increase from \$118 to \$146 one year, and from \$146 to \$154 the next. From this point, the proposal will go to the University Affairs Committee, which is comprised of faculty, staff and students. Then it will go to both Classified Staff Council and Faculty Senate. If approved, it will be sent to the chancellor for the final signature. “I don’t feel like it makes sense to raise the prices for spots that are usually really far from campus,” said Dallas Hytry, sociology major. “The ones that are close to campus are always full and stay that way for the majority of the day.” Another reason for the increase is from the loss of cash reserves, which are significantly diminished. Forsythe said this is due to the loss of Lot X and the \$400,000 spent on snow removal last year, which is roughly double the amount spent this winter.



Photo by Allison Birr
Metered parking rates could be raised in the following years.

Bill Rowe, Parking Services director, explained that cash reserves allow Parking Services to purchase homes, specifically on Briggs Street, that will be constructed into additional parking for students and faculty. “We’ve got to have cash reserves available to buy these properties,” Rowe said. “We’ve bought two in the last year, which has allowed us

to build parking Lot Y. Without the cash reserves to buy those homes, this parking lot wouldn’t be possible.” Rowe said if the university is forced to build a parking ramp due to a lack of space, the structure would cost anywhere from \$9 to \$16 million. “We’re just trying to fulfill the campus growth plan,” Rowe said.

WICS Creates Tight-Knit Community in Wisconsin

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point was one out of six competition locations for the Wisconsin Indoor Climbing Series. The series allows climbers to compete all over Wisconsin and create a community. “I can go anywhere in the state now to find someone to climb with just because you have this community that are all interested in the same things,” said Kyle Hanus, climbing route setter and biology major. The group was established in 2011 and has grown each year since. The Stevens Point competition grew from 50 to 76 climbers, the most climbers since collaborating with all the other UW schools. The event on February 28 had a 30-person wait list. Seven UW schools attended the event, with Angela Jennings taking the overall female winner title and Gabe Huenn for the men’s title. The finals had more than 100 spectators cheering them on. “Normally, the competition is just for locals. Now we have climbers coming in from all over the state,” said Taylor Christiansen, UWSP climbing wall manager and land-use

planning major. Having six schools collaborate in the series allowed for more prizes and sponsors. “Collaborating has allowed us to get bigger and more engaged sponsors,” said Nathan Barnhart, assistant director of recreational sports at UW-Lacrosse and co-founder of the group. “We wouldn’t have been able to get that support without working together.” Not only does the series allow for more enjoyment the day of the competition, it also makes planning for each climb much easier on those in charge, Barnhart said. “We didn’t want to reinvent the wheel, we wanted to take what they have and make it easier to plan,” Barnhart said. “All schools have limited resources, so it helps save money on planning each of the events.” “It made sense, it would be less work for us and also a great way to get the word out statewide,” Christiansen said. Every year after the series is completed, leaders from each school get together and talk about what could be changed in the future. “From the first competition I went to when I was a freshman to where we are now is completely different,” Hanus said.

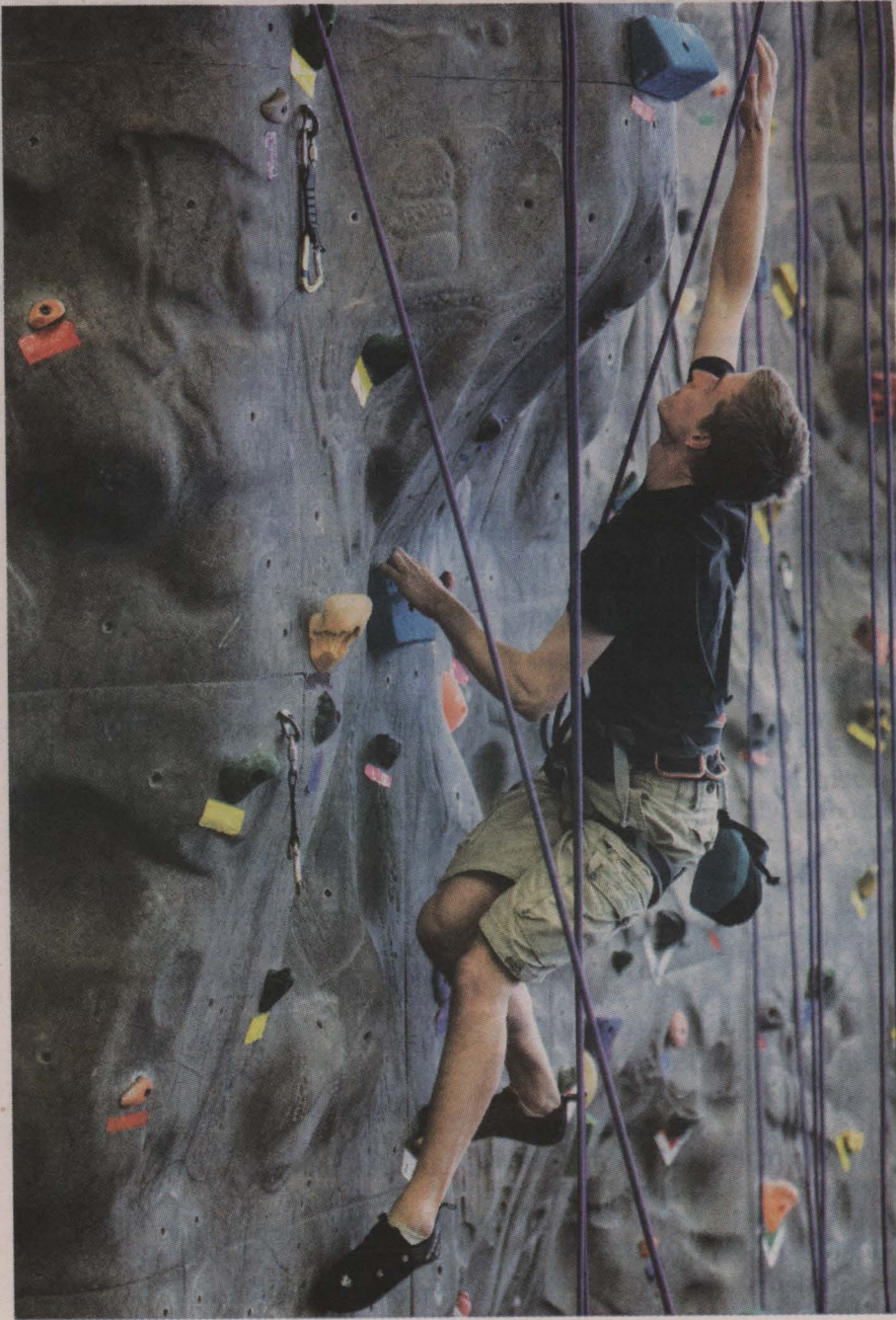


Photo courtesy of flickr.com

ENVIRONMENT

Budget Proposal Cripples Environmental Education

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Sources say the budget proposed by Gov. Scott Walker, candidate for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination, would cripple environmental education throughout Wisconsin if passed.

The proposal eliminates the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board as well as the Department of Public Instruction Environmental Education consultant position. It also repeals state statute requiring establishment of the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"A lot of environmental education students say it's not worth staying in Wisconsin if the budget proposal goes through," said Angela Matel, Environmental Educators and Naturalists Association president.

Matel, youth program and camp management major, grew up in inner-city Milwaukee and was introduced to nature by the Urban Ecology Center.

"It kept me out of trouble and allowed me to kayak and canoe, something I still do today," Matel said. "I want to help other inner-city

kids discover nature and would like to see more naturalists involved in educating underprivileged youth."

Ken Leinbach, executive director at the center in Milwaukee, said, "it seems the state is going backwards in terms of the environment because it is such a critical issue now and will only become more so in the future."

“

It is core to our future as a state to develop environmentally literate citizens and encourage pursuit in natural resource careers.

- Jeremy Solin, WCEE program director

Jeremy Solin, the center's program director, said repealing state statute for the center in Stevens Point does not eliminate it, but could pose a risk to future funding. Created under Gov. Thompson, the center has supported K-12 environmental education for more than 20 years.

The DPI consultant, now Virginia Rydberg, supports school-based initiatives in STEM (science,

technology, engineering and mathematics education) and outdoor learning, the goal being to develop the state's future workforce and entrepreneurs into those who sustain environmental health.

The elimination of this position will make it difficult for schools to take part in programs such as

save tax payers money, he said.

Some grants from the board are not funded by state tax revenue either. \$130,000 comes from fines related to breaking environmental state laws and \$200,000 comes from the conservation fund from property tax. Each year \$330,000 grants are given from the board to schools, organizations and non-profits in Wisconsin, he said.

The Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP), an area of WCEE, is focused on making students aware of their energy use and efficiency, said Dave Barbier, sustainability coordinator at the Office of Sustainability.

Environmental education programs are very much in line with sustainability goals for the university and community, he said.

"Regardless of where you stand politically, we live on a planet with finite resources, period," Barbier said. "They will run out and the better and more efficiently we can use them, the better our planet will be in the future."

"It is core to our future as a state to develop environmentally literate citizens and encourage pursuit in natural resource careers," Solin said.

Green and Healthy Schools, which addresses major environmental and sustainability challenges to students. Working with the consultant also gives schools the opportunity to become energy efficient and save money, Solin said.

The position is not funded by state tax revenue, but by earnings from the state normal trust fund. Removing this position would not

UWSP Ranks Among Top Sustainable Universities

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Mother Nature Network, an environmental news website, nominated the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point as one of '17 amazing green colleges' in the United States because of its energy-saving buildings and sustainability-focused programs.

It is unclear what criteria judges used to make the list, but the network cited a waste education center, a green roof on the library, rain gardens, solar panels and local food utilization as top reasons for UWSP's recognition.

Other universities on the list include Columbia, Cornell and Stanford. The list comes at a convenient time for high school students who make decisions on college commitments during the spring. The network reported that about 60 percent of students who seek higher education evaluate universities' environmental commitments.

"That wasn't something I was looking for specifically," said Molly O'Grady, wildlife ecology major.

O'Grady said she did not realize how environmentally friendly Stevens Point is until she began classes. She thinks advertising sustainability could bring in more students.

"Students should be looking

at that when choosing a school," O'Grady said. "I'm very proud of our university."

Bobbi Kubish is director of the Student Success Center in the College of Natural Resources and is the coordinator of advising recruitment. She said prospective students she speaks with are most interested in the quality of education at UWSP, but environmental commitments are sometimes brought up. She tells students about getting involved and frequently mentions the waste education center.

"It's one of the few programs in the nation," Kubish said. "We should talk about it more."

Dave Barbier, sustainability director, said many similar lists tend to be subjective when evaluating universities, but he is glad to see UWSP on the list, especially among prestigious schools.

"We as a university don't really know what criteria they're judging us on," Barbier said. "They should be taken with a certain measure of salt."

Barbier said diverse approaches toward sustainability are essential to success. He said the recognition highlights a range of efforts made by the university, which speaks to the triple bottom line.

The triple bottom line, Barbier said, is the notion that, "things are sustainable when they're beneficial for the people, for the planet and are

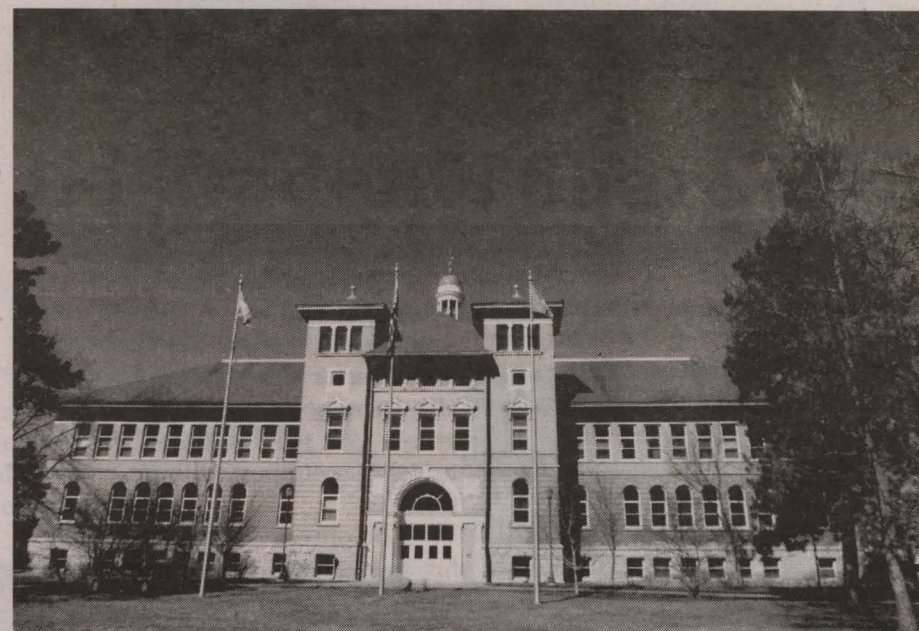


Photo by Allison Birr

Students and staff are proud of UWSP's accomplishments regarding sustainability.

economically profitable."

Each element of the philosophy supports the others, and meeting the demands increases the likelihood of success into the future.

The list is just one of many unofficial forms of recognition. In 2012, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education recognized UWSP as having a gold level sustainability assessment. UWSP will submit for recognition again this year.

Barbier said that assessment and similar forms of recognition are more

objective and should be taken more seriously.

"Those sorts of things definitely make us stand out," Barbier said. "They pack more weight."

Recognition for steps toward sustainability play a big role in continuing efforts, but Barbier said there is still room for improvement in terms of sustainability at UWSP.

"I think we're different in a lot of ways and the same in others," Barbier said. "It's been a part of the campus culture for a long time to think about things more conscientiously."

SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse Tackles Rebuilding Year

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After a few years of low numbers, the women's lacrosse team is recruiting in efforts to rebuild their team and resume competing as a club.

"It's almost like we're starting up this year," said sophomore center and President Brandi Scott. "We're waiting until the weather gets better after break to really get into things."

Scott is the only player on the team with prior experience and has been playing for over 15 years.

"Since my dad played his whole life and played for John Hopkins, naturally I started playing at a young age," Scott said.

Scott's goal for this spring season is to make sure players understand the sport.

One challenge the team faces is a lack of budget.

"The people in charge of the club before us didn't apply for a budget this year," said attack wing and Treasurer Laura Dickenson.

This fund shortage prevents the team from setting up matches because they cannot book transportation.

Another challenge is the team's practice slot they receive during cold

months. The club practices on Tuesday nights from 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Athletic teams get first pick for practice time followed by intramurals and finally club sports. Practice times are late this semester with the Quandt gymnasium leak.

"This will change when we get outside, but right now it's tough because no one wants to be at practice that late," said attack home and Vice President Taylor Schneider.

Challenges aside, the team's main priority is to gain experience.

Dickenson hopes to set up a scrimmage with the team in Wisconsin Rapids.

The team went from five members to 17 in the last year. They still want to recruit members.

"Even if you don't think you're coordinated enough come and try it out," Dickinson said. "You get the hang of it pretty quickly."

Schneider said she was pleased with who tried out and continued to show up.

"It can be intimidating. It's something fun though and if you've never played, try it," Schneider said.

Even with lots of new faces the team gets along well.

"We have team dinners and do fun things like that," Scott said.

Postseason Continues for UWSP Teams

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball team advanced to the NCAA tournament's Sweet 16, after winning the first and second rounds. In the first round, the Pointers defeated Concordia 88-56, as the team shot 71.7 percent from the field. Senior guards Austin Ryf, Joe Ritchay and forward Alex Richard led UWSP and scored 59 points combined, shooting 82.8 percent. Ryf led with 22 points, Richard had 21 points and Ritchay tallied 16 points. In the second round match-up against Illinois Wesleyan, UWSP outscored the Titans 35-19, for the 70-53 win. The Pointers never trailed and held the Titans scoreless for the last 7:12 of the game. Ritchay led the scoring with a game-high 19 points. Ryf also scored 14 points, while forward Jordan Lutz and guard Stephen Pelkofer each added 11 points. UWSP will get a rematch in the Sweet 16 against Emory on March 13, at Quandt Fieldhouse. Last season, the Pointers lost to Emory in the Sweet 16 at the Quandt Fieldhouse 76-73 in overtime.

TRACK AND FIELD

On March 13-14 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the UWSP track and field teams will send nine athletes to the 2015 NCAA Indoor Track and Field championships. The men's team has two individuals and a relay team competing, while the women have three individuals. All three women are returning to the national championships after competing in the last season's meet. Junior Kadie Flynn will compete in the weight throw after she competed in the discus throw and hammer throw last season. Junior Shannon Burke will compete in the pole vault after placing 17th last season, and senior Ana Breit will run the mile after earning All-American honors last season where she finished in eighth place. On the men's side, the distance medley relay of Michael Evans, Matt Sosinsky, Ryan Wierzba and Calvin VanRyzin will return to national. Last season the relay team finished seventh and Wizerba received All-American honors. Sophomore Jerry Williams will compete in triple jump, while junior Dennis Haak competes in the mile run.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

It was déjà vu for the Pointers women's hockey team as they lost to UW-River Falls 6-1 in the WIAC championship for the second year in a row. Janna Beilke-Skoug, UWSP goalie, and WIAC player of the year, faced 22 shots in the first period and made 21 saves to keep the Pointers in it. Beilke-Skoug faced 40 shots total, recording 34 saves, she set the school record for most saves in a season with 734. Forward Kat Nejedlo scored the only UWSP goal, with an assist from defenseman Nicole Schaub, to bring the score to 3-1. With the loss, the Pointers season ended since the team did not receive a bid into the NCAA tournament.

MEN'S HOCKEY

On the ice, the Pointers men's hockey team lost in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship 3-1 on March 7. No. 11 UW-River Falls defeated third-ranked Pointers, scoring three unanswered goals including a shorthand and powerplay goal in the third period. Forward Kyle Sharkey scored the lone goal for UWSP in the first period with assists from defenseman Mark Bittner and goaltender Brandon Jaeger. In net, Jaeger made 27 saves on 30 shots, while Falcons goalie Tanner Milliron stopped 23 shots out of 24. Despite the loss, the Pointers received an at-large bid in the NCAA Tournament. UWSP will host Hamline University on March 21 at Willett Arena in the NCAA Quarterfinals. UWSP and Hamline met on Jan. 10, where Hamline won 5-4, snapping a six-game win streak for the Pointers at the time.

Softball Looks to Excel Under New Head Coach

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The Pointers softball team started its season on a high note this year under new head coach Ashley Steltenpohl.

Steltenpohl was an assistant coach at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point before moving to Marian University and coaching there for four years. She has now returned to UWSP as head coach.

"It's great to be back in the WIAC," Steltenpohl said. "It's great to be taking over the reins."

The Pointers recently participated in a tournament in Minnesota. They came away with two wins and two losses.

Pitcher Sydney Gorges had a perfect game against Dubuque. This is the seventh time in UWSP history a pitcher successfully threw a perfect game.

"She did really well, and she had great defense behind her," said senior outfielder Jordan Schreiner. "It was a good way to start the year."

Team members are excited to see where this season will take them.

"The start to this season shows us we can beat some good teams," said senior second baseman Madalyn Sawdey. "We can compete with anyone."

Coming off a rebuilding year, the Pointers want to prove themselves.

"I think this will be a really good direction for our program," Sawdey said. "Coach knows softball really well and that we aren't a power hitting team. It may not show this year, but it will be a good change."

Steltenpohl wants to implement an aggressive play style that keeps the other team on its toes.

She and the team are working on adjusting to each other.

"We've been building a new culture," Steltenpohl said. "They are learning how I coach and my philosophies, and I've been learning and adjusting to them."

The leadership Steltenpohl sees in upperclassmen has been huge during the transition period.

The team's biggest goal is making the conference tournament at year's end. If achieved, it will be the first time the seniors play in it.

"If we sweep or split with every team, we play we will get that goal,"

Sawdey said.

Schreiner added that everyone must stay positive and energetic while playing.

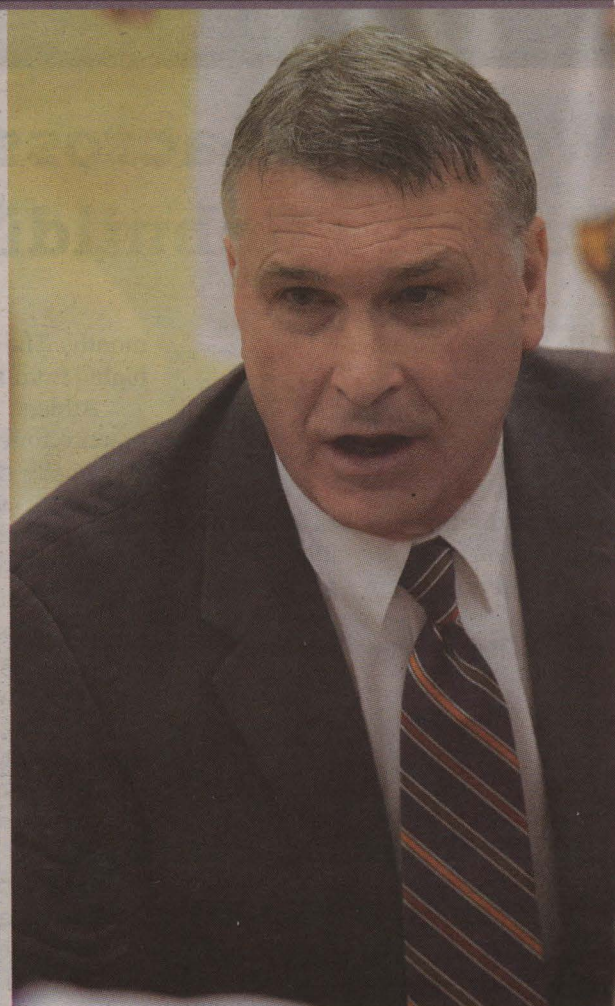
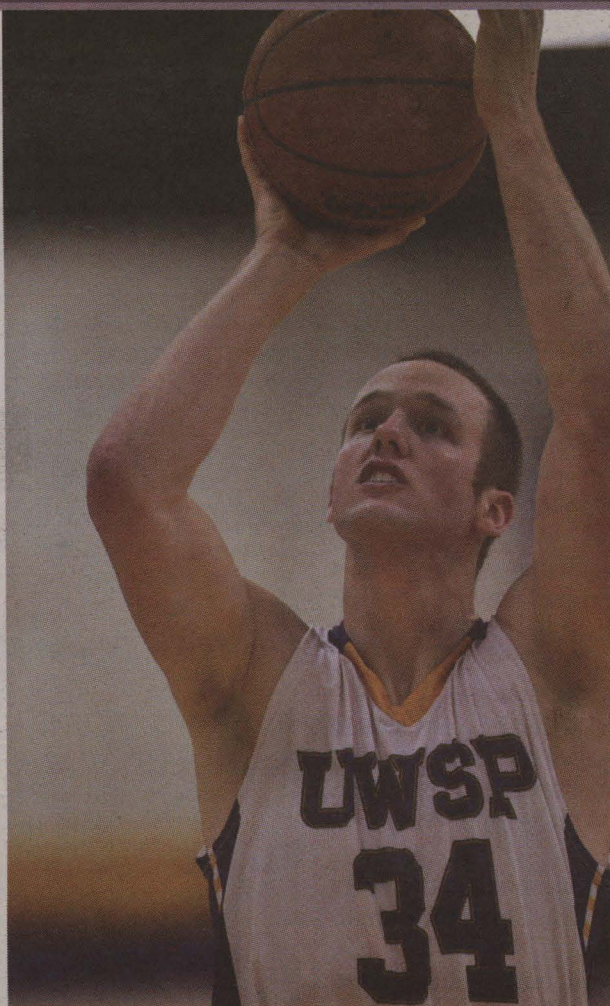
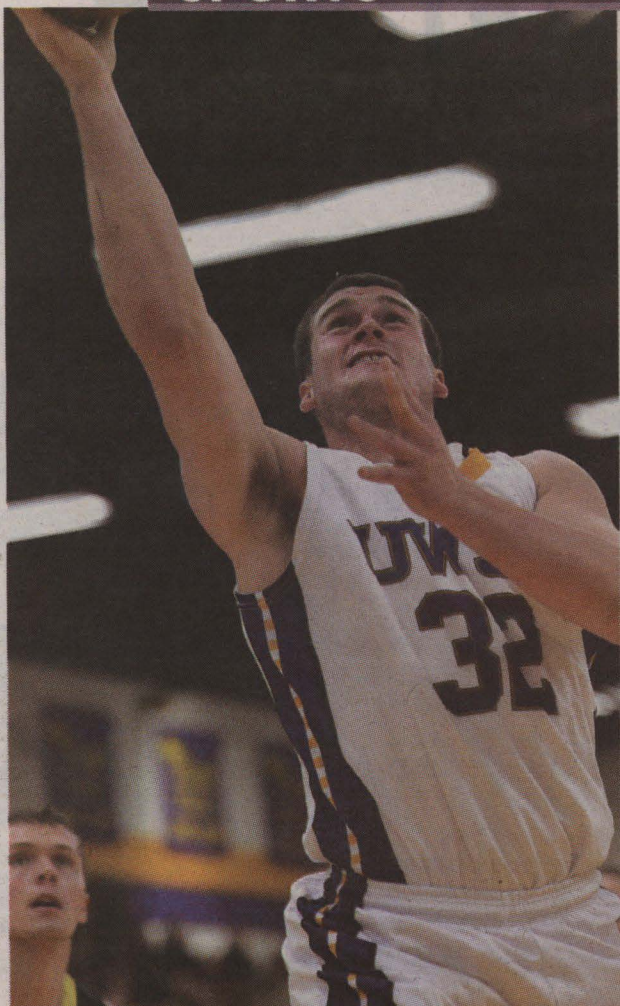
Schreiner also wants to improve her hitting so she can help the team as much as possible.

"If I'm not hitting, I'm not helping the team, so I want to do what I have to to be successful," Schreiner said.

Steltenpohl said the WIAC is a tough conference when it comes to softball.

"One of the great things about this conference is how competitive it is," Steltenpohl said. "You always have to bring it. There can't be any slouch games."

SPORTS



Photos by Jack McLaughlin

Two Player of the Year Winners Highlight UWSP All-WIAC Honors

MARTY KAUFFMAN

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Throughout the past few weeks, the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference announced the All-WIAC teams for hockey and basketball, giving awards to many Pointer athletes, including two Player of the Year winners.

The University of Wisconsin Stevens-Point men's hockey team had eight players awarded All-WIAC honors with seven players named first-team. Player of the Year was awarded to senior defenseman Kevin Gibson. Gibson is the top-scoring defenseman in the nation with 29 points, including seven goals and 22 assists. It is the fourth-straight year Gibson was named to the All-WIAC team and second-straight season a Pointer won Player of the Year award, as senior forward Garrett Ladd won it last year

and was All-WIAC for a third time this year.

Defensemen Kyle Brodie and Alex Brooks, forwards Joe Kalisz, Kyle Sharkey and goaltender Brandon Jaeger joined Gibson and Ladd on first team. The conference awarded Jaeger the WIAC Max Sparger Ice Hockey Men's Scholar-Athlete award, the first at UWSP since 1993-94. For the second straight season, the conference selected team captain Evan Dixon for the All-Sportsmanship team.

The women's hockey team also had conference Player of the Year along with seven other players named All-WIAC. Senior goaltender Janna Beilke-Skoug was awarded WIAC Player of the Year as she played the most minutes of any goaltender in the nation and started 27 games. Beilke-Skoug recorded the most saves in conference with 718, including a 17-7-2 record. It is the second straight season a UWSP player won Player of

the Year.

Defensemen Betsy Anderson, Megan Menotti and Nicole Schaub, and forwards Emily Lester and Kat Nejedlo joined Beilke-Skoug on the All-WIAC first team. Menotti is second in scoring for defenseman with Anderson in third. The conference named forward Ali Biagini honorable mention and forward Rachel Reynard to the All-Sportsmanship team.

The conference named the men's basketball team's starting five players to the All-WIAC team, while head coach Bob Semling was named Co-Coach of the Year. It is the third straight year Semling has won the award and his fifth in ten seasons at UWSP. Semling is now one of three coaches in WIAC history to have won the award five times.

All-WIAC first team honors were awarded to seniors Alex Richard, Joe Ritchay and Austin Ryf. Richard led UWSP in scoring averaging 12.5 points

per game and has not been named All-WIAC before. He also leads the conference in field-goal percentage at .601. Ritchay and Ryf previously received honors, but this is their first on the All-WIAC first team. Senior Jordan Lutz and junior Stephen Pelkofer received honorable mentions. Pelkofer previously received this honor.

The UWSP women's basketball team had two athletes named to the All-WIAC first team. Sophomore Lauren Anklam and senior Kaitlyn Jacobs received the honors for the first time. Anklam led UWSP in scoring averaging with 10 points per game, finishing in the top 15 for scoring, assists and steals per game. Jacobs was UWSP's second leading scorer with 9.4 points per game, second in the WIAC in rebounding. She averaged 7.7 points per game and was second for double-doubles with six.

POINTLIFE



FROM LONDON *with love*

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Before I left for London, I thought I was going to be dreadfully lonely. This fear sparked something new in me: independence.

I have always been an introvert, and it is difficult for me to connect with people. I have a few close friends, but I generally do not like spending my evenings at large social

gatherings because they drain my energy.

Being in London has awoken an independent side of me I did not know I had.

When I first came to London, I knew I wanted to explore. I did not want to sit in a dorm room twiddling my thumbs, so I made lists of every activity I could jam pack into my days.

I have traveled to cathedrals, gardens, museums and historic houses. I have gone to concerts,

lectures and the cinema by myself and enjoyed every moment. I have never been afraid to venture out on my own.

These streets are not menacing or scary. I am not bothered by my lack of company. It gives me time to move at my own pace and not worry if I am dragging down a group. If I want to spend 15 minutes sitting in the spot where John Keats wrote "Ode to a Nightingale," I can.

I think it is important for

introverts and extroverts alike to spend time traveling on their own. It is a wonderful and intimate way to learn about who you are, love and appreciate yourself, and push yourself and grow.

I have learned so much about myself in these few short weeks. I have become the strong, independent person I always knew I could be. I will use this journey as a form of proof that I can do anything.



Photo by Carly Keen
One of Carly's favorite sites to spend time at in London.

Sexual Assault Victims Given Opportunity to Voice Experiences

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Promoting Awareness and Victim Empowerment, a campus organization, is releasing its annual booklet sharing stories of sexual assault and abuse victims.

The booklet, "The Survivor's Voice: Empowering Stories of Healing from Sexual Assault," is anticipated for release the first week in April.

The booklet features personal stories, artwork and poems. Contributors remain anonymous.

Abby Tentinger, sophomore majoring in sociology and English, is the organization's assistant director. She stressed the importance of keeping survivor stories anonymous.

"People want to protect their identities, especially because a lot of rapes that happen are between people who already know each other," Tentinger said. "Letting your information get out there can be scary."

Through stories, Tentinger wants to inspire hope within readers. Readers are encouraged to give a five dollar donation in exchange for the booklet.

"We feel lucky that there are people who come forward and share their stories with us," Tentinger said. "It can be powerful to tell a story. Having it printed in a booklet is validating."

Jamie Chariton, senior majoring in sociology and social work, is the organization's executive director. Chariton hopes the booklet serves as an outlet survivors can use to convey experiences and break the silence surrounding sexual assault.

"What we are encouraging is for people to really explore what it means to heal from sexual assault and how that can be expressed in different forms," Chariton said.

Submissions are open to students attending the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and community members. The deadline is Mar. 13.

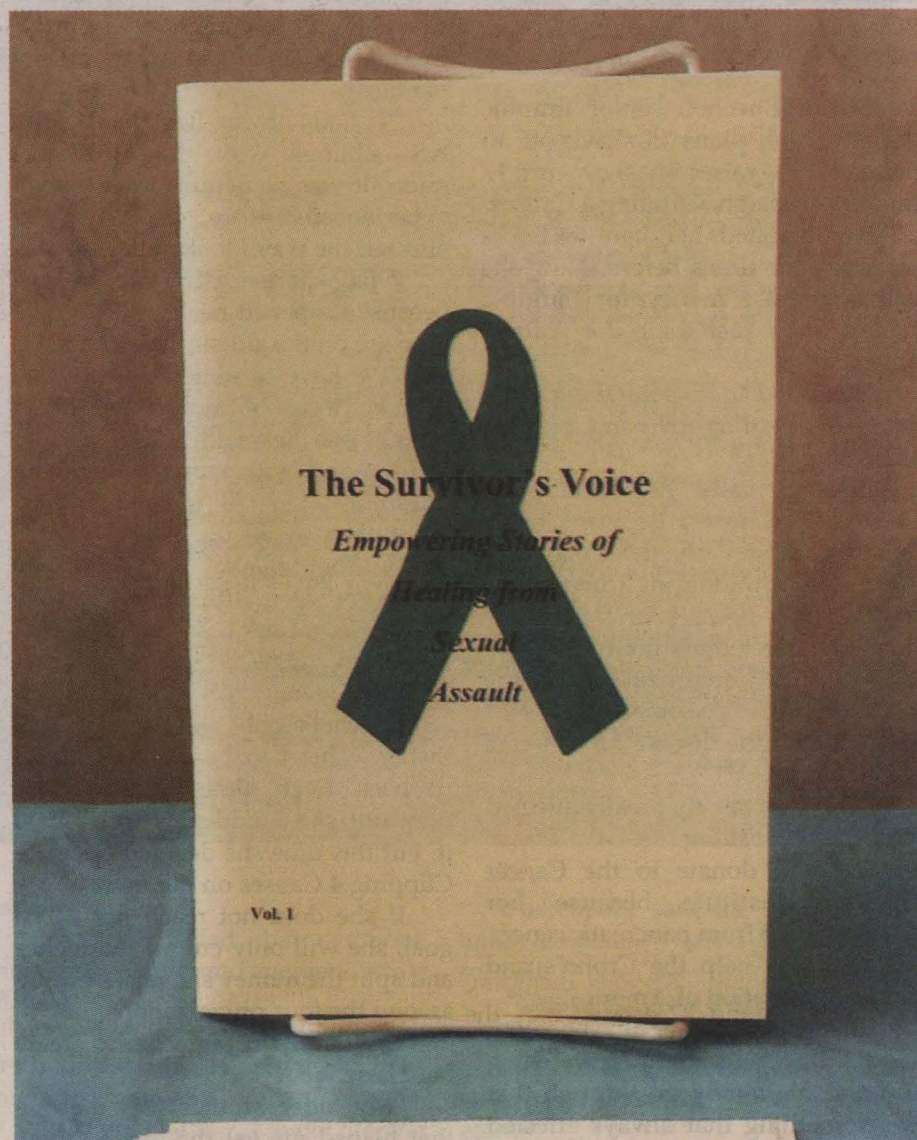


Photo courtesy of UWSP PAVE's Facebook
PAVE's "The Survivor's Voice: Empowering Stories of Healing from Sexual Assault" booklet.

POINTLIFE



Photo courtesy of Brittnei Buechel Before her fourth donation.

Student Will Shave Hair if \$4000 Is Raised

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Brittnei Buechel, senior graphic design major, plans to shave off all her hair if she raises \$4000 by April 17 for her campaign, Clipping 4 Causes.

She donated her hair to Locks of Love four times before. Now she wants to raise money for multiple causes, not just hair for cancer patients.

"I wanted to do something more than just donating my hair," Buechel said.

Buechel calls her campaign, Clipping 4 Causes, because she is donating money she raises to four different foundations benefiting research for diseases or syndromes that have affected her life.

The first organization is the Alzheimer's Association. Her grandpa had the disease for 14 years before dying.

"This was one that really affected me," Buechel said.

She will donate to the Cancer Research Institute because her grandma died from pancreatic cancer. She will also help the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

"Someone I grew up knowing had it," Buechel said. "Just watching him and his family go through that was something that always affected me."

Her final cause is National Fragile

X Foundation. Fragile X syndrome causes the X chromosome to be prone to damage and can cause mental handicap.

"I had an ex-boyfriend with two siblings with that," Buechel said. "It was something I had never experienced before, and it really affected the way I look at it."

This experience affected Buechel because it opened her eyes to people who are on the autism spectrum.

"We have to remember they are different to us, but not to their loved ones," Buechel said. "It is OK to joke around with them or ask them questions. They still understand, just not in the way we do."

Buechel began her love for helping others in fifth grade when she needed to get her hair cut for sports. Her mom suggested she donate it to Locks of Love.

Buechel's only requirement back then was her hair be long enough to tie back. Every time Buechel's hair grew out, she would cut it and donate it, but this time she decided to create Clipping 4 Causes on her own.

If she does not reach her \$4000 goal, she will only cut off ten inches and split the money she raises evenly among the four organizations.

Her family inspired her to create her cause.

"My older brother was the one that helped me get the ball rolling," Buechel said.

Buechel's mom, Janet, supported her through her ventures of compassion.

"She's always been pretty thoughtful of looking out for other people," Janet said.

Janet attested to the excitement Buechel experienced when she

received her first donation.

"When someone donated \$5, she was pretty excited about that and happy anyone would donate something," Janet said.

Buechel is collecting money through her Go Fund Me account at gofundme.com/hxu2l4.



Photo courtesy of Brittnei Buechel After donating her hair the fourth time.

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

'Chappie' is the Droid You are Looking For

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Can a movie be original while still ripping off many stories that came before it? The new film "Chappie" seems to suggest yes.

Like the title character, "Chappie" is made from spare parts of other robots who have come before him. The movie "Robocop" already covered mechanized police officers, and countless films like "The Iron Giant" and "Big Hero Six" beat "Chappie" to the punch, as stories about lovable bots with hearts of gold. The film's own director already covered out of control mech-warriors twice with his other movies, "District 9" and "Elysium."

However, what sets "Chappie" apart is the pure, unbridled weirdness it brings to the material. Within the beginning, the film had me rolling my eyes with how derivative it seemed, but then it started going crazy in the second act with Chappie becoming a slang-spewing car-jacker who forms a gang with South African rap duo, Die Antwoord.

It sounds like the plot was written from filling out a Mad Lib, but that is really what happens. Hugh Jackman is also featured somewhere in there, with a haircut that was probably a dare, and tries to kill Chappie with a Moose he controls with his mind. Okay, Moose is a name for another robot, but you are welcome for the image I just gave you.

"Chappie" is obviously pure madness on many levels, but you end up caring about what is happening because all of the actors bring such genuine charm to their performances. Sharlto Copley, as the voice of Chappie, is the best of the bunch. He infuses his robotic character with a childlike innocence that will have you rooting for him every step of the way.

"Chappie" uses an old recipe for its premise, but brings to it a wide range of new flavors. The movie fails to adequately explore the true depths of some of the ideas it presents, as far as life and consciousness are concerned, but it is an admirable effort nonetheless and earns a score of 0111 out of 1010.

HUMANITY'S LAST HOPE ISN'T HUMAN

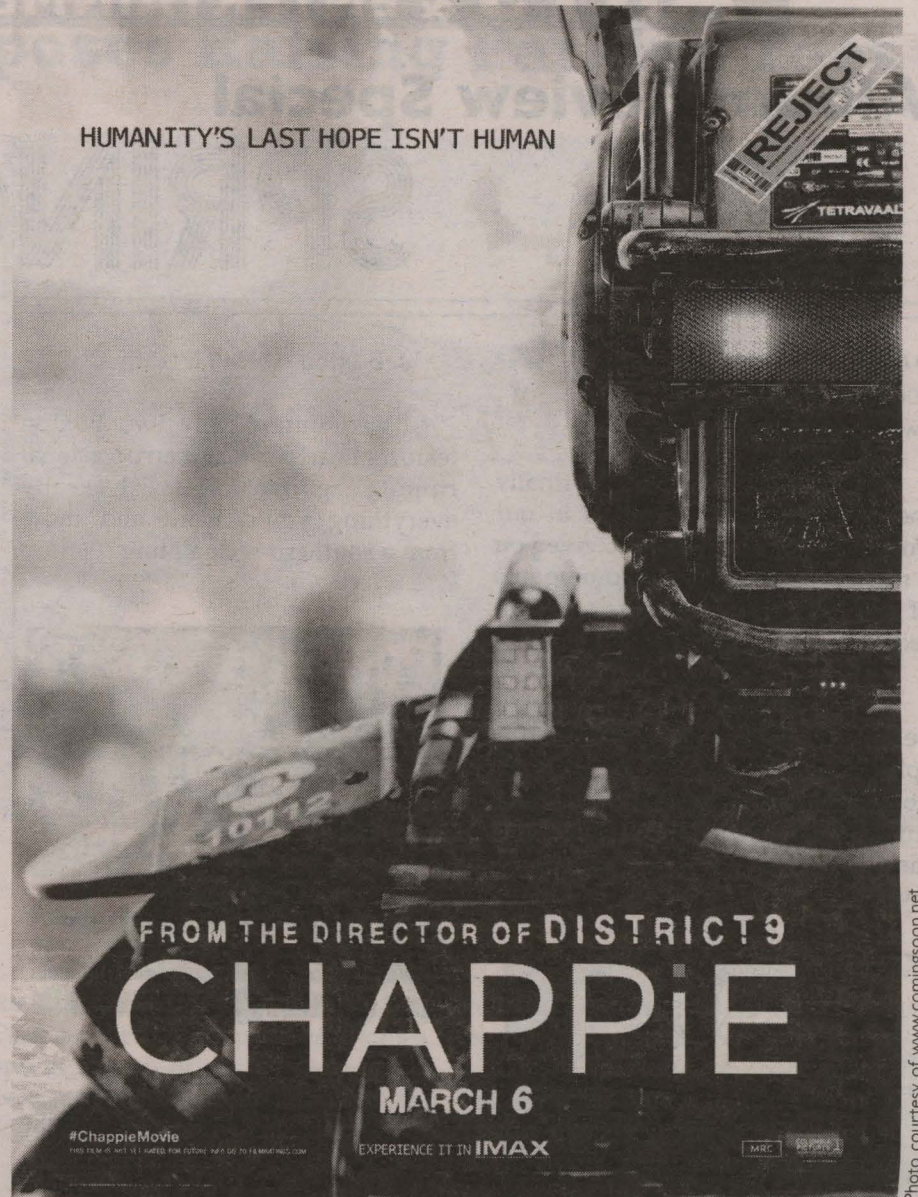
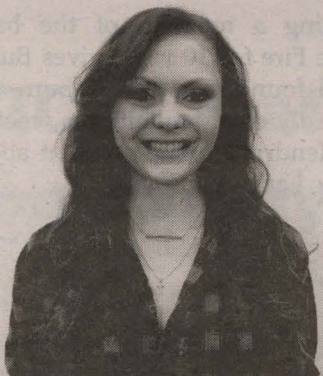


Photo courtesy of www.comingsoon.net



JULIA FLAHERTY
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The 2015 Wisconsin Broadcasters Association awards presented a unique opportunity for students from SPTV and 90Fm to solidify a supportive relationship between their organizations.

The awards were held Saturday, March 6, in Madison to recognize students who submitted entries to the competition. Students from organizations didn't just walk away with awards, but a stronger sense of collaboration.

As Promotions Director at SPTV, I manage social media accounts for the organization. From 90Fm to SPTV, we relayed affirming messages to each other throughout the event.

The gratitude felt about our sense of co-support seemed as though it were shared among my colleagues as I discussed the event's turnout.

Daniel Waterman, 90Fm music director, was especially supportive of his fellow media.

"I was really excited to see how SPTV got really good results, and



Media Students Share Victory

really that program just being turned around is nice to see," Waterman said. "The fact that SPTV is doing good stuff and is getting recognized for it means a lot. It's nice to see colleagues and other people at the university get recognized for the hard work they put in."

Waterman emphasized the importance of strengthening relationships between organizations.

"I don't look at the awards ceremony as the biggest part of it," Waterman said. "I think just getting together and meeting with other people is more important."

Curtis Rauen, SPTV sports producer, said he hopes to see growth for the station and its relationship with other student media.

"To keep growing and bring home awards is a goal, but also to expand," Rauen said. "That goes with relationships with radio and the growth of a bigger studio. I think that we've proven we're good enough to bring home some awards and that we deserve to keep filming in Studio B."

Dylan Shanahan, station manager at 90Fm, was happy for his own

organization that submitted 13 entries and came out with one award. Danica Nikezic, news director at 90Fm, earned first place in the long form production non-news category for radio.

"We had a good time as a group of friends; it didn't feel like work," Shanahan said. "The bonding experience was much greater for me than learning at the conference was. I think that's something I'll take away from it, more or less."

Laura Braun, general manager at SPTV, did not attend the WBA awards due to illness, but was pleased to see the positivity that came from the event and that her staff was recognized.

SPTV had its highest number of entries to date, and Braun was especially proud. SPTV walked away from the event with eight awards. In the past ten years, it had won seven awards overall.

"We kind of had the attitude this year of 'Why not submit as much as we can?'," Braun said. "We had nothing to lose. It was \$5 per submission, and we all paid out of our own pocket because we were all

really excited for the conference."

After finishing conversations about the event with my colleagues, I was humbled.

Anytime I discuss something with passionate people, it's difficult to decide what conversations to include in writing. You only come across conversations like these every so often, so when you do, it's a gift, especially if you're part of the story yourself.

The passion for our strengthened sense of collaboration was evident. I could not be more proud of the teamwork and camaraderie between these broadcast media organizations.

I am even more privileged to include our success stories in The Pointer, which adds a trifold of support for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Division of Communication student media organizations.

The WBA awards are an important opportunity for media students to share their hard work with a panel of judges and create ties for successors to reminisce about and build on in the future.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Album Review Special

SPRING BREAK



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Now that the snow is finally melting and spring break is in our immediate future, I want to give you a run-down of what is becoming one of the best years of music within recent memory.

Undoubtedly, some of us will be hitting the road, yearning for splendiferous music of all sorts. In no particular order, here are some tunes that just might tickle your fancy. You'll never know if you don't try'em out.

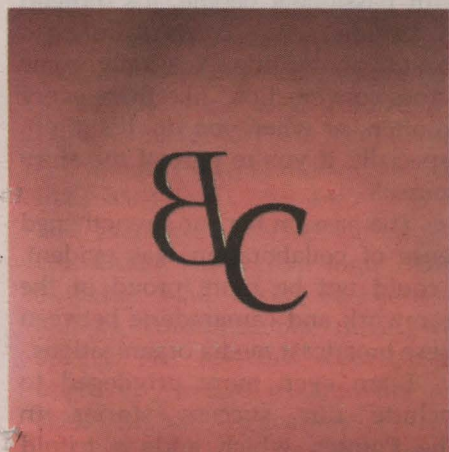


1. Traveling Suitcase - "Nobody Wins"

Based in Oshkosh, and featuring strong female vocals, this band as a whole can flat-out jam!

2. Elvis Perkins - "I Aubade"

With lyrics like a storybook, this album has a Beatles-esque feel and makes me smile.



3. BC Camplight - "How To Die In The North"

With its third release, this Philadelphia based six-piece funk-pop-alternative band has as much variety as anything I've ever heard.

4. Buxton - "Half a Native"

Based out of Houston, Buxton features heartbreak and an occasional ripping guitar solo, basically everything you'd want and more from a southern-rock album.



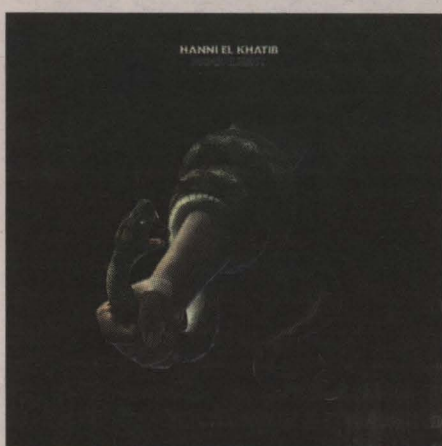
5. POND - "Man It Feels Like Space Again"

Kevin Parker, of Tame Impala, fronts this Australian psychedelic rockin' conglomeration. The album is set for release in the U.S. later this month.



6. HEEMS - "Eat, Pray, Thug"

Hard hitting hip-hop, Himanshu Suri spits a socially-conscious ethos in an incredibly original manner.



7. Hanni El Khatib - "Moonlight"

This album is a more psychedelic

version of The Black Keys with a better drummer. Sorry Pat Carney.



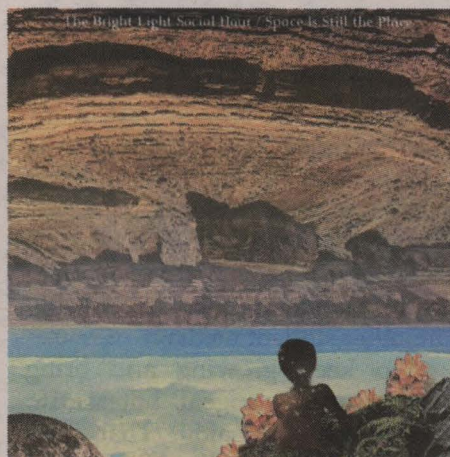
8. Springtime Carnivore - "Springtime Carnivore"

With it already being that time of year, you'll have a new favorite song every time you listen to this album.



9. Sleater-Kinney - "No Cities to Love"

Carrie Brownstein from Portlandia throws down her hipster cred while fronting her band's first release in a decade. As of late, this album is tearing up the College Music Journal.



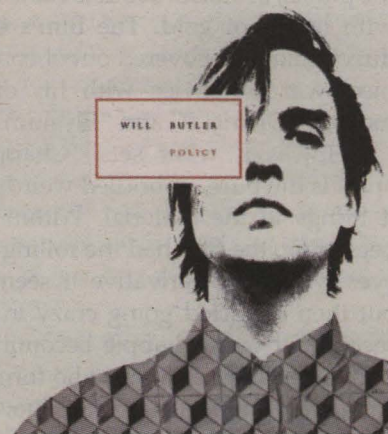
10. Bright Light Social hour - "Space is Still The Place"

This is what happens if you mix Fleet Foxes with Led. Zeppelin. I'm

head-banging just thinking about it now.

11. Of Montreal - "Aureate Gloom"

Don't be confused by the name, the band is from Athens, Georgia. Its signature avant-garde indie-rock is duplicated by no one. This is the band's 13th album since 1997.

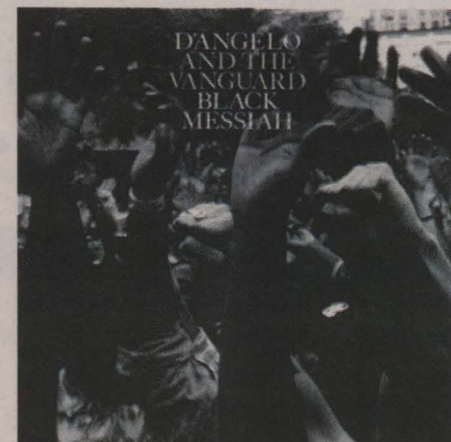


12. Will Butler - "Policy"

Being a member of the band Arcade Fire for 10 years gives Butler a solid foundation. This album was reportedly recorded within a week in Jimi Hendrix's living room at above Electric Ladyland Studio.

13. Andrew St. James - "The Shakes"

This 20-something year old California based singer-songwriter has capitalized on his sophomore release!



14. D'Angelo - "Black Messiah"

It's been 14 years since his last release, but this R&B icon doesn't disappoint with bass lines fat enough to make a fisherman double-take.

15. Iron and Wine - "Archive Series Vol. 1"

This is a collection of unreleased songs from an alternative staple; very impressive for a bunch of demos.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

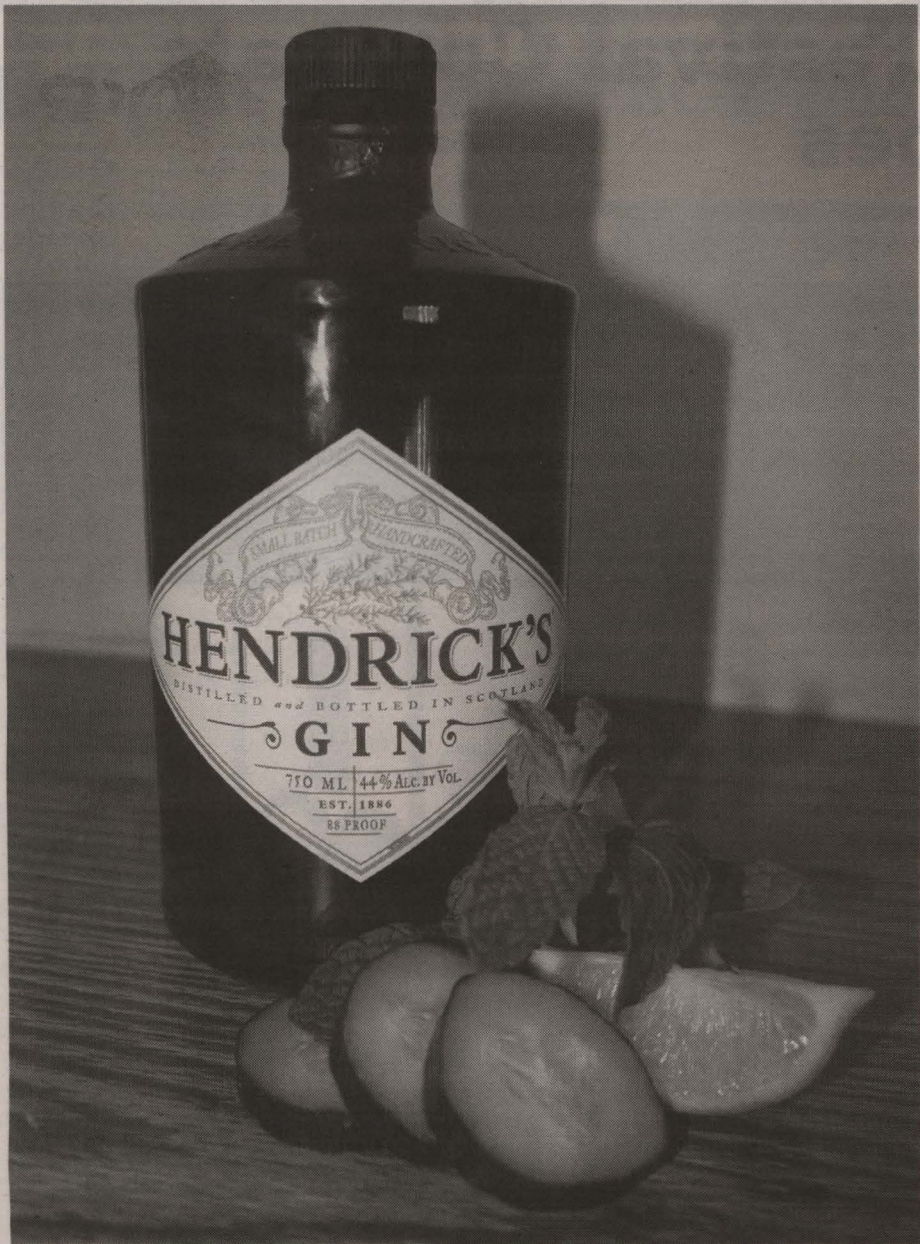


Photo by Grace Ebert

BEHIND THE BAR

Cucumber Mint Gimlet

A cucumber mint gimlet is a refreshing cocktail, perfect to sip on during upcoming warm weather. While any good-quality gin can be used, Hendrick's pairs especially well in this drink since it is flavored with cucumber, along with the standard juniper infusion.

1 1/2 ounces gin

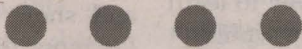
10 mint leaves

1 two-inch cucumber slice, peeled

2 teaspoons simple syrup

1 lime, juiced

Muddle cucumber, mint and syrup in cocktail shaker. Add ice, gin and lime juice. Shake and strain into a small glass.



Adapted from cookieandkate.com.

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

Tomorrow River Students Display Artwork

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point welcomed students from Tomorrow River Community Charter School to showcase their artwork in the Dreyfus University Center.

UWSP integration with the school allows an early exposure to the art and design aspect of college.

Students, parents and community members gathered to view the artwork on Mar. 7 from 5-7 p.m. by the DUC Laird glass showcase. The majority of the artwork was water-color based and geared toward abstract forms.

"I think the artwork displayed is

great since it showcases diverse types of art forms," said Maggie Luebke, pre-nursing major. "UWSP is doing an excellent job of allowing younger generations to be part of something bigger."

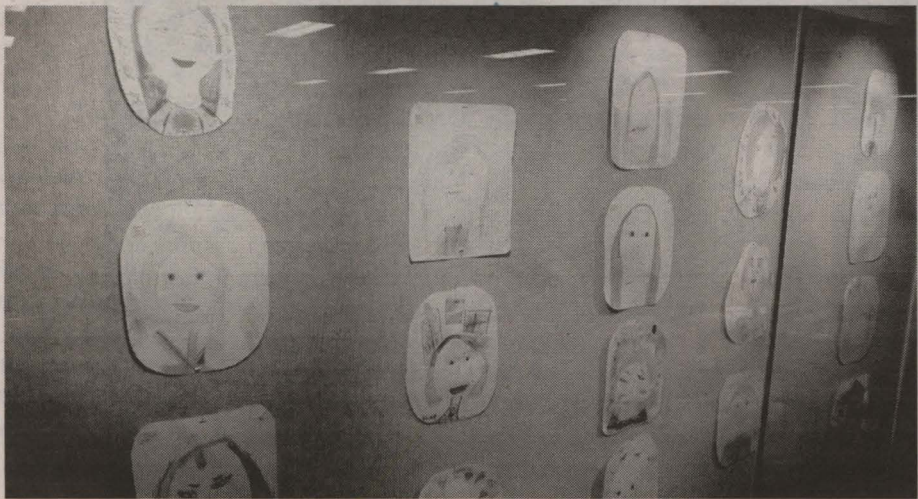
The art was cohesive within each grade. The first-grade project was to draw a bird, while second-grade students created water-color artwork. Third graders drew portraits. Various other types of artwork, from handmade to crayon art, were also displayed.

"It is awesome how they have an understanding of color combination at this young age, such as transitions from warm to cool colors," said Nidhal Alsharit, natural resources major.



Photo by Allison Birr

Tomorrow River Community Charter School student art is displayed outside the Laird Room of the DUC.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Out on Screen' Film Festival Combats Pop Culture Stereotypes

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"Out on Screen," a film festival presented by the Faculty and Staff Gay-Straight Alliance, will feature movies with strong LGBTQ+ representation in hopes of creating a safe space to learn about issues affecting marginalized gender and sexuality groups.

The festival kicked off with "Love Is Strange" on March 4 and "Appropriate Behavior" on March 6. The festival will conclude with a screening of the award-winning film "Pride" on April 3.

"These are good movies that will interest anyone open to and interested in the lives of others," said Laurie Schmeling, executive board member of the alliance and coordinator of the festival. "It's a great way to learn about experiences that you wouldn't necessarily otherwise be exposed to."

Schmeling emphasized the importance of showing films on campus that elaborate about LGBTQ+ experiences.

"It's important to us that we present as wide a range of LGBTQ+ life experiences as possible," Schmeling said. "There is no LGBTQ+ lifestyle, just LGBTQ+ people living their lives."

This is the fourth "Out on Screen" festival the alliance has presented. Past festivals have included documentaries and feature films from many different countries including the United States, Canada, Brazil, Taiwan, Iran, Sweden, France and

Spain.

Amanda McGovern, the alliance's publicity and outreach intern, said these films should bring awareness to the LGBTQ+ community.

"It is really important to learn about the different intersectional identities that exist in the LGBTQ+ community," McGovern said. "It isn't just white gay men or white lesbians, but people identifying across the gender and sexuality spectrum who have different racial identities, different ability needs and different cultures altogether."

Alex Purdy, gender and sexuality alliance outreach student liaison, said the featured films transcend harmful stereotypes often seen within media.

"Popular media often shows a stereotypical view of what it means to be LGBTQ+," Purdy said. "These movies extend past those stereotypes and show the community as truly far more diverse than seen in most representations."

Purdy encourages people to attend the showings because of the diverse representations and portrayals of LGBTQ+ individuals.

"When you realize how diverse the community is, you begin to feel more comfortable in your own skin," Purdy said. "The people within our community have been through so many different journeys and those journeys don't always match up with the mainstream media representations. The stories like the ones represented in the film festival have so much power to help us connect to others, as well as ourselves."

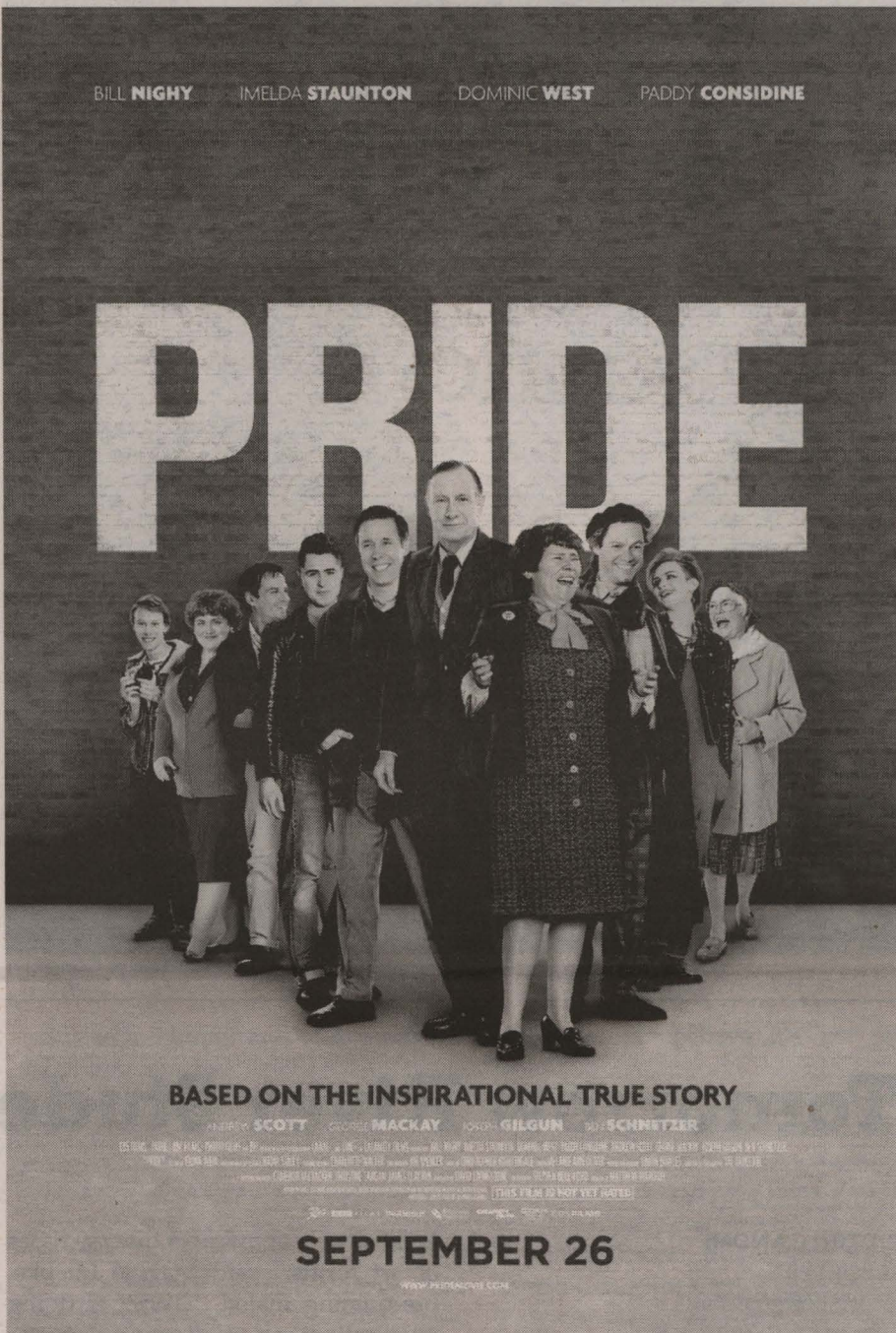


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

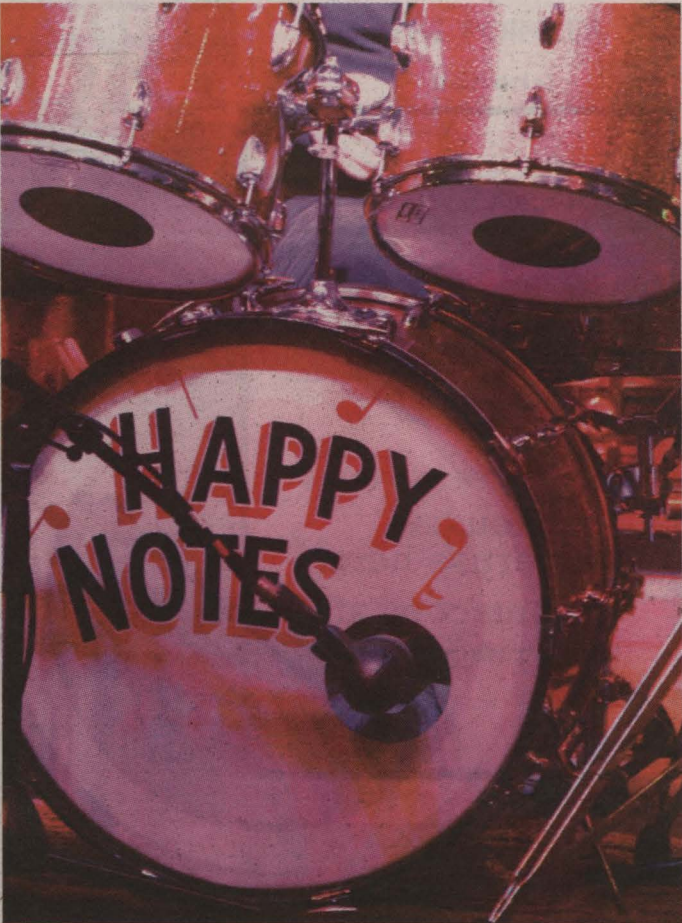


Photo by Allison Birr
Norm Dombrowski and The Happy Notes played in the Encore on Friday, March 6th.

Polka Palooza Stirred Lively Music

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Polka Palooza filled the Encore with dancing and laughter on Friday, March 6, as students and community members gathered to enjoy traditional Polish-American polka music from Norm Dombrowski and The Happy Notes.

The event showcased polka as a unique, lively musical genre. Centertainment Productions brought

the group to campus. “Polka is good for the soul,” said May Her, web and digital media development major. “Family and friends should all dance to polka.” When he was looking to form a polka group in the ‘50s, Dombrowski’s motivation was to create music that would get audiences up and dancing. He formed Norm Dombrowski and The Happy Notes in the ‘60s with former members Jerry Halkowski, Ron Gruna and Mary Stencil. In the ‘70s, Dombrowski was the

only original member left in the group. After getting married and having children, Dombrowski encouraged his children to participate, transforming the band into a family affair. The band agreed that modern polka is about food or drinking. This ideal was expressed several times, especially as the band engaged it’s audience with favorites like “The Chicken Dance.” The band played saxophone, trumpet, piano, guitar and percussive instruments. The band invited

audience members to dance. “I had a lot of fun dancing with my best friends to polka,” said Mariah Pfundheller, special education major. The colorful attire worn by the band emphasized uniqueness. The songs performed featured lyrics of Polish and German origins. “I really enjoy any music that I can dance to,” said Iris Carufel, communication major. “This was great. I wish more students would have participated.”

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