

the pointer

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UWSP Hockey Wins National Championship

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Men's Hockey team exercised its national championship game demons in historic Lake Placid, New York, to capture the NCAA Division III Men's National Championship.

UWSP defeated St. Norbert 5-1 in the championship game, as well as defeating SUNY Geneseo 5-1 in the na-

tional semifinal.

After knocking on the door the previous two seasons and coming up short, the Pointers had one goal the entire season.

"The feeling that we felt those past two years losing in the last game was something we never wanted to feel again, and we had our focus all year on being on the other of it this time," said Junior Forward Kyle Sharkey.

The season wasn't all smiles for the Pointers, as they went through a

four game losing streak in late November where the team's playoff life was on the ropes.

"I don't normally adapt my style, but I looked at our strengths and weaknesses and decided we needed to switch a few things up, and we just took off after that," said Head Coach Chris Brooks.

This losing streak rewarded an automatic bid through their conference, which put the Pointers in a spot with very little room for error.

"Having that kind of pressure has

worked out pretty well for us the last three years," Brooks said. "It is hard though to know that every night you have to have your best, and it limits what we can do with some guys development-wise because we can't lose more than a few games."

For the group of seniors on the team, the chance to right wrongs was an opportunity they were going to take full advantage of.

"We had a businesslike approach all year, and when we got down there we were going to make sure that we

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EDITORIAL

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When does everything become too much?

When is the hustle and bustle, constant meetings, endless classes, internships, jobs, life—when does it all become too much?

Most college students don't know when to draw the line. When to say no to joining the new club, adding the new major or staying up until five in the morning trying to perfect their assignments.

Students have incredible anxiety, maybe not about today, or tomorrow, but about the future.

What is the future and how do we get there? How can we be absolutely 100 percent perfectly prepared?

Most of us cannot acknowledge that

everything might not go according to plan.

The National Center for Education Statistics published research stating that 59 percent of students will graduate within 6 years.

It is not because these students are lazy or because they have changed majors four times. It is because they are involved in way more than should be necessary.

We have evolved into a society where we have to be good at everything.

We cannot just be a legendary, world-renowned guitar player; we also have to be able to play the saxophone, the trumpet, the clarinet, the piano, and the kazoo.

Recently I discovered one of my friends is graduating with four majors. Four.

She is super human, and passionate about everything she does. She is true to

herself.

Did I mention that she's graduating within 3.5 years?

She is a highly involved individual and I can't wrap my head around how she managed to do it. But this approach worked for her. She knew what she wanted and she did it.

Four majors are not for everyone. Neither are five clubs, two side jobs, and 20 credits.

Too often, we as students are so focused on preparing for the future that we forget we should be living in the moment. We decide to dabble in everything rather than focusing on what we are truly good at.

Choose what you really want to do and devote yourself to that. You don't have to be good at everything.

Life isn't about deadlines or promotions or everything going according to plan. Live for you.

Students Exposed to Native American Culture

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As part of an alternative spring break trip, students traveled to the Lakota Native American reservation in South Dakota and spent the week volunteering for the community.

The trip was offered through the Student Involvement and Employment Office on campus.

After going on an alternative spring break trip to Texas in 2015, Ava Barr applied to be a student leader on this year's trip. As a trip leader she helped to organize meetings and educate the other students about Native American culture. According to Barr, the students volunteered alongside the Cheyenne River Youth Project and helped organize a warehouse on the reservation where

they prepared meals for local children.

"The Native Americans showed a lot of strength. They weren't relying on us. They were grateful that we volunteered and helped, but they are fully able to sustain themselves," Barr said.

Barr admits that seeing the poor living conditions and lack of child supervision was difficult, but the Native Americans made it clear they were not looking for pity.

Stephanie Check, junior optometry major, was one of the students who went on the trip. Check participated with the intention of learning more about Native American culture.

"People here don't always openly talk about where they come from and how they grew up. The natives were really eager to tell their stories," Check said.

Check also said there were no gar-

bage or recycling bins and little access to healthy food on the reservation. She credits the trip with helping her appreciate the little things in life.

"It was shocking to see all the garbage that was on and around the community. No matter where you looked there was garbage everywhere," Check said.

Dylan Pierce, junior clinical lab science major, went on the trip because he wanted to expose himself to a different culture.

Pierce agreed that the living conditions on the reservations were less than ideal.

"You won't see an immediate change from our involvement, but I trusted that what I was doing was good and that I made some sort of positive influence on the community," Pierce said.

New Major to be Offered at UWSP

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Sentry Insurance recently donated 4 million dollars to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point which will be used to create a new major.

By 2016, data analytics will be added to the list of available majors at UWSP. Data analytics focuses on analyzing and drawing conclusions from data.

Chancellor Bernie Patterson has made it clear that, legally, the donation cannot be used for any other purpose besides creating this new major.

Patterson is looking forward to the university being able to produce graduates that are trained in data analytics and believes it is an extremely prevalent field. Patterson is especially grateful to

Sentry for making the largest donation the university has ever received.

"It is a huge boat of confidence for a very prestigious and important company in our community to say that they believe in our faculty, staff and students," Patterson said.

Tim Krause, associate professor, has been taking part in creating this new major on campus. According to Krause, the curriculum for the major has been drafted, but the approval of their departments and board of regents is still needed.

Krause hopes that this new major will give graduates the opportunity to fill positions of high demand in the Stevens Point area.

"There are a lot of people that talk about the challenge of keeping millennials in Central Wisconsin and in the area.

We want this to help graduates think about staying in the area when they are done," Krause said.

Lyna Matesi, assistant professor of management in the school of business and economics, has been working alongside Krause to make this major possible. Matesi admits that it has been hard for the university to create the major because it requires mastering an array of skills.

Matesi said that a lot of work and research has been put into forming the curriculum. She is excited about the impact that the donation will have on future students.

"In today's climate we hear a lot about how institutions of higher learning and businesses need to collaborate and Sentry has made that collaboration possible," Matesi said.

THE POINTER

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Former UWSP Student Shot and Killed in Stevens Point

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At approximately 7:48pm on March 17, The Stevens Point Police Department responded to a call of possible gunshots fired.

A former University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student was shot within blocks of campus in what police are calling a suspected drug deal. The victim, Deonta M. Lezine, died on March 25.

The shooting occurred in the 2700 block of Fifth Avenue, but the 21-year-old man was found at the Berg Gym on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus. Lezine was taken to Ministry St. Michael's Hospital and was then moved to a trauma center later that night.

Around 11 p.m. on the night of the shooting, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Al Thompson sent out an email alert to students and faculty stating that a shooting had occurred in the 2700 block of 5th Avenue.

Emily Palmer, drama major, explained she lives on her own and is often forced to walk places by herself. Therefore, she finds this tragedy to be especially jarring.

"You always hear of things like this happening at other places, but when it happens near you it really makes you think about your own safety, the safety of your friends and the people you care about," Palmer said.

Palmer went on to say she feels that this important topic was quick-

ly forgotten and believes it could have been better handled by the university.

Drew Parker, senior political science major, agreed and said that the information provided lacked substantial details and follow up.

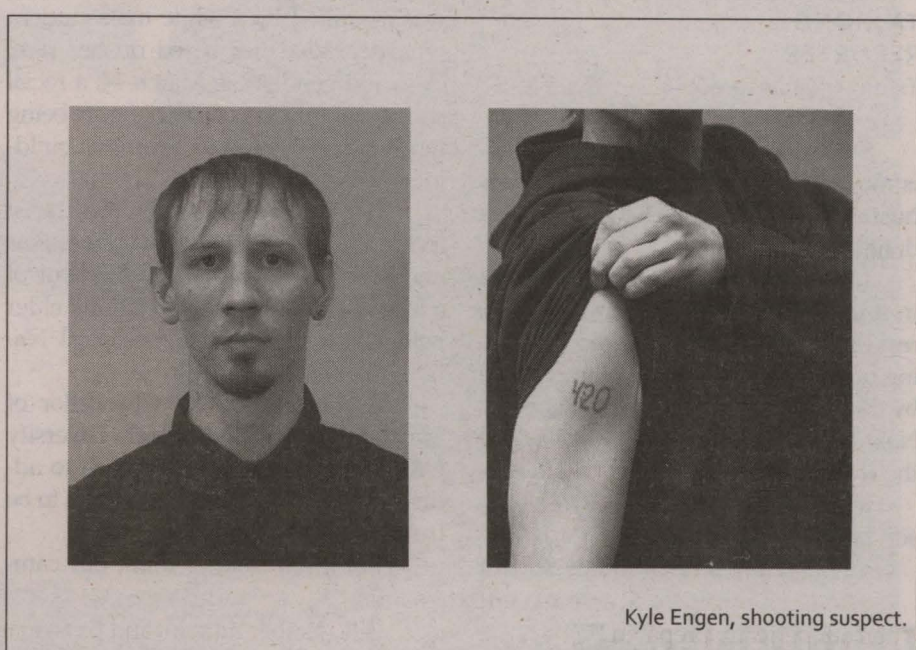
"I am appalled by the university's response," Parker said. "The text and email alert, sent over 3 hours after the incident, contained no information, no location, no time, and no details on the suspect. The student body deserves more from an institution we spend so much money to attend."

The email alert sent out on March 17 was the last bit of information students received from the university.

Lezine was a Racine Horlick High School graduate, where he played football, participated on the cheer and stunt team, boxed with the Racine Boxing Club and tossed discus and shotput for the track team, according to Journal Times archives. He enrolled at UWSP in 2013 and was involved with the university football team. However, Lezine was not currently enrolled in classes at the time of his death.

It was later revealed there was a second shooting victim, whose wounds were described as "superficial." Following the shooting, he fled the city and received medical treatment in Racine. The unidentified 20-year-old returned to Stevens Point on March 21 to contact police and make a formal statement.

Assistant Police Chief Tony Bahl of the Stevens Point Police Department said that the shooting's only



Kyle Engen, shooting suspect.

connection with the university is that Lezine was found at the Health Enhancement Center. He said incidents of this magnitude are uncommon among student housing and said police will not be increasing patrols in this specific area since the incident is considered isolated.

At a press conference the day following the incident Chancellor Bernie Patterson made a statement that his main concern was for established safety on campus and in the community. He said he has no reason to think anyone is in danger.

Media Relations Director Nick Schultz, said protective services is working with the police department to help in anyway possible, as reported by the Stevens Point Journal.

"We're supporting them however we can and supporting our students and working to ensure their

safety and comfort, and that will continue to be the primary concern," Schultz said.

According to police, the suspect is 30-year-old Kyle Engen.

Engen is a white male, 6 feet tall, 155 pounds, blonde hair and brown eyes. He has a tattoo that reads "4:20" on his right arm. He may be driving a maroon or purple Lexus sport utility vehicle.

Police do not currently know Engen's whereabouts, but are following leads in Dane County. Engen is thought to be carrying a .38-caliber handgun and is considered dangerous.

Police advise not to approach him and to call 911 immediately.

If anyone has any information regarding the suspect's location please call the Stevens Point Police Department at 715-346-1500.

Uncivil Discourse Becomes a Staple at Trump Rallies

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Donald Trump has been widely criticized for failing to condemn supporters who grow violent at his rallies, but he has now stated he will vouch for the people who throw the punches.

"There may be somebody with tomatoes in the audience," Trump told people at a rally in Iowa last month. "If you see somebody getting ready to throw a tomato, knock the crap out of them, would you? Seriously. OK? Just knock the hell — I promise you, I will pay for the legal fees."

This was not the first time that Trump rallies grew violent. There have been countless instances when protesters have been pushed, shoved and sucker punched by Trump supporters. Trump argues that it is the protesters who are the first one's to get violent, even

though most footage proves other wise.

There is speculation as to whether or not Trump's intention is to promote violence or if it's something that stems solely from public turmoil.

Jenna Jeko, freshman biology major, said, "I know that there's a lot of violence at his rallies and I don't necessarily think it's coming from him. I think it's mostly from his supporters."

Jeko explained her friend, who is Italian, recently attended a Trump rally carrying a sign that read "Illegal Immigration Started in 1492." Jeko said that throughout the rally her friend was violently pushed and shoved by attendees.

"She's my age, 18, so for people to be screaming obscene things at her and getting physical with her both on the supporting and protesting side is ridiculous," Jeko said.

Dona Warren, assistant dean for curriculum and student af-

fairs, believes that to to the best of her knowledge, Trump is not consciously promoting violence.

"I think what he is consciously promoting is himself," Warren said. "He's not a trained politician and with being a trained politician you get a certain set of skills, among those is being very circumspect in what you think and say. He clearly doesn't have that, which is part of his appeal."

Warren explains that Trump may simply be saying provocative things to receive attention and self promote.

"He wants to be president and he hasn't gone through the normal rights of passage of politicians in this culture," Warren said. "He's getting applauded for things from a very local group of people and I think he's responding to that reinforcement."

Warren believes that very little good can come from protesting at one of Trump's rallies because

while the odds of changing someone's mind is slim, the chance of violence is high.

When asked about the violence taking place at his rallies Trump responds that it is protesters, not his supporters that are starting the violence.

"We have some protestors who are bad dudes," Trump said. "They had done bad things. They are swinging. They are really dangerous. We had a couple big strong powerful guys, doing damage to people. And if they're going to be taken out, I'll be honest. We have to run something."

One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, finds it hard to trust anything related to the Trump candidacy.

"What scares me is that he's a reality TV star, so what is he doing for the rise, the ratings, to be relevant and what does he actually believe? What part of his candidacy is just publicity and what is real?"

Racial Tension Peaks at UW-System Campuses

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Students of color are alert as administration at various Wisconsin campuses hustle to find solutions to racist incidents.

In late January, a drawing was found in a University of Wisconsin-La Crosse residence hall, which depicted a drawing of a black stick figure being lynched by three figures in Ku Klux Klan hoods. Next to the figures was a swastika and the words "#Black lives don't matter."

In January and March, UW-Madison faced multiple incidents.

On March 12, a black female student

was assaulted by a white male student who degraded her based on her race, class and gender. On March 14, a racial slur and a drawing of a stick figure being lynched were found in a campus building at UW-Madison.

This followed several other racist incidents, such as pictures of swastikas and Hitler being posted on the door of a Jewish student and a Ho-Chunk elder being harassed with stereotypical Native American noises.

Al Thompson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer, thinks the best approach to addressing racial issues on campus is to be truthful with students.

Thompson said, "I think our cam-

pus is successful because we are trying to be upfront and honest."

Instead of being reactive, the administration at UW-Stevens Point is actively reaching out to students from diverse backgrounds to listen to their problems.

Faculty and staff, along with Thompson and Chancellor Bernie Patterson, met with engaged students of color on Feb. 23 to hear about their experiences at UWSP. Many students commented that they do not feel like they fit in.

Though the Stevens Point community is relatively safe to those who call it home, students of color report getting called racist slurs from the windows of cars driving past. Other students report

having cans or bottles being thrown at them while walking peacefully on the pavement.

Outside the meeting, students were unaware of such problems.

Stephanie Ports, freshman business major, said, "I know a lot of different people and I feel like everyone gets along."

Darling Vang, sophomore graphic design major, disagrees.

"We're taking a step backwards," Vang said.

Though Vang feels safe at UWSP, she worries for her sister who attends another UW-System school.

The question that sticks with her is, "What if it was my sister?"

ENVIRONMENT

Speaker Wastes No Time on Tree Waste

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Bart Sexton, senior project manager at Sand Creek Consultants, spoke on campus about how trees are the way of the future when it comes to how we treat the chemicals we put into the ground.

In Warrens, Wisconsin on April 23 students will plant hybrid willow and poplar trees to help control waste water in the area. Sexton described the process of tree planting and its benefits. By planting hybrid trees, many nutrients already in the waste water will help them grow instead of causing harm by sitting stagnant.

This tree planting process is called phytoremediation, which Sexton describes as how we use plants to fix things.

Not only will the trees filter the soil of harmful chemicals around the Warrens waste area, salable products will also be created from the wood grown. By controlling the water regulation and the nutrients available, the planted trees will not only benefit the ground but also benefit the people using the wood products after the trees have matured.

Because the trees are relatively cheap and fast growing, benefits will be seen within a few years of planting and will be extremely effective for more than 50 years.

Warrens has enough land, suitable soils and nutrients to grow an abundance of trees to accommodate this process.

This sustainable practice is the first of its kind in Wisconsin, according to Taylor Lewandowski, junior forest management major and urban forestry



Photo by Alexa Dickson

Bart Sexton spoke on campus last week.

major.

Lewandowski, who is also the activities coordinator for the Society of American Foresters club on campus, said "I'm proud of being a part of something that's unique to the town of Warrens and Wisconsin."

Although this is a new practice in Wisconsin, Sexton says that the United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources are very supportive of the

movement and there have been many grants offered to assist in this event.

In addition to grants, many UWSP students and other volunteers are visiting Warrens on April 23 and 24 to plant trees and initiate the process of phytoremediation.

Up to 30 students are attending from UW-Stevens Point, and their volunteer work will be aided with free lodging and meals throughout the weekend.

Budget Cuts Force DNR to Sell 10,000 Acres of Land

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Budget cuts to the state of Wisconsin are not just impacting the education system. The Department of Natural Resources is putting up 10,000 acres of land that must be sold before June 30, 2017.

Wisconsin Act 20 enacted in 2013, revised the state budget, requiring the DNR to sell its land to the private sector.

Dr. Anna Haines, professor of land use planning said, "It is largely a done deal. The DNR is going through

a process of inventorying and selecting lands."

On Feb. 24 the Natural Resources Board met to begin the second phase of the land sale. During the meeting, land parcels were selected to either be sold or to be kept by the DNR.

Parcels up for sale are mostly scattered and not continuous. Much of the land chosen for sale has limited public access and limited recreational or natural resource value according to the DNR website.

The DNR owns 1,517,454 acres of land; the sale of 10,000 acres represents less than one percent of the total land owned by the Department of Natural

Resources. Most DNR land is open for public recreation and use.

Selling different parcels of land to private owners would restrict public access.

Kirk Prince, sophomore business and philosophy major said, "The land should not be owned by one certain person, but it should be owned by a group of people. Like how everyone has access to Schmeeckle."

The sovereign tribal nations of Wisconsin have first priority to purchase the land. Those with next priority will be sales for boundary settlement between landowners, and last priority will be given to the general public.

Dr. Haines said, "The lands for sale also have different types of sale including: adjoining land owner sale - landlocked, government sale, public sale - accessible, and retain. Thus, not all the lands in the list will be sold on the private market, and 34 are in the "retain" list."

The DNR is mostly selling land that doesn't have much research or recreational value to the public. Selling the land may also help landowners with property disputes.

The department had already began selling land in 2015, and will continue to do so until the required amount is met.

Wisconsin Not So Forward When it Comes to Renewable Energy

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According to The U.S. Energy Information Administration, solar, natural gas and wind will generate most of the United States' energy in the year 2016.

This is huge for the renewable energy sector and those who are fighting against the fossil fuel industry.

Jacob Livingston, senior wildland fire science major said, "I much prefer renewable energy over other sources such as oil and coal. I will be glad to shift my lifestyle towards more renewable energy sources. It may cost a little upfront cash but it will save me money, reduce my footprint and enhance my quality of life."

Popular opinion tends to be in favor of renewable resources despite the high initial cost of installation, but Wisconsin doesn't seem to make renewables easily accessible for residents.

Wisconsin is not moving forward in

renewable energy; at least not as quickly as the rest of the country. The U.S. Energy Information Administration's provided information which shows coal and natural gas are Wisconsin's main sources of electricity.

The Badger State mainly produces nuclear energy, which accounts for only .06 percent of Wisconsin's consumption. The energy companies in Wisconsin are buying those resources from other states.

Not only is renewable energy inaccessible to most, but so is energy independence. Individuals who want to utilize solar or wind power on their own property must jump through many hoops to attain permits for producing power and selling it back to the public.

Richard Adamski, UWSP alumnus, owns a farm near Seymour, Wisconsin. His farm is the home of a 35 kilowatt wind turbine.

Adamski said, "When I came forth with the proposal for a wind turbine, I had to comply with restrictive ordinances. One ordinance stated that I was to



Photo by Allison Birt

A house in Stevens Point using solar energy.

pay for the water testing of every private groundwater well in a one-mile radius of where we wanted to place the turbine."

Those variances on private wind turbines were in place back in 2005, but when asked if it's becoming easier for individual citizens to begin producing wind power, Adamski said, "It's getting harder because there are more regulations. I feel we are locked into systems that are unadaptable to changes."

The energy industry makes large profits by providing the public with electricity.

There are federal regulations in place requiring utility companies to pur-

chase power from small wind systems. The companies can't turn a small-scale producer away, but they won't necessarily encourage privately owned structures.

The people of the United States could provide their own energy, and even sell electricity that they produce back to the grid, rather than being dependent on companies. The difficult regulations on private energy production could be the cause of Wisconsin's sluggish move to modern power.

Regardless of Wisconsin's place in the race towards renewables, the growth of solar and wind energy is a victory for both the people and the environment.

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Luther College Blanks Softball in Pair of Games

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The UWSP softball team suffered a pair of shutout losses to Luther College on the road in Decorah, Iowa.

Luther recorded its 1000th team win and 21st consecutive victory after posting two wins against UWSP.

In the first game, Luther's Samantha Bratland logged a 4.2 inning no-hitter, striking out 10 UWSP batters. Luther scored seven runs in the first inning to lead the Pointers.

After reaching the base six times on five errors from Luther, Senior Bailie Sheahan and Freshman Paige Kitzing led the team with one hit each.

Freshman Amelia Heup pitched 3.1 innings of relief for UWSP.

Game two was highlighted by Luther's Bailey Victoria who hit a home run in the fifth inning and had two RBI's in the game.

Freshman Maddie Durie pitched 2.1 innings of relief for UWSP.

The Pointers (7-12) will host Wisconsin Luther for a doubleheader at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on April 7. UWSP will also begin conference action, playing host to UW-Platteville in a doubleheader at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on April 9.

Pointer Men's Hockey Obtains Program's Fifth National Championship Title

After coming up short the last two years at the national championship game, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's hockey team became the 2016 Division III men's hockey national champions with a 5-1 win over St. Norbert College on March 26 in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Home of the 1980 Olympics "Miracle on Ice," the Pointers played at Herb Brooks Arena against SUNY Geneseo in their Frozen Four matchup, where they recorded a 5-1 victory. This win put UWSP into the championship title game for the third time in as many years.

After losing to St. Norbert 3-1 in the 2014 national championship game, the Pointers played with vengeance to earn this year's title and their fifth in program history.

Going into the championship game, UWSP was ranked No. 3, while the Green Knights were one place ahead—ranked number two.

Most Outstanding Player of the Championship, Junior Eliot Grauer, knocked in the Pointers' first goal of the night, 2:40 into the first period, off of a pass from Senior Nick D'Avolio.

St. Norbert's Tanner Froese scored the Green Knight's only goal of the game a couple of minutes after Grauer's goal.

Senior Alex Brooks netted the Pointers' second goal of the evening at 18:52 in the first period giving UWSP an unwavering lead for the remainder of the game.

Junior Kyle Sharkey put the Pointers up 3-1 in the third period and Juniors Lawrence Cornellier and Jacob Barber scored a pair of goals in the final 20 minutes in the third period.

Senior Evan Dixon received the Elite 90 award prior to UWSP's semifinal

game, the second player from UWSP to earn this achievement.

Head hockey coach Chris Brooks was named the 2015-16 NCAA DIII Coach of the Year by USCHO.com. Along with this award, Brooks was the recipient of the Edward Jeremiah Award, an award given annually to the Division III Coach of the Year. He was also named the WIAV Co-Coach of the year.

Concluding their UWSP careers as national champions, seniors Alex Kromm and Brooks signed professional contracts in the Southern Professional Hockey League.

Brooks signed with the Fayetteville Fireantz and Kromm signed with the Columbus Cottonmouths.

In their four years at UWSP, Brooks and Kromm established an 84-29-6 record, which included their most recent national championship title, three trips to the Frozen Four and three 20-win seasons.

The Pointers finished their season with a 24-5-2 overall record.

Baseball Begins Regular Season with Three Wins and One Loss

Pointer baseball returned from Florida facing off against St. Norbert and Ripon in a four-game series of nonconference play on the road, which resulted in just one loss of their four games.

UWSP split its first series off the weekend playing against the Green Knights with a 3-0 win and a 2-0 loss.

In game one of Friday's doubleheader, the Pointers got the early 1-0 lead from Junior Tyler Thomka's sacrifice fly to score Freshman William Iloncaie in the first inning.

In the top of the fifth inning, a single from Thomka was able to score Junior Sawyer Schultz and Freshman Ben Diedrich for the Pointers final two runs of the game to post the 3-0 win.

Freshmen Kyle Mrozinski, Sophomore Ray Greco, Diedrich, Schultz, Iloncaie and Thomka recorded one hit apiece in UWSP's hitting efforts.

Senior pitcher Mark Kowalke threw for seven scoreless innings and recorded two strikeouts, three walks and five hits. He earned the win after pitching a complete game.

Game two of the doubleheader proved to be a bit of the opposite, as the Green Knights shutout the Pointers 2-0.

St. Norbert posted runs in the first and fifth innings to get ahead of the Pointers who could not get their bats working.

Thomka had a team-high two hits, while Greco and Schultz each added one hit of their own.

On Sunday, the Pointers traveled to Ripon for a non-conference doubleheader matchup and swept the Red Hawks 8-4 and 8-2.

In their first game, the Pointers garnered an early 4-0 lead off of three hits after a pair of errors from the Red Hawks.

Ripon came back swinging, tying the game at four apiece in the bottom of the fourth inning, but UWSP then knocked in four more runs in the next two innings to eventually earn the 8-4 win.

The Pointer's offense was lead by



Photo by Jack McLaughlin



Photo by Jack McLaughlin



Photo by Larry Radloff

Junior Ben Gerber who posted two hits, two runs and one RBI. Schultz also recorded two hits, as well as one run and one RBI. Junior Clint Rose and Mrozinski each had one run, one hit and one RBI.

UWSP posted another 8-run game for its second win of the day over the Red Hawks.

Posting 17 total hits in the game, the Pointers were up on the scoreboard early on after scoring three runs in the first inning and two runs in the second inning.

Ripon managed to get on the board after scoring twice in the second inning, but those two runs would be the only runs for the Red Hawks the remainder of the game.

Greco recorded a game-high five hits, as well as two runs and two RBI's. Seniors Peter Strommen and Cody Hanke, Rose and Iloncaie tallied two hits

each. Junior pitcher Heinrich Walder was

rewarded with the win.

The Pointers (6-8) will be back on the road, playing in a doubleheader against WIAC opponent UW-Whitewater for their first conference games of the season April 9 in Whitewater.

Tennis Drops Games Over the Weekend

The UWSP tennis team tallied two losses to Saint Mary's University (Minn.) and St. Norbert in De Pere.

The Pointers began their day against Saint Mary's and lost 8-1.

Their sole 8-3 win occurred in the doubles competition from Junior Frances Weiss and Sophomore Kaylee Roberts.

UWSP also fell 7-2 against St. Norbert the same afternoon.

UWSP (6-10) will match up with Concordia University (Wis.) at 3 p.m. on April 24 in Stevens Point.

Women's Club Volleyball Earns Spot at Nationals

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's club volleyball team will be traveling to Louisville, Ky. to participate in the National Collegiate Volleyball Championship hosted at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

After a season where the varsity team finished with an 8-7 record and the junior varsity team went undefeated, the club will travel and compete as one collective unit in Kentucky.

The club will arrive for a day of practice on April 6 with tournament play beginning on April 7. The championship game will be held on April 9.

Throughout a well fought season, the team displayed its versatility and resilience in their last appearance at UW-River Falls while competing against multiple conference teams with some players having to play out of position.

"We had to have two outsides playing both middle positions and our libero was playing outside," club president Taylor Dorsey said.

The club is preparing for nationals in the same way they would any other tournament but captain Brianna Davis and the rest of the team said they understand the level of competition will be more diverse than they've



Photo courtesy of UWSP Campus Activities and Recreation page

seen throughout the regular season.

"We have to fight to play to our level and play our game," Davis said.

Like any team, there are areas in which the women said they are hoping to improve on in order to give them the best chance of winning.

"I think for us it's limiting errors we can control such as serving, block-

ing, or making plays off of free balls," Davis said.

Dorsey also said she hopes the team will be able to perfect serve and receive before the start of play by scrimmaging and creating game situations during practice.

Before heading off to Kentucky, the women's teams will be playing

separately in their respective divisions in the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference State Championships at Marquette University.

State championship play begins on April 1 against UW-La Crosse for both varsity and junior varsity teams.

continued from page 1

were there to take care of what we came up short for the last couple years and nothing else," said Senior Forward Evan Dixon.

The Pointers took in some of the scenes of the Olympic Village in Lake Placid, which was the home of the infamous "Miracle on Ice" game in which the U.S.A defeated the powerhouse U.S.S.R team.

"Everything was in walking distance so this kind of felt different than the last couple years, much more cohesiveness with everybody, we got to check out the village, we did some curling, it was all really cool to have it there," Sharkey said.

Although the Pointers had two

blowout-wins in the semifinal and final, the inevitability of a championship wasn't acknowledged until the final few minutes of the title game.

"When we got up three in the third period of the title game I felt good, then we got up four and I kind of knew then, but had to keep my focus still," Dixon said. "When those last couple minutes came around though I smiled and tried to enjoy the moment."

For a program that has lost a total of 18 games in the past three seasons, the final piece to the puzzle being put in place capped off an historic run.

"I give a lot of credit to the se-

niors in the last couple of classes as they were essential to us in this run," Dixon said. "For me to leave my mark like this though after coming up just short is something I'll always remember."

To the victors go the spoils, as Coach Brooks has had little time to enjoy all his program has accomplished.

"With all the interviews and banquets and whatnot I haven't really been able to grasp just yet how great this is, but I know for these kids in my career I would give up any individual accolade to achieve something as a team like this," Brooks said.

With a target now on the Point-

ers' back going into next season, the ability to enjoy this moment may end sooner rather than later.

"I'm just excited we got to win one for these seniors, but I know personally and for the other guys coming back we're going to need to be even better to repeat," Sharkey said.

As for Coach Brooks, the process into next season has already begun.

"We're already out on recruiting trips and trying to figure out how we're going to replace some of the talent we're losing this year," Brooks said. "The effort we gave this year won't be enough to get it done next year, and my guys know that."

SPORTS EVENTS

BASEBALL	MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD	SOFTBALL
April 9 at UW-Whitewater (doubleheader)	April 9 UW-La Crosse Invite in LaCrosse	April 7, 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. vs. Wisconsin Lutheran (doubleheader)
April 10 at UW-Whitewater (doubleheader)		April 9, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. vs. UW-Platteville (doubleheader)



STORIES OF AN *American Scouser*

MARY KNIGHT
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If someone asked me what my favorite part of studying abroad is, it would definitely take some time for me to decide because the experience has been exciting and unpredictable so far.

However if I had to choose, I would have to go with the incredible people I have met studying here in Liverpool. I have been fortunate to connect and bond with other students from very different backgrounds and places than I.

These people have become great friends and I hope I will know them for many years to come. So, let me introduce you to a few of my closest international pals: Francelis, Ines and Lisa.

After I spontaneously joined

her on a trip to Paris in February, Francelis and I bonded and are now close friends. We have regular sleepovers like we are 13 again and my most favorite memories abroad include her.

Born in Venezuela, Francelis's strong, sarcastic personality makes me laugh constantly and always has a way of making me feel better.

Ines, my flat neighbor, is one of the sweetest and most genuine people I have ever met. She helped me really feel at ease when I was first adjusting to life abroad.

Next week, I will be visiting her and her family in Belgium and I could not be more excited to have such an immersive experience.

And then there is Lisa. With our similar sense of humor and mutual clumsiness we clicked instantly when we met. Whenever I need some to whine or complain to, Lisa

is always willing to listen.

A couple weeks ago, I was having what I would call "a mid-study abroad crisis." I had come down with a severe case of homesickness.

These girls quickly came to my rescue and each became a stand in mom helping me return to my normal, content self.

I am not sure exactly what triggered it, but I just really wanted some Wisco. This feeling surprised me because I was sure when I departed back in January I would never wish I was back at home.

During the study abroad preparation meetings, the staff discussed with us many ways to cope with homesickness when it occurs.

Homesickness? What is this nonsense?

I remember rolling my eyes and thinking to myself, "How can you possibly miss home when you are

living in Europe?!"

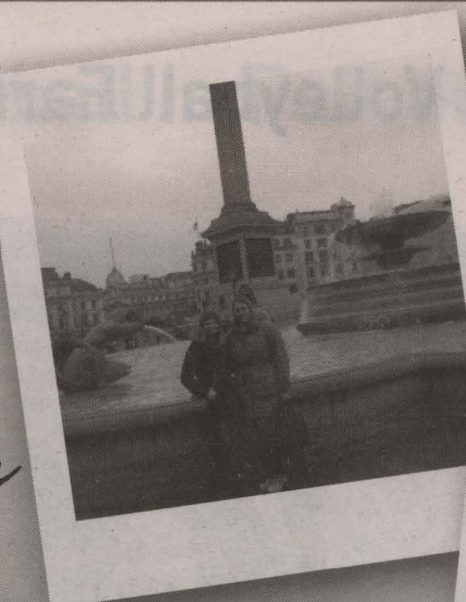
Having been away from Wisconsin for over two months now, I completely understand what they were talking about.

Although Liverpool feels like home to me in many ways, sometimes it can be hard to not constantly seeing familiar faces or being in a town where everything is just a 10 minute walk away.

During these moments, these ladies have been my rock and I could not have asked for more supportive friends to go through this experience with. They are such beautiful people and I admire how each of them has uniquely impacted me.

I can confidently say this time we are spending together in Liverpool is just the beginning of fulfilling and life-long friendships.

Photos courtesy of Mary Knight



Review: Waking Up in "Coma"

PAUL GROSSKOPF
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Despite the fact that video games are an interactive medium, I often find myself put off by games that don't provide enough structure.

It could be that the past few years as a college student have made me less liberal with my free time, and the idea of making a seemingly infinite commitment to a game like "Minecraft" seems horrifying to me.

Maybe it's that I often seek out strong narratives in the games I play, which by necessity often require an extensive scripting of events to maintain the pacing and presentation of the story.

For whatever the reason may be, my love and appreciation for order and structure greatly contributed to my time playing "Coma."

Released in 2010 by indie developer Thomas Brush, "Coma" is a 2-D platformer in which the player takes on the role of Peter as he attempts to traverse and wake up from the strange dream space he has come to inhabit.

Immediately, the stripped-down

format of the 2-D platformer lends itself to a highly structured experience along with the way the structure lends itself to presentation.

While the player only has the ability to jump and move from the left or right of the screen, each frame of the game is filled to the brim with beautiful animation and clever character design.

The benefits of this format are also evident in the way in which this structure allows the game to corral and anticipate the player's movement. This allows Brush to implement dynamic shifts of the game's music as the player moves through each stage.

Despite the fact that this stripped-down approach definitely lends itself to a highly scripted experience, the fact that this much detail and content was produced by a single designer is extremely impressive.

However, as much as I crave experiences that give my game-play purpose and direction, if "Coma" is a game about waking up there definitely seems to be something problematic in its inclusion of so many rules and restrictions.

After all, while the benefits of such a scripted game are undeniable,



Photo courtesy of www.engadget.com

able, the player ultimately interfaces with its design mechanically, which in turn becomes detrimental to the identity they can express throughout their play through.

If you watched multiple walkthroughs of "Coma" and "Skyrim" back to back, each of the former would be nearly inseparable from each other, while each of the latter would clearly reflect each of its players.

Of course, this notion is constantly touched on throughout Pete's traversal of the game's world, with

messages like "This world is a lie" and "You need to wake up Peter" ominously appearing in the background.

And ultimately, while rules and structure may be crucial for any storytelling medium, video games as an art form are defined by empowering their viewers to become players and co-authors of the narratives they inhabit.

As far as "Coma" is concerned, without this autonomy a video game just isn't a video game, only a dream of one.

Photo courtesy of comicbookmovie.com



'Batman v Superman' Orphaned by Fans and Critics Alike

BRADY SIMENSON
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"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" was dead in the water a long time ago.

Whether or not it deserved to be will likely be a point of contention among superhero fans for years to come, but it is hard to argue that a lot of people were never going to give this film a fair chance.

There is no way to pinpoint what it is about this film's development that made people so sour about it a year before it even came out, but the press and the fan boy droves have been overwhelmingly negative almost every step of the way.

After its swarm of mixed re-

views there are still new articles from major sites every day taking what seems to be a perverse pleasure in kicking the film while it is down.

Now by no means is "Batman v Superman" an amazing film, but by no means is it a terrible one. It fails in such a weirdly and spectacularly ambitious way that it deserves at least a grudging admiration from anyone who respects gutsy storytelling.

"Batman v Superman" tries to be so much more than it needs to be, and is hilariously unapologetic every step of the way. It carelessly bounces back and forth from being an action-packed superhero romp to being a startlingly dark and confusing philosophical nightmare.

It is frustrating to have seen so many art house films being appreciated for jumping all over the place with such chaotic artistry or for relying on esoteric references, but when "Batman v Superman" does it, it is given zero leeway for what seems to amount to either a bias against director Zack Snyder or a bias against superhero movies in general.

Many other reviewers simply seem angry because they couldn't follow the barrage of comic book references or don't like the idea of a superhero movie trying to be too intellectual, and many fan boys seem bitter because the film takes too many liberties with the material they love. As a result, "Batman v Superman" was setting itself up for failure with certain groups all along.

For what it is worth, I found the film to be an earnest effort to not only build a huge new cinematic world, but to do so in a brave, unique style, refusing to take the easy way out.

The visuals are often stunning, and most of the cast does a great job bringing the story to life. Jesse Eisenberg is a disappointing miss as Lex Luthor, but Ben Affleck and Gal Gadot bring their characters to new live-action heights.

If you haven't already allowed yourself to be poisoned against it by the internet backlash, "Batman v Superman" deserves a chance. It scores 7 "not-so-jealous Matt Damons" out of 10.

Review: 'Me and Earl and the Dying Girl'

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It is a rare gem that makes me want to read a book from beginning to end in one sitting, but I did just that with "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl."

This novel is about Greg, who is forced to reunite with a girl he used to know because she is dying of cancer. As a teenage boy Greg is less than thrilled but does so to please his mother.

Greg is an interesting character and the book is written almost as a stream of consciousness. In a mix of scripts, lists and narration, which is exactly how he would think.

Earl and Greg are amateur filmmakers, and the way in which this is portrayed is accurate. One chap-

ter summarizes each of the films they make and at least one major thing wrong with it.

Greg rates most of the chapters one or two stars. Some of the reasons are quite funny, like the cat they are working with won't behave.

Rachel is the girl who is dying and she is perspective and considerate, but not pretentious.

Earl shows her the videos after Greg tells her he hates when people see them and no one ever sees them. She sees right through both of them, knowing they're forced to hang out with her and that if she weren't dying they wouldn't hang out with her.

Normally I don't like books where I know the ending, but it's okay when the book itself acknowledges the ending early on because

then it's not as much of spoiler.

The reader knows within the first chapter that Rachel will die. There is no way around this ending which makes the whole story a journey to the end.

While the reader may hope for a different ending, the story still ends in the predicted way.

"Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" was such a breath of fresh air from different books such as "The Fault in Our Stars" and "Your Voice is all I Hear." It takes the seriousness of death, but it does not weigh the book down, it isn't filled with metaphors and philosophical thoughts that no teenager would say.

Greg repeatedly makes comments toward the reader about how he doesn't think the reader will read all the way to the end and how

it is not the typical girl dies and the guy has some profound life changing thought. He makes ridiculous comments that seem out of place in a book about cancer.

I wasn't expecting much of anything when I began this book, but it surpassed everything I could have thought.

Sometimes humor falls flat when it's written versus spoken, but that was not the case with this book. The first thing I noticed was the chapter titles, with the very first one being "How is it Possible to Exist in a Place That Sucks so Bad."

I knew I was in for a ride.

With this many laughs and good parts it would be a shame for me to rate "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" anything other than a ten out of ten.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

APRIL 6	APRIL 7
7 P.M. AND 9:30 P.M. "Carol" DUC Theatre	8 P.M. Fresh Hops DUC Encore
APRIL 8	APRIL 9
7 P.M. AND 9:30 P.M. Tangerine DUC Theatre	7:30 P.M. Danstage 2016 Jenkins Theatre
7:30 P.M. Danstage 2016 Jenkins Theatre	7:30 P.M. The Magic Flute Opera Michelsen Hall
7:30 P.M. The Magic Flute Opera Michelsen Hall	8 P.M. Cardboard Box Drive In DUC Encore
8 P.M. Soul Low with Opener Whips DUC Encore	
APRIL 10	APRIL 11
2 P.M. Danstage 2016 Jenkins Theatre	7 P.M. "The Year We Thought About Love" DUC Theatre

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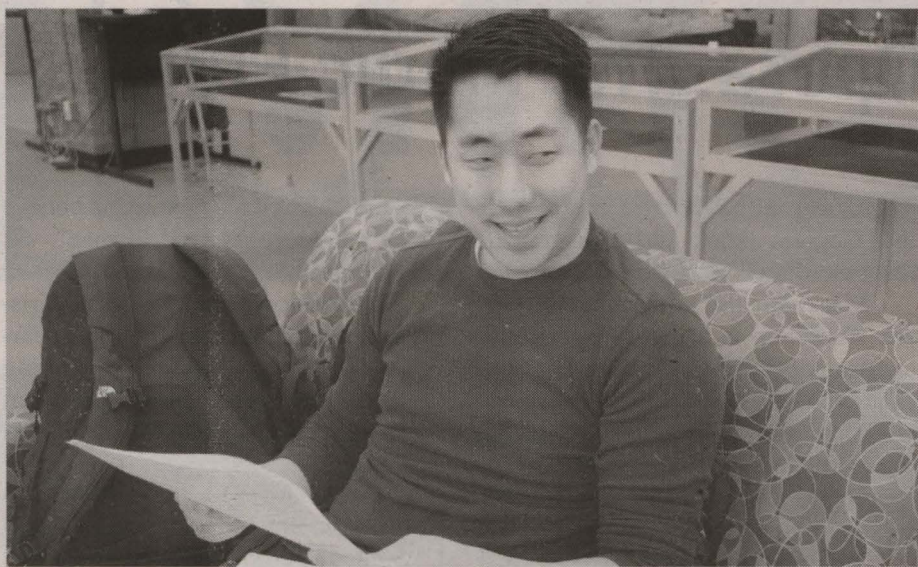
LIFE IS A PUZZLE

By Jonathan Seymour

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Photos by Lily Dettle



VICTOR VANG

Victor Vang is a senior paper science major

What is one talent you wish you had?

"Playing the guitar. I'm not very musically talented."

What is one book you were supposed to read in high school but didn't?

"I think it was like 1984."

What is one city you wish you could go to?

"New York."

What is your favorite thing you did over break?

"I went to Milwaukee to watch the bucks game."

What is one thing you would change about the world?

"For more people to know Jesus."



PATRICE WILLIAMS

Patrice Williams is a freshman nursing major

What is one talent you wish you had?

"I always wanted to know how to juggle."

What is one book you were supposed to read in high school but didn't?

"The Hunger games."

What is one city you wish you could go to?

"I went to the Dells. We went to the Kalahari."

What is one city you wish you could go to?

"Miami."

What is one thing you would change about the world?

"Equality."

Phi Mu Alpha Celebrates 50 Years

MICHELLE WILDE

REPORTER

Michelle.J.Wilde@uwsp.edu

The Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity chapter at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point celebrated achieving 50 years of recognition on campus.

As part of the celebrations on Friday, April 1, the Fraternity's National President and UniServ Director with Indiana State Teachers Association Mark Lichtenburg spoke about the state of education and how education reform has impacted music education.

His talk provided an opportunity for brothers of the fraternity to ask questions in an open discussion on the ever-changing landscape of public education. The talk discussed his experiences in the classroom and the education field as well as a realistic description of being a teacher.

Following the education talk Lichtenburg also led a leadership talk.

Joel Kaminski holds the Alumni Relations Officer position for the fraternity and is a senior biology and wildlife ecology major.

"50 years is a great achievement and putting on this weekend took a lot of work because connecting with alumni was harder than I anticipated. In 50 years, we have grown and developed as a chapter including establishing a good relationship with the Music Department," Kaminski said.

Alumni from all over the nation were contacted and invited to the events. The brothers of Phi Mu Alpha performed an American Music Recital. It featured alumnus Eddie Brown on piano playing "Waters of Memory" by Richard Crosby. Brown is another brother and former president of Phi Mu Alpha.

"Our chapter's history has had its ups and downs and it's amazing that we have made it 50 years. I hope we can make it to at least another 50 years if not

much longer and continue to achieve great things," said Nick Verheyen, president of Phi Mu Alpha and junior music education major.

After the recital was the initiation where six men became official members of Sinfonia.

During the dinner on Saturday, April 2, Verheyen spoke about Phi Mu Alpha's recent accomplishments and the future direction of the fraternity.

Also during the dinner, Dr. Patrick Miles, professor of horn and director of orchestral activities was presented

with Phi Mu Alpha's National Orpheus Award. The Orpheus Award is given to an individual who has advanced music in America through performances, teachings, composing or other means.

"The weekend was amazing and was full of laughs, discussions and memories. I thought the weekend was a huge success and I am so honored and privileged to be part of Phi Mu Alpha," said Kory Petersen, senior arts management major and Vice President.

Photo by Keaton Galezio



Mozart's Famous German Opera: The Magic Flute

MICHELLE WILDE
REPORTER

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"The Magic Flute," one of Mozart's most popular operas, will be performed at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point by individuals in the Opera Workshop.

The opera will be on Friday and Saturday, April 8-9, in Michelsen Hall in the Noel Fine Arts Center. One unique aspect of the opera is that it will be sung in German with subtitles on a screen and contain dialogue in English.

Asher Fickett, senior Spanish major and music minor, plays the role of Papageno.

"Some of the roles are double-cast so you can bounce ideas off the other person who shares the same role as yourself and you can integrate different views on the same character. At times it is challenging to coordinate your singing with the accompaniment whilst remembering your German," Fickett said.

Assistant professor of voice Dr. Matthew Markham is the director and producer. His role involves coaching the performers and overseeing the rehearsals.

"This opera really boils down to the theme of growing up so our production is about that slant on the Magic Flute, so we incorporated elements from J.M Barrie's "Peter Pan" such as

The Queen of Night Aria character is like Captain Hook and Papageno is like Peter Pan," Markham said.

Markham also added that the Opera Workshop is a great opportunity for students to learn the different stages of what goes into putting on an opera. The setting is in Neverland, building on the theme of Peter Pan.

Lee St. Martin, senior general music major in applied voice, plays the role of Tamino and said it is a great first opera as an introduction to classical music.

"The audience will have the whole experience as we are doing all of the opera, we aren't really cutting anything. Personally, this is my first role in an opera here at UWSP, so it is a new

experience but it also made me believe in myself more as a performer," St. Martin said.

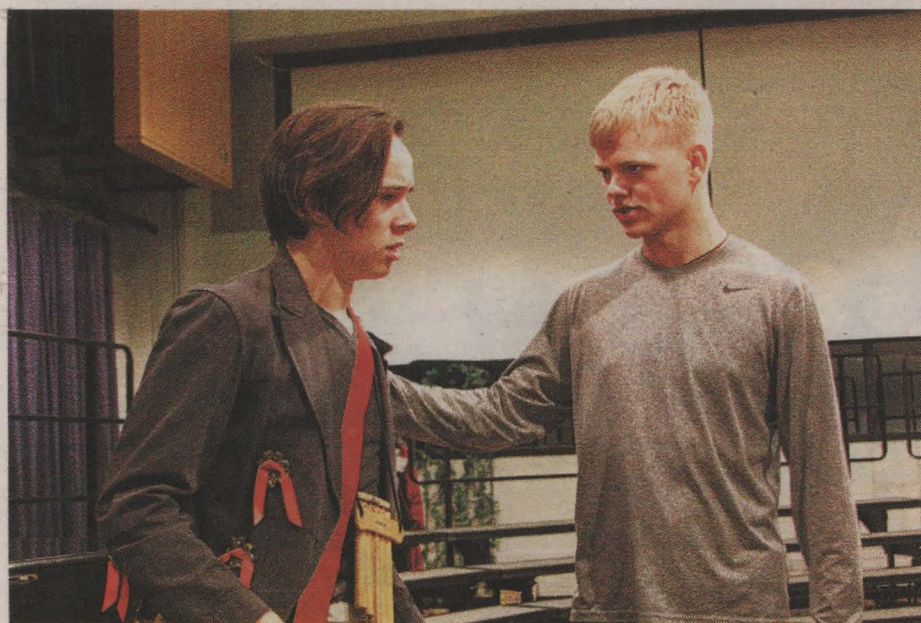
The music director, Professor Kristin Ditlow, helped cast the opera earlier in November. She will be playing the piano and conducting. The opera will also feature a wind quartet and percussion.

Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$14 for youth and \$10 for UW-Stevens Point students. Individuals can purchase tickets through University Information and Tickets in the Dreyfus University Center or by reserving them online through the Information and Tickets Office.

Photos by Allison Birr



Asher Fickett rehearses for the play.



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