



Photo by Lily Dettle

Distinguished Speaker Challenges Gender Perception

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Most people have a cut and dry viewpoint on what gender means to them, but writer and activist Julia Serano believes there's a lot more to gender than meets the eye.

Serano recently gave a lecture on campus revolving around perception and gender entitlement called "I'll See It When I Believe It" which tackled hard hitting topics regarding gender entitlement.

"This particular talk is one of my more accessible talks," said Serano. "I talk about a number of different issues related to gender, feminism and LGBTQ activism. This one is more accessible because I am talking more about the way in which we see gender and how that shapes how we interact with people. I think it's something that anyone in the audience is going to be able to relate to, to some extent."

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point counseling center reached out to Serano with the goal

of getting a dialogue started between students and faculty around the importance of gender perception.

Cassie Wygle, senior psychology major, said, "I'm in a psychology capstone class for gender and I think this talk answered a lot of the questions being asked in class. I think it's helpful not just for me personally and the work I want to go into, but for my whole class as well."

Serano started out by stating that the story she wanted to share

was not like most stories told by transgender speakers. She was originally born a man, but in her late thirties made the transition into becoming a woman. However, the focus of her talk was not about her personal journey of self-discovery or any challenging experiences she had within a transgender community.

Instead, Serano explained her personal take on what it's like after the transition, what she learned after interacting with people as both a man and a woman.

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EDITORIAL

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Let's have a conversation.

Yes, a meaningful, two-sided conversation.

No, I do not want to smile politely while you ramble on and on for thirty minutes. I have more to offer than head nods and appropriate one-word responses.

Yes, I am going to glare at you until you stop scrolling through your news feed.

I'm right here. Talk to me.

Let's talk about more than general everyday complaints, more than the weather; let's talk about things that matter. Who cares if the conversation gets a little heated. Friction is good. We grow when met with confrontation.

Let's grow together.

We are becoming a society where people focus on the mundane and refuse to look at the big picture in order to avoid confrontation.

How have we evolved to a point where all forms of confrontation are bad? If we never have conflicting opinions, how are we expected to grow? How can we improve the world?

I don't know about you, but I want an education where professors are not

afraid to voice their opinions. So what if those opinions are different than my own.

Am I not paying for an education? Do I not have the self-control to analyze others perspectives and form my own opinion? Are we not allowed to hold our own opinions?

With the never-ending budget cuts to academia, the refusal to support art forms because they are not "useful" in modern society, and the constant idea of money as a driving force within life, it is no wonder we are finding ourselves within an impending zombie-state of communication.

Professors are afraid to share opinions because of the potential implication that their opinions could have for their job status. Art is seen as a leisure time activity, not one that is an absolutely necessary characteristic of being human.

Societal structure, punch in, punch out, do the assignment, get the grade, make the money: these are all things that are driving us.

What horribly boring and tedious concepts.

Let's be human. Let's go on an adventure. Let's argue. Let's cry. Let's make love. Let's live.

But first let's have a conversation, a real conversation.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES
REPORT

Sunday, Mar. 6

Protective Services was called at 5:23 p.m. in regards to skateboarders jumping off a ledge near the DUC.

Monday, Mar. 7

A student called at 8:01 a.m. to alert PS that an unknown male was reaching towards backpacks somewhere on Portage Street. When the student approached, the male left the area.

A mother called at 10:50 a.m. to request a ride for her daughter who was throwing up blood and unable to walk to her doctor appointment. PS offered an ambulance which she declined.

Tuesday, Mar. 8

Student came in to report her phone had been stolen from the female locker room at 11:58 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 9

Student called at 11:38 a.m. to report a loft stolen from her room.

A student broke off his bike lock key at 7:52 a.m. and requested that PS bolt cut the cable for him.

Staff member called from the DUC to alert PS that a female passed out at 1:36 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 10

PS contacted Outdoor Adventures at 11:10 a.m. to notify them that a bike of theirs was found and is currently at PS.

A mother called at 7:53 p.m. to say that her daughter, who was in a drivers ed. class, had her phone stolen and shut off. The mother does not know who would have her phone and requested one of the officers try to locate the phone.

Friday, Mar. 11

An employee from the LRC called at 9:39 a.m. to say she had accidentally tripped the emergency exit door alarm on the fifth floor.

Staff member called at 2:10 p.m. to notify PS that a strong electrical odor was being smelled in the CCC.

Saturday, Mar. 12

A male called 6:33 p.m. and said he believed people were going to start a fire in Schmeckle. He said he was walking the trails and he saw people picking up sticks and commenting on their wetness.

A staff member called from Smith Hall at 9:33 p.m. and asked for assistance in making contact with a room that was being very loud and had someone puking inside.

THE POINTER

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

New Law Gives More
Freedom to Landlords

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A law was recently passed that limits local control over the safety requirements of rental units, ultimately giving more leeway to landlords.

Meleesa Johnson, director of solid waste management for Marathon County, is the fifth district alderperson for Stevens Point. Johnson explains that prior to this law the city was able to inspect rental units in order to ensure that certain safety codes were being met by the landlords.

"The city is not quite sure what this means, but at a minimum students should know that local units of government are restricted from inspecting or licensing unless there is a complaint against the property," Johnson said.

Johnson feels that limiting the local control of rental safety could have serious downfalls.

"The city has the best interest of the renters and that's why we have had this system of inspecting these units," Johnson said.

The law also states that a landlord has the right to evict a tenant if illegal activity is suspected by either the tenant or a guest. Landlords in Wisconsin now have more power over their tenants.

"This is suspected activity. They are guilty and don't have an opportunity to prove that they are innocent. This

is about civil liberties. Under the Bill of Rights we are innocent until proven guilty. It's wrong," Johnson said.

Alex Thomas, senior biology and soil and waste management major, is a former intern of Johnson. Thomas is currently a tenant in Stevens Point.

"One of my concerns is that unless there are physical signs of concern for a rental property, it cannot be inspected. I think that is a huge overreach," Thomas said.

As a renter, Thomas feels that he has less confidence in his own safety, because the city has less power.

"If a house looks like it's going to crumble to the ground, the city can go in and inspect it, but you can't always see issues without inspecting them," Thomas said.

Kaylee Bast, junior communication and business major, is also a tenant in Stevens Point.

"I understand that landlords don't want illegal activities going on in their properties, but I think that they could abuse their power," Bast said. "I would hope that they wouldn't, but I feel like they could definitely do it."

Bast also believes in the importance of city involvement when it comes to inspecting rental units.

"When you move in, you have the right to know that the place you are moving into has been inspected and is safe," Bast said.

Gov. Walker Cuts \$8 Million from Planned Parenthood

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Gov. Scott Walker has recently signed legislation that will cut millions of dollars in the public funding which serves 60,000 individuals through Planned Parenthood services.

One of the bills signed at "Life's Connection," a counseling clinic in Waukesha, restricts how much Planned Parenthood can be reimbursed for prescription drugs. Since lower reimbursement rates are offered to clinics linked to abortion services, Planned Parenthood will be billed an extra \$4.5 million each year.

The second bill prevents the state from passing on any Title X grant money given to an organization that provides abortions or has affiliates that provide abortions. Title X funds go towards family planning and health services for the poor or uninsured, not abortion procedures.

Planned Parenthood usually receives roughly \$3.5 million from the Title X grant per year.

Lyn Ciurro, junior arts management major, is the executive coordinator at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Women's Resource Center and believes this cut will have a major impact on

how Planned Parenthood is run.

"They're going to have to restructure the way they spend money, so outreach programs are going to go way down, going into school systems that maybe don't have proper sex education curriculum. They won't be able to do that anymore," Ciurro said.

Ciurro believes that not only women, but all people will be affected.

"It's not like they're taking away money from abortion services, because there's no federal money going towards abortion services. That'd be illegal. They're just taking away money in general," said Ciurro.

Although these bills do not mention Planned Parenthood specifically, critics say they are being distinctly singled out.

"I think that nonprofits struggle and lack funding as it is," said junior communication major Isabella Pietsch. "So when that money is decreased even further, I think it's really sad and difficult for those who depend on it."

Lauren Jenquin, junior arts management major, is the executive coordinator at the WRC and explains that there are other options for those who are currently relying on Planned Parenthood for birth control or other services.

"In Wisconsin we have fami-

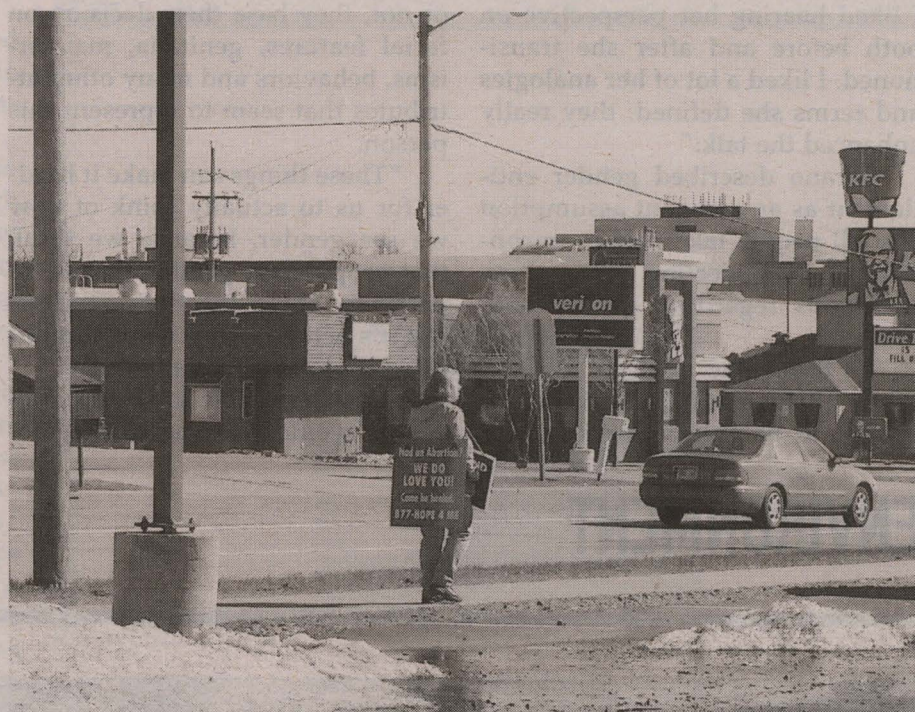


Photo by Allison Birr

Protester against abortion walks down Division Street.

ly planning only services which is something that women who fall under a certain income bracket, which most college people do, can receive free family planning services," Jenquin said. "Planned Parenthood is definitely not the only place to receive women's health care, so look at local services and find places like the Women's Resource Center so we can point you in the right direction."

Ciurro explains that in addition

to local family planning services, Walker will be setting up further resources for those in need.

"I know Walker's plan after defunding Planned Parenthood was to integrate the services into the state's health care system, which is going to cost a lot more money than it saves," Ciurro said. "But it's not like they're just taking it away completely, they're also going to extend services offered at hospitals and clinics."

Human Trafficking Experts Come to Point

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The UWSP chapter of International Justice Mission invited local human trafficking experts to educate students about labor and sex trafficking.

Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery, with an estimated 21 million people worldwide becoming enslaved in this \$32 billion business every year. Perpetrators of human trafficking use force, fraud or coercion to enslave people. By choosing vulnerable individuals, they are able to manipulate them easily.

Erin Gregoria is a professional with several years of experience working with labor trafficked victims in the Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

Molly Roberts, senior social work and sociology major, made the connection with Gregoria and invited her to be a guest speaker as part of IJM's International Justice Week.

Roberts said, "I feel driven to promote awareness of social justice issues, like human trafficking in

Wisconsin, because it's not something that just happens in third world countries."

From Gregoria's work with labor trafficked individuals, she warns that anyone can become a victim. Though labor trafficking is continuously caught and investigated, it is able to continue because there is always a demand for cheap labor.

Perpetrators work in a high-profit, low-risk system in which they face low conviction rates and brief sentences in jail. Their victims often do not know their rights, have unregulated contracts and come from backgrounds of poverty.

Andrea Oyuela works with domestic abuse and sexual assault victims as the Hispanic Advocate Program Coordinator of the Women's Community, Inc. in Wausau. She emphasizes the correlation of poverty and human trafficking and urges community members to be vigilant and support individuals who seem to be going through a hard time.

To some students, this information helps them prepare for the real world.



Photo courtesy of borgenproject.org

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery.

Cindy Yang, junior social work and sociology major, said, "I was shocked by the information about sex trafficked children and some of the myths about them."

Yang wants to enter social work and be able to help various groups of people.

Women and children are at the highest risk of being trafficked although Andrea has seen an increasing number of LGBTQ+ and trans-

gender teenagers being trafficked within the last two years.

Andrea asks community members to be mindful of unusual changes in friends and acquaintances since human trafficking is highly underreported.

She said, "We cannot stop poverty. Poverty will always exist, but we can hold the [perpetrator] accountable to be able to prevent our children from becoming victims."

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Whitney Karau, junior psychology major, said, "I enjoyed it, I thought it was very informative. I liked hearing her perspective on both before and after she transitioned. I liked a lot of her analogies and terms she defined, they really enhanced the talk."

Serano described gender entitlement as an arrogant assumption that all people take part in unconsciously by projecting personal expectations regarding gender onto others.

"I titled the talk 'I'll See It When I Believe It' because what we believe to be true influences how

we see the world," Serano said.

When an individual is identifying someone's gender, knowingly or not, they base their decision on facial features, genitalia, mannerisms, behaviors and many other attributes that seem to represent this person.

"These things can make it harder for us to actually think of how we see gender, because we think that people have gender, that we're passively observing their genders, but it's actually way more complicated than that," Serano said.

Serano was able to see the way people would treat her differently

based on her gender and she quickly learned that sexism was very much a two way street.

She was in a band during this time and after she transitioned to a woman she noticed she suddenly began receiving many more compliments on her guitar skills. Since playing the guitar is often considered a masculine skill, people were impressed when they saw a talented female guitarist.

"All of us, since we live in a gendered world, have all of these expectations in regards to gender and we have had experiences where our gender is being com-

mented upon, sometimes policed, sometimes punished," said Serano. "I talk in my book about recognizing all of these different kinds of sexism as sexism."

Serano is the author of *Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity and Excluded: Making Feminist and Queer Movements More Inclusive*.

"To challenge gender entitlement, we should challenge ourselves, think about how we see the world and think about the assumptions that we're placing on people," Serano said.

ENVIRONMENT

Cyclists Gear Up to Discuss New Infrastructure



Photo by Allison Birr

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If you live in Stevens Point and your bike is not registered, you could receive a fine of \$150.

Many bike riders are unaware of the laws put in place to protect them and their beloved bikes. With that in mind, the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee held a workshop at the Portage county library on Thursday Mar 3 to educate cyclists on laws regarding bikes.

The workshop was open to anyone who wished to learn more about biking and walking safety laws. The event also allowed people to voice their opinion on how Stevens Point could make biking and walking safer.

Different organizations held

booths at the workshop to provide information regarding biking and walking on the streets.

John Pawlak, owner of Point Area Bicycle Service, had a booth at the workshop and he gave a walk-through on fixing flattened bike tires on the go. The Stevens Point Police Department hosted a booth with information on bike registration.

The Police Department recommends licensing your bike. Doing so makes recovering stolen bicycles easier for both the owner and law enforcement officials. In addition, getting your bike licensed provides the city with a better estimate of how many bikes are on the road. This knowledge may encourage the city to implement more bike-friendly infrastructure.

When asked about the goals

for the meeting, Trevor Rorak, vice chair of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, said, "To get public feedback on what our committee should prioritize and to implement more bike friendly infrastructure in Stevens Point."

Creating bike lanes, having more bike racks and bike shelters around the city and educating bicyclists are some of the ways the committee would like to work with the city of Stevens Point to make biking and walking easier and safer throughout the city.

The Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee just applied for a large grant through the Transportation Alternatives Program for funding bike lanes on major streets in Stevens Point such as Main St. and Clark St.

Nicolas Ruzicka, economics and

political science major, said "I'm interested in the plans the mayor has for changing the city to be more bike-friendly. There are streets that are pretty much death traps if you bike down there."

Ruzicka also said, "I'm looking for what the university can do as a campus to coordinate with the city to make the city itself more bike-friendly."

The university is taking small steps to achieve this as well.

SGA just approved a new bike shelter for campus, which will keep bikes dry and in working order. The university is working to make campus more acceptable to bikes in the future with different initiatives from students and faculty.

Adventure Club goes Cross-Country



Photo courtesy of the UWSP Adventure Club

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The question for UWSP Adventure Club this spring break is not where they will go, but where they will not go.

The club is leading three trips across the country including Illinois, Arkansas and Utah for an extremely affordable cost.

The Adventure Club was awarded \$12,000 in grants for the 2015-2016 school year to make trips for spring break affordable. Kyle Pepp, senior geoscience and philosophy major, says that having money to cover the travel makes Adventure Club the coolest club on campus.

The emphasis on student involvement and the urge to explore new places is tied in with the funding in order to make spring break trips this March exciting and far from Stevens Point.

The grant money covers a trip in Zion National Park in Utah, backpacking through the Ouachita mountains in Arkansas and a straight week of outdoor rock climbing in Carbondale, Illinois.

The trip to Arkansas has no cost aside from food because of the covered travel cost and the flexibility to hike for free in national parks.

Zach Jones, sophomore natural resource planning major, is leading the Arkansas trip and was given flexibility over what to plan between backpack-

ing and potential rock climbing over spring break.

Although the weather has the potential to be uncooperative with rain in the spring, Jones said "There's no such thing as bad weather, only bad attitudes."

The Illinois trip will heavily involve climbing - bouldering, sport climbing, and traditional climbing. The expedition in Zion National Park will feature five to six days of backpacking through desert landscape and experiencing one of the most scenic views in the southwest part of the United States.

The trips are proposed by students in the club but are accommodating to anyone who wishes to join a trip. The Arkansas and Illinois trips prefer pre-

vious experience with backpacking or climbing, while the Utah trip requires a more intense experience with backpacking.

Chase Bayer, senior geoscience major, says the club works to balance between beginners and intermediate and hard levels of experience.

With a \$20 fee to join the club, students of any skill level have the opportunity to travel outside Stevens Point and experience places not normally visited. Trips occur frequently on weekends throughout the school year when seasonal and interested students are more than welcome to join. Those who are interested in joining Adventure Club, contact Kyle Pepp at Kyle.J.Pepp@uwsp.edu.

Bill Proposes the Freezing of Arctic Drilling

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On Feb. 11, new legislation that would prohibit companies from making new leases on federal lands and waters for coal, oil and gas was introduced to Congress. If passed, this would permanently protect Arctic and Atlantic coasts from new oil explorations and drilling operations.

The "Keep it in the Ground Act" would ban gas, oil and coal extraction on publicly owned land and coastal waters in the United States.

The bill has support from environmental groups such as 350.org, a climate activist group. The organization is well known and has chapters in 188 countries worldwide. The organization's co-founder, Bill McKibben, worked with the 17 Congressional members who sponsor the bill, one of them being presidential candidate Bernie Sanders.

Environmentalists believe this proposed bill would not only protect coasts

currently being used for drilling, but the "Keep it in the Ground Act" will also encourage the United States energy system to shift to more renewable resources.

If the United States government puts more regulations on obtaining fossil fuels, then the easy solution to supply our energy needs would be to turn to renewable energy.

Switching our country's energy supply to mostly renewables such as wind and solar would reduce input of carbon which could slow the impacts of climate change.

Kevin Meyers, president of the Stevens Point 350 club and sophomore water resources major, said, "By burning oil it releases carbon dioxide and a whole other slew of chemicals into the air and in turn our planet suffers for it by overheating."

Even before being burned for fuel, the process of extracting oil has the potential for harmful environmental impacts.

Drilling, especially offshore, has become a highly controversial topic in re-

cent years due to the tragic BP oil spill. When oil rigs burst, the oil coats the surface of the water, making it hazardous to marine life. Birds get the oil on their feathers and lose the ability to fly, fish and other aquatic life breathe in the toxic mixture of chemicals.

Economies relying on marine life, such as in the fishing industry, suffer from lower yields due to mass fish die-offs.

The "Keep it in the Ground Act" is projected to have plenty of opposition. According to the Congress website, the bill has a 4% chance of becoming enacted as law.

With that in mind, only 3% of the bills introduced to congress between 2013 and 2015 were passed.

Opposition to the bill is centered around the jobs provided by the oil industry. The fear is that if the fossil fuel industry disappears, the jobs will go with it.

Many people have worked their whole life on the oil fields, and they are afraid their way of life will be eradicated

if more regulations are put in place for drilling.

Consumers are also skeptical of the affordability of newer, greener energy sources. Renewable energy resources tend to have a high upfront cost of installation, but they end up paying for themselves after a few years of use.

Katie Delaney, freshman special education major, said, "I think people wouldn't support this bill because people are used to the way things are, and they don't want to spend the extra money. But I think it's worth it in the long run."

The "Keep it in the Ground Act" has yet to be voted on in Congress, which may take months. If it passes through congress it must be signed by the president before it becomes law.

When asked why he cares about green living, Meyers said, "Because I live here. I care about it because I care for people and everything that's on the planet."

Zumbathon Mixes Workout and Fun For a Cause

Photos courtesy of Emily Glinski

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On Sunday, April 3, from noon-3:00 p.m. in the Laird Room, the entire community and student body of Stevens Point is invited to attend a Zumbathon event that will serve as a fundraiser for Star Treatments.

This event will be run by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Colleges Against Cancer. The event was brought to the attention of the Colleges Against Cancer by UWSP facility services co-workers Chris Brindley and Isabel Martinez.

Brindley and Martinez had a special connection to Star Treatments since it was founded by Matt Diritto, a member of the band Pop Evil which Brindley and Martinez know well.

"Star Treatments is basically providing VIP experiences for kids battling cancer," Brindley said. "We were throwing out ideas on how we could involve the community here with Star Treatments and we have Isabel here who's an experienced Zumba instructor so we thought let's do it."

President of the UWSP Colleges Against Cancer Glorian Konieczny was approached by Brindley and Martinez and they were welcomed with strong enthusiasm.

"We went to Glorian and she immediately said let's do this, I'll do anything I can to help, and it also tied in with some of the stuff they're

doing for the Make-A-Wish Foundation as well," Brindley said. "We were thankfully steered towards Glorian to partner with for this and she has been nothing but helpful the entire time."

For Martinez, this opportunity was a perfect chance to fulfill some of her favorite hobbies in life.

"This idea just kind of came to me because it combined the three biggest passions in my life right now; Zumba, rock and roll, and helping others," Martinez said.

The event will go three hours long and will entail a full hour of Zumba to start, followed by the raffling off of prizes that will go towards Star Treatments, and finish off with another hour of Zumba.

Zumbathon has had success in the past on campus, and Brindley and Martinez are hoping their event can match some of that success.

"I think we can get more than 100 people to show up. I had about 150 for the last event I instructed, and I think the mix of Latin dance with some rock and roll songs will attract people to support a good cause," Martinez said.

There will be a \$20 fee to participate if you register prior to April 3, and it is \$25 if you wait until you get to the door. As mentioned, they will also be raffling off various items that will be highlighted by a Fitbit. All money raised will go towards the Star Treatments Fund.

"We're hoping a lot of people sign up prior to April 3, here at the



front desk in the Dreyfus University Center, so we can get enough food and drinks and maybe a gift of a water bottle or something for our participants," Brindley said.

Brindley and Martinez anticipate making this event annual, and have been working out the kinks of putting it together for the first time.

"The Laird Room is a tough room to get. They were pretty much all booked up every Saturday so we had to do a Sunday, but I think it'll be a good little Sunday workout that hopefully members of the community will want to come support," Brindley said.

The connection with Pop Evil has driven Brindley and Martinez, as well as the UWSP Colleges Against Cancer, to make this event

as successful as possible.

"My wife and I started following Pop Evil when they were a little band and now they've exploded. They're very popular, but we got to know some of the guys especially Matt and you want to make those guys proud and do what you can do to help because he's like family," Brindley said.

That sentiment was repeated by Martinez.

"I got into them about a year and a half ago, and I just connected with their kindness and loved that Matt was doing this non-profit organization Star Treatments on top of it. I just wanted to do what I could to help continue to build that," Martinez said.

UWSP Men's Swimming Prepares for Another Trip to Nationals

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For the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point swimming team, a trip to nationals has become routine and this year they will send six swimmers to the national meet beginning March 16.

Those six are Freshmen Nate Somers, Reilly Donnelann and Jack Englehardt, Juniors Andrew King and Brandon Richardson, and Senior Kyle McNair.

Somers is the only swimmer out of the bunch not competing in a sprinting event, as he will compete in the 500 and 1,650 freestyle events. His success in those distance events is almost unheard of at UWSP, where sprint swimmers thrive.

"Nate is the first miler to ever compete at nationals, and what he did at the conference meet, going toe-to-toe with one of the best swimmers our conference has ever seen in the event, superseded what we expected going into the meet," said head coach Alan Boelk.

Somers, who just began swimming the mile this year, broke his personal best in both of the events he competed in.

"I was not expecting to do that well, I was expecting to swim fast, but not to the point that I ended up finishing where I did," Somers said. "In the 500 I was just kind of riding it out with the only other guy that was close to me and I just pushed through and beat him out in the final 50."

McNair is the clear cut leader of the sprint relays teams that qualified for a variety of events at nationals and is looking to capitalize during his second crack at it.

"Last year when we qualified I was just kind of, you know, happy to be there. This year I owe it to these guys and want to give them the best performance I can so we can place in a position we want to," McNair said.

With a month layoff in between meets, the challenge for Coach Boelk was to have his swimmers peaking at the right time.

"I think psychologically this layoff takes more of a toll than physically," Boelk said. "You have Nate who

is basically training by himself being the only distance guy, and the sprinters are training with each other. It can be hard to just train and not compete when you've already trained to compete in three big events this year."

For the swimmers, with the final meet approaching, it is about avoiding any obstacles before they take the blocks.

"We are in quarantine stage right now, avoid any injuries, sickness, everything at all costs," McNair said.

Coach Boelk brought home his 11th Men's Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the Year Award as well, but he said he attributes most of his success to the people that surround him.

"Coach Justin Stoffel really is a co-head coach in every sense of the word," Boelk said. "We're all trying to do what's best for each other and I have always believed that if you try to do the best you can individually in this sport, a lot of the things you want to accomplish will then fall into place and I have been fortunate enough to be surrounded by all these guys that continually do that."

A free-flowing atmosphere that has made the UWSP program so successful for years, has the freshmen on the team just as excited to experience nationals as the seniors.

"I don't think I will be that nervous, I've prepared as well as I could've and am just looking to swim fast," Somers said.

For McNair, he is looking for his last swim to be a good one.

"I'm really excited to get in the pool with these guys one last time and hopefully bring home a top eight finish like we want," McNair said.

Having been at nationals almost every year, Coach Boelk said he knows you just have to trust all the preparation you have put in the effort and let the rest fall in place.

"There's two types of swimmers at nationals, guys happy to be there and guys who are there to do well, and I think this group of guys has the latter in their DNA, so we trust in what we have done leading up to this," Boelk said.

Hermesen Shatters Records Becoming Sixth National Champion in Pointer Wrestling History

KYLIE BRIDENHAGEN
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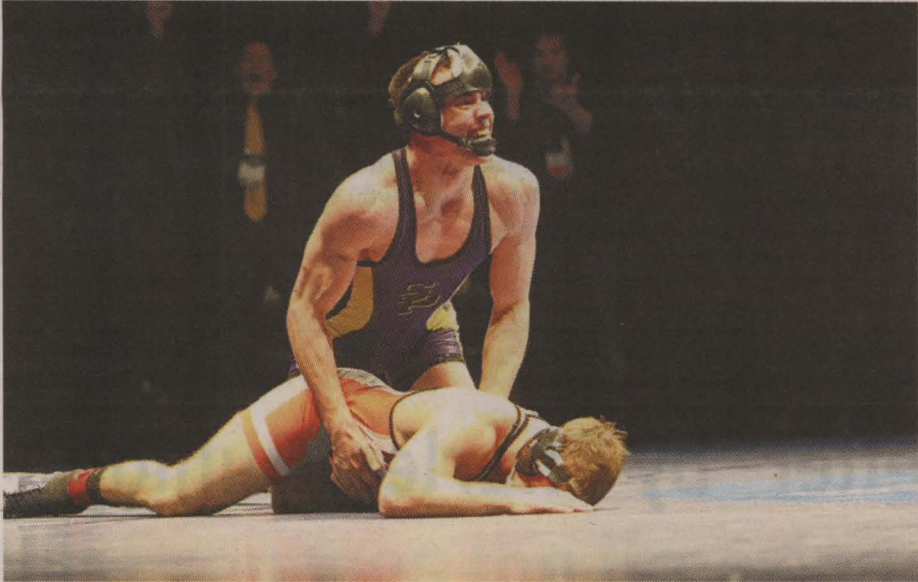
Junior Logan Hermesen became the sixth national champion in program history for the Pointer wrestling team when he won the 165-pound division at the 2016 NCAA Division III National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The championship match was tied 3-3 and, with a third period takedown, Hermesen sent the match into overtime. He defeated Wartburg's Nicholas Michael in a sudden victory-1 to claim the 165-pound title.

On Friday, Hermesen won his first round matchup 7-0 against Williams College's Timothy Garripoli and defeated Central College's Ryan Vandall with a 7-6 victory to secure a spot in the semi-finals.

Earning 19 points with his victory, he helped UWSP place 19th overall as a team—its highest placement since 2009 when the Pointers finished 17th.

Hermesen finished his junior season with a 28-4 overall record.



Sophomore Ben Vosters also qualified to the NCAA Division III National Championships, where his season finished with a pair of defeats. In his first matchup against Central College's CJ Pestano, he lost 5-2. Vosters was defeated in his second match against Rob Murray from Stevens Institute of Technology.

Vosters concluded his season with a 24-5 overall record, which included a WIAC Championship and Scholar All-American Honors.

Williams and Ward Set New School Records at the NCAA Division III Indoor National Championships

Junior Jerry Williams and sophomore Darin Ward each earned All-American honors and set new UWSP records in their respected events this past weekend at the 2016 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships in Grinnell, Iowa.

Williams secured All-American honors in two events at the championships after placing runner-up in the triple jump with a new school record jump of 15.03 meters as well as finishing third in the long jump with a jump of 7.16 meters.

For the fourth time this season, Ward broke the school and his own personal record in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.01 seconds, which was the fourth-best time in qualifications. During finals, he finished in 8.25 seconds to place eighth overall and receive All-American honors in the event.

Also on the men's team, national championship competitors included junior Neil Pedersen who also earned

All-American honors after finishing seventh in the one-mile run in 4:12.85. Senior Jordan Richards placed ninth in the long jump with a mark of 6.87 meters and freshman Jeremy Lee placed 10th in the heptathlon with a collective 4,682 points. The men's 4x400-meter relay team finished 12th with a time of 3:23.67 minutes.

The Pointers placed 10th as a team with 17 points. UW-Eau Claire won the championships with 53 points,

UW-Whitewater was second with 39 points and UW-La Crosse rounded out the top three with 40 points.

On the women's side, senior Shannon Burke placed highest for the Pointers with an eighth place finish in the pole vault after she cleared a height of 3.70 meters and received All-American honors.

Senior Kadie Flynn recorded a distance of 16.41 meters in the weight throw and finished 13th in the championships. She also placed 10th in the shot put with a throw of 13.23 meters. The women's 4x400-meter relay team crossed the line in 3:54.21 minutes to place 11th in the prelims.

The women's team earned 0.5 points and tied for 76th with Stockton.



Photos by Jack McLaughlin

Baldwin Wallace claimed the team title with 42.2 points. Illinois Wesleyan was runner-up with 36 points and Washington U. placed third with 31 points.

The men and women's track and field teams will begin their outdoor season at the Sherman/Lukoski Invite on April 9 in Ripon.

Softball Splits Doubleheader Games with Buena Vista University

The UWSP softball team won 3-2 in its first game and fell 9-1 in its second game to Buena Vista University on Saturday afternoon in Storm Lake, Iowa.

In the Pointers first matchup, the first three innings of the game remained tied 0-0 until sophomore Katie Uhlenbrauck knocked in an RBI double to put UWSP on the board. Buena Vista scored its first run of the game and tied the Pointers 1-1 with back-to-back doubles from Marissa Schmidt and Keely By-

croft.

Freshman Morgan Johnson earned the win for UWSP when she scored junior Charlotte Pegram and Kylie Johnson in the seventh inning, giving the Pointers the 3-2 win.

Sophomore Paige Allen recorded three hits. Morgan Johnson had one hit and two RBIs while Uhlenbrauck had one hit and one RBI. Pegram posted one hit in the first game.

In the second game, senior Bailie Sheahan scored the Pointers only run of the game with a solo home run in the first inning.

From that point on, Buena Vista scored five runs in the bottom of the first inning, two runs in the second and two in the fourth, defeating the Pointers 9-1

by run rule.

Sheahan led the Pointers efforts with one hit and one RBI. Sophomore Averi Kanyuh and Allen each recorded one hit during the game.

The Pointers will be back on the mound starting March 17 where they will play 12 games at the National Training Center Games in Clermont, Fla.

Pointer Tennis Records One Win and One Loss in River Falls

The UWSP tennis team split a pair of matches this past weekend in River Falls.

In the morning on Friday, the Pointers won their match up 7-2 against UW-River Falls and later in the day, lost 8-1 to Bemidji State University.

UWSP will be back in action, facing off against Saint Mary's University.

SPORTS EVENTS			
BASEBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	MEN'S SWIMMING	SOFTBALL
Mar. 17-22 Games in Auburndale, Fla.	Mar. 19, 7 p.m. NCAA Division III Championship Quarterfinal UWSP vs. Adrian	Mar. 16-19 NCAA Championships in Greensboro, N.C.	Mar. 17-22 Games in Clermont, Fla.

Photo courtesy of gameinformer.com

Review: Mixing the Supernatural with Adolescence in 'Oxenfree'

PAUL GROSSKOPF
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From the very first time I watched it, I have been in love with "The Goonies."

Sadly, I can't say that any of my own childhood experiences ever quite lived up to those of Mikey and company. However, the way in which the movie combined adolescence with the supernatural and the fantastic perfectly captured the feelings of excitement, horror, and adventure that defined that part of my life.

In many ways, this particular affection towards "The Goonies" immediately drew me to "Oxenfree."

Released by "Night School Studio," the game follows the lead character, Alex, and a group of her teenage friends as they spend the night on an abandoned island, complete with a detailed past involving WWII

submarines and local ghost stories. However, the traditional coming-of-age antics, like drinking on the beach and the awkward pursuit of romance, that our protagonists set out for soon come to intermingle with the supernatural forces surrounding the island.

Just from this premise, it's fairly obvious to see that the folks at "Night School Studio" are also massive fans of "The Goonies" formula. This is not to say that this influence has a negative impact on the experience or that the developers don't bring anything new to the table.

One of my many favorite aspects of the game has to be its art style.

Most of the horror-oriented games I've played recently have gone for a strictly ominous tone in the design of their worlds, with dark alleys or corridors giving each level a perpetual feeling of dread. In comparison, "Oxenfree" embraces a much more vibrant pallet, with its watercol-

or aesthetic often creating simultaneous moments of horror and beauty as you traverse the island.

This tone works to encourage exploration and engagement with the environment despite whatever horrors you may come to encounter, which nicely compliments the development of the game's narrative as well.

While the story is not afraid to delve into dark waters throughout its exploration of the painful qualities of change and maturation, it also shows us a cast of fully developed characters that are compelling to follow. We can root for and empathize with them.

In this regard, the best aspect of "Oxenfree" is the fantastic quality of the writing itself, along with the way in which it integrates dialogue into the mechanics of the game.

This is not a first in the industry games like "Skyrim" or "The Witcher 3," games that certainly incorporated

interactive dialogue as a means for the player to connect with the world and participate in the story. Usually, these sections of play come between long sequences of combat or movement through the world that make up the more substantial content of those experiences.

However, "Oxenfree" is made up of an almost constant stream of interactive communication between its characters, so much so that dialogue options are color-coded and permanently mapped to three of the main buttons on your controller. As the characters interact in each scene Alex constantly has the opportunity to manipulate the flow of conversation and influence the trajectory of the story.

For these reasons and so many more, please go pick up "Oxenfree." Like watching "The Goonies," if you are a human being with a heart and a soul you will not be disappointed.

Review: "Smarter Faster Better" by Charles Duhigg

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I'm not a huge fan of nonfiction books. I will read them if I have to, however I thought I should read this one and I encourage everyone to do the same.

Smarter, Faster, Better: The Secrets of Being Productive in Life and Business includes eight methods to become more productive and accurate in life and business. While this is not the only reason I picked up this book, it is the major one. The other reason is that it is by Charles Duhigg, the author of *The Power of Habit*, another book I've been meaning to read.

Part of my new year's resolution was to vary my reading, including nonfiction, and more adult books. I'm so glad this was the first nonfiction book I have read because it's making me want to read more of them.

This book was divided into eight chapters, each focusing on

a way to improve yourself. Some were about gaining motivation, others were how creativity can come about. Within those chapters were stories about businesses or people that failed and those who succeeded.

Then Duhigg explains the theory and ends with the conclusion of the stories.

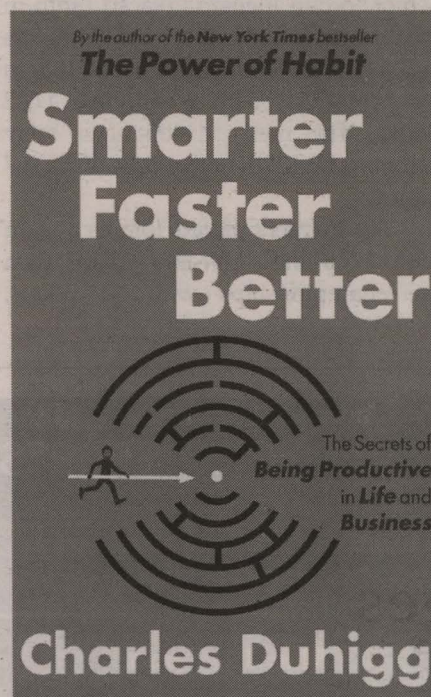
Because of the way these chapters were separated, it was so simple to read for 10 or 15 minutes, take a break and then pick it back up later. However, I found it was best to read an entire chapter in one sitting because it would go back to previous stories.

Duhigg began by explaining how he used to think productivity was constantly being busy and how he admired others productivity and he sought out those people to learn how they became so successful.

The tips and methods Duhigg presented began as being very simple and easy to implement into life. An example would be giving yourself a choice between what to do.

As the book continued, it became less easy to implement the tips

Photo courtesy of penguinrandomhouse.com



and methods Duhigg perscribed.

One such method was doing

math to figure out the probability of multiple scenarios so that you can better determine what may happen if you decide to do something or not. I have found a pro-con list works just as well.

The stories Duhigg told were relevant to the lessons he was trying to convey, and I enjoyed having two stories because it made the lessons that much more universal.

I liked seeing these companies and people go through struggles and found myself rooting for all of them as I was reading. It helped that they were actual people telling the stories instead of made-up stories as well as there being real studies cited within the text.

Duhigg did his research, that much is obvious.

I felt myself wanting to read this book, and being annoyed when I had things I had to do instead. I immediately started searching for another book like this. It helped prove not all nonfiction books are boring.

"Smarter Faster Better" receives a firm eight lessons out of 10.

Synthpop Album Music Review: 'Pool' by Porches

KATY STREBE

CONTRIBUTOR

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With synthpop's recent burst of popularity in the college music scene, it's hard to sift through every bit of music in order to find what is actually worth your time.

"Pool," the latest release from Porches, is one synthpop album that will grab your attention. What's more, it'll deserve it.

Throughout the album vocalist Aaron Maine lazily croons as the synths wail on. There's a sadness to Maine's voice that cannot be ignored. His voice paired with the album's instrumentation produces a sound that will make you feel eerily nostalgic about something that hasn't happened to you.

The album starts out quick and manic. The second track "Braid" features a quick, driving beat made sinister by Maine describing bright and powerful eyes watching him.

Before one can stop for a breath, Porches jumps right into the next

song, "Be Apart."

This track is just as fast-paced as "Braid," but Maine seems to be in even more emotional turmoil than he was before.

The lyrics are not complicated, but desperation seeps through the vocals when Maine describes a faceless being coming after him. He sounds like he is on the verge of screaming the lyrics "I'll let it have me whole."

Even though the lyrics are simple, they are not uninspired. Lines from the song "Shaver" detail the process of pining for someone through lines like "I make my face smooth for you/ do you like the things I do/ oh I hope so." As Maine sings about someone he loves, there's gentleness to his voice. This gentleness is one of the most notable things present throughout the whole album, keeping the listener enthralled in every song.

"Pool" will leave an emotional mark on you long after the 39 minute album is finished. Songs from Porches' album "Pool" can be heard during 90FM's general programming.

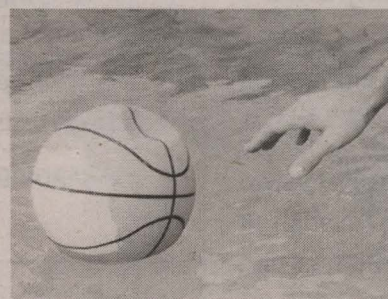


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

MAR. 14

7 P.M.

"My Beautiful
Laundrette"
DUC Theatre

7:30 P.M.

John Hofmann
Jenkins Theatre

MAR. 14

7:30 P.M.

Jazz Band and Jazz
Ensamble Concert
Jenkins Theatre

MAR.28

7:30 P.M.

Geoffrey Fischer and
Zachariah Dienerberger
Jenkins Theatre

MAR. 29

7 P.M.

Latino Americans: 500
Years of History
DUC Theatre

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TRACEY SCHEURER

Tracey Scheurer is a senior social work and sociology major.

What is something or someone you miss from your childhood?

"My cat."

If you became a multi-millionaire overnight what would you buy?

"I don't know, there's so many things. A house, a bigger house."

Who has influenced you the most and why?

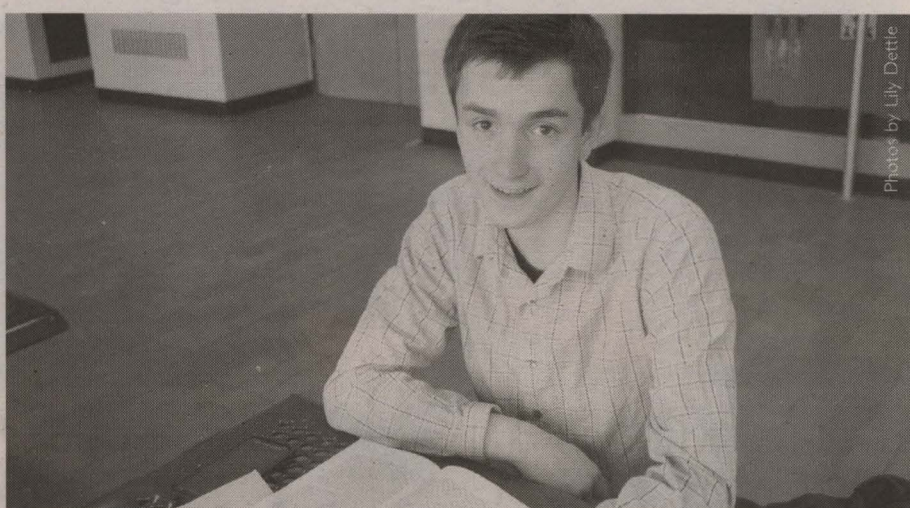
"My husband because he has pushed me to complete my schooling and I wanted to stop many, many times."

If you could try out any job for a day, what would it be and why?

"Social work for adoption and foster care, just because that is what I'm interested in."

What is your dream job? When did you know this was what you wanted to do?

"Social work, and I want to deal with disabilities. I was a junior in high school and was watching SVU. And the social worker came in and removed the child from the pornography ring."



MATT LANKE

Matt Lanke is a sophomore physics major.

What is something or someone you miss from your childhood?

"Free time, having no obligations."

If you became a multi-millionaire overnight what would you buy?

"A lot of nice cars."

Who has influenced you the most and why?

"I don't think I could pin it down to one person, but a lot of the people I met in my life: my friends, my teachers."

If you could try out any job for a day, what would it be and why?

"Maybe law enforcement because I hold a lot of political views on them and I think it would be a unique perspective from the other side of the fence."

What is your dream job? When did you know this was what you wanted to do?

"Physicist, I wanted to do it when I was younger, when I was six and I thought they didn't make much money until I looked up the salaries in a personal finance course."



TOP 10 ALBUMS

Mar. 13 to 19

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Charles Bradley
"Changes" | 6 Damien Jurado
"Visions of Us on the Land" |
| 2 Santigold
"99 Cents" | 7 M. Ward
"More Rain" |
| 3 Fatima Al Qadiri
"Synthia" | 8 Keeps
"Brief Spirit" |
| 4 Thao & the Get Down Stay Down
"A Man Alive" | 9 Lucy Dacus
"No Burden" |
| 5 Emmy the Great
"Second Love" | 10 Heron Oblivion
"Heron Oblivion" |

LIFE IS A PUZZLE

By Jonathan Seymour

IF LIFE REALLY DOES GIVE PEOPLE LEMONS TO MAKE LEMONADE, THEN WHAT'S GIVEN TO THOSE WHO ARE NOT A FAN OF LEMONS?





Max Pollak: Inspiration through Innovation

Professor David Hastings, Jeannie Hill, Max Pollak, and Professor Matt Buchman

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As part of the guest performer series at the College of Fine Arts and Communication, Max Pollak, a renowned international performer, held tap, body percussion and musicianship master classes last week.

Max Pollak was born in Vienna, Austria and became known for his work in percussive dance, World Music, tap dance and choreography.

Associate Professor of Dance Jeannie Hill organized his residency at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and his participation in the American College Dance Association. She also encouraged student participation.

"His story and journey are inspiring to students. The workshops gave students the chance to recognize Max's phenomenal artistry and see incredible talent at work. He is a supreme musician and dancer and I am pleased that his master classes

have been well attended and well received," Hill said.

On Tuesday, Max held auditions for a new work that will premiere April 8 in Danstage 2016. Dancers were selected to perform Pollak's new choreography at the show. The

opportunity to have him here. He is amazing to work with. I am excited to share the Danstage 2016 piece with everyone in April," Brady said.

Pollak is considered a rhythmic innovator and a dynamic performer because he fuses dis-

zas. Photo by Lois Greenfield

Elaine Stone, senior dance major, also participated in his master classes and auditioned for Danstage 2016.

"His unique style is what really fascinates me. The skill and artistry needed to combine such contrasting styles is amazing. I have grown as a performer and artist through attending his master classes and interacting with him. His energy spreads across the studio and invigorates all of us," Stone said.

Danstage 2016 will take stage at the Jenkins Theatre in the Noel Arts Center beginning April 8 to 10 and 14 to 16.

Tickets are \$21 for adults, \$20 for seniors, \$16 for youth and \$4.50 for students with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point ID. Tickets are available at the Information and Tickets Office, located in the Dreyfus University Center or by reserving them online through the Information and Tickets Office website.

His unique style is what really fascinates me. The skill and artistry needed to combine such contrasting styles is amazing.

-Elaine Stone, senior dance major

students rehearsed with Pollak intensively Tuesday through Saturday.

Among the selected dancers was Megan Brady, sophomore dance and communication major.

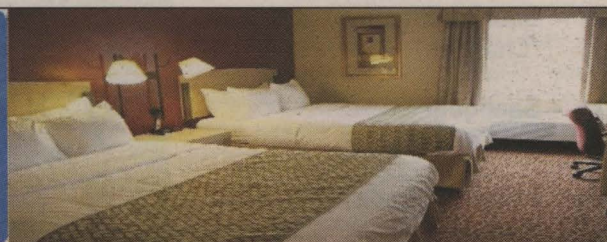
"It's been such an incredible

tinctive styles of dance together.

He created "RumbaTap," which merged American Rhythm Tap with Afro-Cuban music and dance. He is the only non-Cuban member of the Afro-Cuban Rumba and folklore ensemble Los Muñequitos de Matan-



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