Trot To a Healthier Thanksgiving This Year

KAITLYN WANTA
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Avoid the Thanksgiving bloat this year by participating in the annual Turkey Trot.

This non-competitive and family-focused race will take place on Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, Nov. 24 at Pfiffner Park in Stevens Point.

The Turkey Trot is organized by Portage County Can, or PC Can, which encourages the Stevens Point Community to balance nutrition and activity. The vision of PC Can is to engage Portage County to be the healthiest community in the state.

Annie Wetter, president of PC Can, emphasized that the race is not a competition.

“It’s about getting outside with friends, family and neighbors, the people we are grateful to share our lives with,” Wetter said.

The Turkey Trot is free, but participants are asked to bring a nonperishable food donation for Interfaith Food Pantry. Through the donation of a non-perishable food item, the event promotes food security during the holiday season.

Last year, approximately 150 participants donated 360 food items weighing a total of 420 pounds.

PC Can is partnering with the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Employee Wellness this year. UWSP EW is put on entirely by Health Promotion and Wellness majors to promote events and provide educational materials related to the seven dimensions of wellness: spiritual, physical, emotional, career, intellectual, environmental and social.

Sallie Scovill, director of Employee Wellness, mentioned they would like to see a higher turnout in this non-competitive event along with more food donations to the local food pantry.

“My hope is that this event brings the community together to give thanks for all that we share, and to give back a little bit as well,” Scovill said.

Students are welcome to attend or volunteer at the event if they are nearby on Thanksgiving Day. To help set up, mark the course or take things down, contact Annie Wetter at awetter@uwsp.edu.

Participants can register online with family or friends and bring the completed waiver and food donations to the event.

Event registration starts at 8:15 a.m. and the trot begins at 9 a.m.

“What better way to celebrate with family, friends, and neighbors than by enjoying some physical activity before the big meal,” Wetter said.

All ages and speeds are invited to attend. Strollers, dogs on leashes and costumes are encouraged as well.

Kelly Hammond, communication director for PC Can, has helped promote and organize the Turkey Trot.

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Vigil Held at Sundial for Community Unity

ALEXA DICKSON
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On Thursday, Nov. 17, the community joined together on campus at the Sundial to honor those who have passed away or suffered from hate crimes.

The vigil, along with other activities through the week, addressed incidents that have been happening at a local and national level. In recent weeks, many hurtful incidents have been requested to be recognized.

The Student Government Association hosted not only the vigil but each activity this week to address inclusivity on campus.

The vigil involved spokespeople from multicultural and ethnic organizations, volunteers and faculty members such as Chancellor Bernie Patterson and Vice Chancellor Al Thompson.

Posters honoring those who had passed away due to hate crimes were displayed around campus, reminding all those who suffered or are suffering.

Ta Xiong, senior English major and inclusivity director for SGA, was a key speaker in creating the open forums and the vigil.

"I was a little skeptical of the idea at first because I work with students and it's really hard to get students to attend anything," Xiong said.

The turnout for the events this week ended being about what Xiong had expected. Many students, faculty members, and community members attended and shared their support for victims of hate or bias incidents.

One victim of hate crimes is Bubba Baldwin, senior theater major.

After the recent presidential election, Baldwin’s dorm door was vandalized with a racial slur and “Trump for prez” written below it.

Baldwin said he has been familiar with hate crimes on campus and has lost respect for his university. Beyond the vigil, he wants more conversations about diversity so students gain a respect for one another.

“You don’t have to accept everything. Just get a basic understanding,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin said the subject of diversity has gained momentum recently and should not be stopped. The more conversations that happen, the more progress can be made about issues involving racism, homophobia and sexism.

Basic human rights are being taken away and violated,” Baldwin said. “It’s very important that we have these conversations.

Although this vigil is not a direct response to the recent presidential election, much of the hate and fear has been sparked from election results. I’m asking people to not make this about Trump, but more so the ideas that were validated by that,” Xiong said.

The time from conception to execution of these events was only one week, with the help of many dedicated students and faculty.

Aside from Xiong, other important people behind these events included Bryan Richmond, treasurer for comparative religions club, and Ron Stroeg, advisor for the SGA.

By reaching out to multicultural and ethnic organizations and advertising to the public, the events caught the attention of many members of the campus and beyond.

Erin Malone, a student at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, attended the vigil and was in support of victims and allies coming together in times of need.

“I’m here just to be an ally to people and stand up for what I believe in,” Malone said.

Among the list of people honored at the vigil, was the student from UW-Stout who died because of hate crimes.

Xiong said that students from the Stevens Point campus knew this student and have not had proper time to grieve their loss. The vigil gave time and space to those who needed to step back and honor the people they care about.

“Hate and fear and ignorance have already killed people this year – has caused loved individuals to die,” Xiong said. “We are better than that and we can rise up from it and stand for each other with each other.”

THE POINTER
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No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

The Pointer is printed Wednesdays during the academic year with a circulation of 3,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is $10 per academic year.

Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

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

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Sunday, November 13
A male reported a hole in a poster near the NFAC couches made from a person who was “weird” with “bad vibes”.

Monday, November 14
A suspicious truck parked in the Schmelke parking lot was advised to leave.

A man was called in after wandering around the Watson lobby area.

Tuesday, November 15
An unconscious female with an unknown breathing status was reported.

A staff member reported a white truck that threw a bottle at her the night before.

Wednesday, November 16
A female called to report screaming coming from outside Mary Roach.

A student wanted to look at camera footage in the DUC to see if he forgot his wallet or not.

Thursday, November 17
A Brewhaus staff member called to inform of two individuals who most likely had fake IDs to buy alcohol.

Friday, November 18
A female reported underage drinking seen from Snapchat.

A call was placed to let Protective Services know that two non-firing revolvers will be used in a play on campus.

Saturday, November 19
A suspicion that someone was trespassing in the construction of the new science building was called in.

A hike and the person who stole it was reported by a student.
The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has been named a Military Friendly School for the seventh consecutive year based on support and academic program offerings for veterans and feedback from students and veterans.

UWSP believes "military-friendly" refers to the faculty, staff and campus environment, and the general student population having an attitude of openness, care because I get for both the academic success and emotional health of those who have served our country.

The University also received the UW VETS Certification earlier this year based on responding to student veteran needs, creating a campus committee focused on veterans’ issues, offering orientation programming, training to faculty and staff on veterans' issues, providing counseling services and other resources and establishing a resource center where student veterans can access services.

Approximately 325 student veterans, National Guard members, reservists and military dependents are enrolled at UWSP.

Ann Whipp, veterans coordinator for eleven years at UWSP, is the main point of contact for veterans on campus to connect them with many resources.

Her role is to explain educational benefit options, assist with the application for benefits, and to provide campus and community resource information that will contribute to the academic success and well-being of all military-affiliated students.

Some areas where Whipp directs veterans to are counseling, housing, finance, tutoring, orientation and more. For new student veterans specifically, she highly recommends the pizza party meet and greet at the beginning of each semester for them to find a community.

"This is the most rewarding job I have because I get to give back to them. Taking one thing off their minds helps them focus on academics," Whipp said.

There was a Veterans Day Program this year which consisted of a formal ceremony with retired Brigadier General Kerry Denson, a 40 year veteran of the U.S. army and Wisconsin Army National Guard as the keynote speaker.

There was a panel discussion including Chancellor Patterson, Denson, students Kelsey Forrest and Nicole Harsh and Dan Buttery, assistant deputy of the Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs.

Lastly, “Saving Private Ryan” and several veteran documentaries were shown and moderated by David Chrisinger, UWSP instructor of “Back from the Front,” a class on transitioning from military to civilian life.

Tegan Griffith, 32 year old communications major and military services officer at UWSP, appreciates the different services offered to her at UWSP.

"There’s always someone willing to help out a non-traditional student," Griffith said. "Being in the military is embraced, but we’re encouraged to do more than that."

Griffith has benefitted personally since enrolled as a student at UWSP because she has had the opportunity to grow academically and individually. Griffith grew up in the small town of Wittenberg and hopes to work with small businesses in the future to bridge the gap between veterans and citizens.

Josh Fager, 29 year old eco-systems restoration management major, has served with the United States Navy for 5 years of active duty. He came to UWSP because of the well known natural resource department, but immediately got involved in the Veterans Club and served as the President for the 2014-2015 school year.

The Veterans Club is a community of students that puts on events such as a 5K in the fall and ice fishing in the winter. They meet bi-weekly to plan events and on the off weeks host “mandatory fun” which includes game nights, bowling or hanging out downtown to forget about school and fulfill that sense of comradesry.

“We might have all served in different branches and different times, but we are all brothers and sisters,” Fager said. “We are all students now, and we are still brothers and sisters.”

Fager mentioned he would like to see his peers connect with someone they might not normally connect with by approaching a student veteran on campus. He even mentioned he normally wears his military backpack, so he is approachable and easy to find.

Other practical steps to better understand the unique challenges student veterans face in their transition to civilian life are for faculty, staff and students to participate in an online training simulation called Veterans on Campus.

The 30 minute course can be accessed on the Veteran Services webpage and teaches about common transitional stress that student veterans experience, what resources are available on campus for student veterans and how to help a struggling student veteran.

For more information on veterans’ services, contact Ann Whipp at 715-346-3237 or awhipp@uwsp.edu.
UWSP Students Thanksgiving Traditions

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Approaching Thanksgiving, many students have many family and friends all semester. Besides reuniting with loved ones, students also have traditions that they look forward to every year.

Paige Jacob, junior communications major, is from McHenry, IL. Jacob said her favorite part about thanksgiving is being home with family and friends. She likes seeing her pets and her family’s new puppy.

“Our family tradition every year is that we watch the Charlie Brown Thanksgiving movie,” said Jacob.

Jacob travels a little farther to see her family in Illinois so the holidays are a nice time to relax with loved ones.

Travis Roth, senior biology major, is from Monterey, WI.

Roth said he likes going home and seeing his family and dogs. “I’ve been home once since I moved here. I pretty much only go home for the holidays so it nice to see everyone in my extended family too,” said Roth.

His family tradition includes all the guys in the family getting together to play a game of football together.

For many, seeing family and reconnecting with friends itself is the tradition. Some students also have fun events and activities they look forward to like Roth.

Ryan Schmid, junior forestry and recreation major, is from Muskego, WI.

Schmid says he loves sitting around the table talking and laughing with family. He always enjoys spending time with his dog too.

His family tradition includes “playing a family football game before we eat,” said Schmid.

Another student who has planned activities is Morgan Winter.

Winter, senior elementary education and special education major from Janesville, WI, only goes home a couple times during her semester. Seeing extended family is her holiday highlight. She also likes to meet up with a friend and spend time going out and shopping the next day.

“A close friend and I always get together and go black Friday shopping after midnight every year,” said Winter.

There’s a spirit of unity and togetherness throughout these next months, but especially with Thanksgiving which is a time to celebrate the blessings in life, be thankful, and celebrate blessings. Happy Thanksgiving!

Misunderstanding College Loans Leads to Large Amounts of Debt

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Stevens Point held a Degree of Debt campus rally, sponsored by USA Today Network-Wisconsin, to talk about college affordability.

The rally helped students and parents learn how to make smart decisions about higher education. About 30 were in attendance to explore ways, students can prevent getting into large amounts of debt.

According to USA TODAY, 70 percent of college graduates in Wisconsin leave with debt, making them the third most likely in the country to have debt.

On average, each graduate leaves with about $29,000 in debt. Leaving with high amounts of debt raises concern for recent graduates.

“Students worry about not being able to buy a house or car; move to the city of their choice or land their dream job right away because of the need to pay off loans,” said Winter.

Panelists and students of the rally spoke about concerns with college affordability, misunderstandings of borrowing too much and struggles with working multiple jobs to afford college.

Parents were confused whether they should encourage their children to attend low-cost schools or more expensive schools so their children can get ahead in their future.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York states that between 2005 and 2012, the number of student borrowers increased 66 percent and the average student loan balance increased 49 percent.

Mortgage debt is the largest debt in the United States, totaling over 7 trillion dollars, exceeding both auto and credit card debt.

Andy Held, adviser and assistant director for the Academic and Career Advising Center, mentioned that many occupations now require further training or education after high school.

“It used to be more common for people to get secure, family-sustaining work with a high school diploma or less,” Held said.

The main takeaway from the 90 minute Degrees of Debt discussion was that students should understand the impact of college debt before they apply to school.

In addition, school administrators need to strive to keep costs at a minimum or increase grants and work study options.

Ryan Gehler, associate director of financial aid at Lawrence University, attended the discussion and recently launched a pilot program to help students understand finances.

“People are making uneducated decisions,” Gehler said, “and the desire is there. College is not too darn expensive.”

He also suggested educating students earlier on by offering high school financial literacy training.

Lauri Keefe, career specialist & career development coordinator for the Academic & Career Advising Center at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, recognizes the struggles students might face after graduation.

Keefe said, “They should be fine-tuning their resume, cover letter and gaining practical experience while in school to help steer them in a direction that matches their academic preparation, values, interests and skills.”

Logan Lopas, recent UWSP alumni, said the main thing he has done to pay off student debt is to adjust his budget to allow more than the minimum loan payment per month.

“Start applying for jobs a semester before you graduate,” Lopas said. “Because the process can take up to several months.”
Throughout games, Sosnowski helps advise the players and coaches with power plays and penalty kills. He attends all of the home games and most of the away games. He can also sometimes be seen in the stands at other campus sporting events.

Joey Sosnowski, administrative assistant for the Pointer men’s hockey team. Photo by Kylie Bridenhagen.

Joey Sosnowski, administrative assistant for the Pointer men’s hockey team, watches the match up between UWSP and St. Norbert on Saturday, Nov. 19 at Cornerstone Community Center in Stevens Point, Wis. Photo by Kyle Bridenhagen.

Joey Sosnowski, administrative assistant for the Pointer men’s hockey team, watches the matchup between UWSP and St. Norbert on Saturday, Nov. 19 at Cornerstone Community Center in Stevens Point, Wis. Photo by Kyle Bridenhagen.

Multi-Talented Dean Honored for his Coaching Achievements

CAROLINE CHALK REPORTER cchalk19@uwsp.edu

Marty Loy, dean of the College of Professional Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, has recently been named to Wisconsin’s George Martin Hall of Fame for his outstanding work as a wrestling coach.

Before coaching, Loy had been a wrestler at UW-Madison. After graduation, Loy pursued his master’s in counseling at UW-Oshkosh. He landed the head wrestling coach position at UWSP where he was head coach for 11 years.

Eric Burke, a former UWSP wrestler, has fond memories of Loy as a coach.

“He really drew upon people’s strengths and let them feel like their contributions were important, and I think that’s important for any kind of team or organization,” Burke said.

Loy admitted that he does not know who nominated him for the George Martin Hall of Fame. He was surprised when he found out he was in the hall of fame.

“When you’re a wrestler, you’ve had different challenges and I think that’s why I was in wrestling where we were really excited at the prospect of working with hockey players at the collegiate level.

“Marty is a visionary and a hard worker.”

Fred Hebert, a former UWSP football coach, became a close friend of Loy’s when they both decided to pursue their Ph.D.s. Hebert sees Loy as a visionary and a hard worker.

“Marty is a person. He is humble, you wouldn’t know that he has attained the type of success that he has attained. That is not Marty to ever boast his own or have people become aware of his accomplishments,” Hebert said.

Loy is a dean, but he has not forgotten about the world of wrestling. Though he is no longer the head coach, Loy is still a fan of wrestling and continues to show his support by occasionally attending matches.

Spreading Wings at Monarch Aerial Arts Studio

SYDNEY DENHARTIGH SPORTS REPORTER sdenh702@uwsp.edu

Jamie Vanatta, of Monarch Aerial Arts, is offering a creative way to keep in shape for students from the campus and community of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Sydney Inks, senior arts management major, comes to the studio for aerial dance.

“Marty Loy is always in a good mood and treats everyone with hugs. The players treat Sosnowski like a teammate. He can tell if you are having a bad day or if you are not feeling well, he’s very caring in that aspect,” Krueger said.

According to Krueger, Sosnowski is always in good mood and never fails to greet everyone with hugs. The players treat Sosnowski like a teammate.

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Look Into Sports: Women’s Basketball Firing On All Cylinders

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RALSTON AND HERMSEN HIGHLIGHT PAST WEEK FOR POINTER WRESTLING

On Nov. 15, senior Logan Hermesen worked his way to a pin to pick up six important points for the UWSP wrestling team. Junior Cody Nielsen also recorded six points by forfeit victory, but the Pointers fell 34-12 to UW-Parkside. Senior Boone Roycraft battled his ninth-ranked opponent to the final seconds before falling in a 3-2 decision.

On Saturday at the CUW Open at Concordia University, sophomore Donny Ralston placed sixth after recording three wins on the day.

Other victories for UWSP came from freshman Andrew Whelan who won by fall, Nielsen claimed two victories in the 184 weight class, sophomore James Borgen won by fall in the 174 weight class and junior Joe Cook also earned a fall in the 157 class.

UWSP MEN’S HOCKEY SUFFERS FIRST LOSS AFTER HOT START

Led by senior Trace Strahle’s two goal outing, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men’s hockey team claimed 6-3 a victory over Marian on Nov. 18.

The Pointers tallied two goals in each period of the game. Sophomore Stephan Beuvais knocked in UWSP’s first goal at 6:10 into the opening period.

Soon thereafter, junior Willem Mullan-Nong-Lambert put the Pointers up 2-0 midway through the first.

The Pointers came out shooting in the second period as senior Kyle Sharky and junior Omar Mullan scored back-to-back goals in a span covering 1:22, putting UWSP up 4-0.

UWSP went into the third period with a 4-1 lead before Strahle notched his first goal of the night only 1:10 into the frame.

Marian made it close by scoring two goals to put the game at 5-3, but with time running out Strahle scored an empty net goal to seal the 6-3 victory for the Pointers.

Juniort goalie Max Mislocek recorded 24 saves for UWSP in a match were Marian outshot the Pointers 27-25.

On Saturday, UWSP suffered a 5-3 loss to No. 2 ranked St. Norbert, giving the team its first loss of the season, putting its record at 6-1-1.

Senior Jacob Barber put the Pointers up 1-0 early into the first period before St. Norbert dropped in two goals within 31 seconds from each other to take a one-point advantage.

Heading into the second period already down 2-1, senior Jon Davis gave the Pointers hope by bringing the score to 3-2 only 40 seconds into the second frame.

The Green Knights reclaimed a two-point advantage but the Pointers kept fighting back. Down 4-2, senior Eliot Grauer scored on a power-play, cutting the lead down to 4-3 going into the final period.

After another St. Norbert score, this time coming off a power play, the Pointers were not able to escape the deficit as the score stayed 5-3.

Sophomore goaltender Jesse Goedzchak recorded 23 saves for the Pointers who were outshot 28-17.

Senior goalie Sydney Conley tallied 34 saves in the Pointer’s 2-1 victory over UW-Superior.

The Pointers faced off with St. Norbert who was coming off a two-point advantage in the second period, putting the score at 1-0.

The Pointers shutout the Yellow Jackets in the first period and only allowed a power play goal late into the second period that senior Meredith Ingleson answered with by scoring for the Pointers putting the score at 1-1.

On Nov. 19, UWSP women’s hockey had a stellar performance from sophomore goalie Sydney Conley who recorded 34 saves in the Pointer’s 2-1 victory over UW-Superior.

The Pointers shutout the Yellow Jackets in the first period and only allowed a power play goal late into the second period that senior Meredith Ingleson answered with by scoring for the Pointers putting the score at 1-1.

Conley saw 19 shots fired her way in the third period compared to the eight shots on goal for UWSP. Thankfully, junior Maddie Schlossmacher knocked in the deciding goal on a power play to give the Pointers a 2-1 advantage and the victory.

The Pointers now have a five game home stand starting Dec. 3 where the team will face off against Northland College.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL RIDING A HOT START

The UWSP women’s basketball team started their season on Nov. 15 with a 64-42 routing of Alverno.

Senior Lauren Anklam led the attack with 16 points as fellow seniors Autumn Hennes and Taylor Douglas finished with 14 and 11 points, respectively.

The Pointers shot 54 percent for the game and limited Alverno to 24.5 percent shooting.

UWSP then opened the Pointer Tip-Off Tournament with a 66-51 win over Luther.

Along with Hennes’ game leading 16 points, three other Pointers racked up double digit points. Anklam contributed 12 points, junior Mickey Roland added 11 and sophomore Payton Mix scored 10 points.

The Pointers rode a 32-19 score at halftime and an 18-point lead going into the final quarter to come away with the team’s second win of the season.

On Sunday, the Pointers managed a 62-58 victory over Illinois Wesleyan in a game that came down to the final seconds.

The Pointers entered the second half down seven points and trailed most of the game.

With the score tied 58-58 and 12 seconds left on the clock, junior Lexi Roland hit one of her two free-throws to give the Pointers a one-point lead.

Anklam caused a turnover that forced the Titans to foul and send her to the free throw line where she hit both free throws to seal a four-point victory for the now 3-0 Pointers.

After scoring 43 points on the weekend, Hennes was named the Pointers Tip-Off Tournament Most Outstanding Player and joined Anklam on the All-Tournament team.
UWSP MEN'S BASKETBALL TAKES TO HOOPSVILLE CLASSIC

After suffering a 63-55 loss to St. Olaf in the season opener where the Oles used a 19-0 run to open the third quarter to fuel a 43 point second half, UWSP men's basketball split their two games in the Hoopsville Classic over the weekend.

On Friday, the Pointers matched up with No. 2 ranked Christopher Newport where the team fell 71-51 to open the classic.

Sophomore Ethan Bublitz led the scoring attack for the Pointers with 16 points. Fellow sophomore Drew Fredrickson notched 10 points on 4-6 shooting from the field.

The Pointers struggled to get much going their way as the Captains scored over 30 points in both halves including a 17-4 run in the closing minutes before halftime.

UWSP notched their first win of the season on Saturday after defeating Lynchburg 83-73 behind a crucial 16-4 run in the first half.

Sophomore Mark Nelson notched a career best 22 points on 5-6 shooting and going 10-10 from the charity stripe. Bublitz scored in double digits for the third time for the Pointers, tallying 16 points in the winning effort. Senior Bryce Williams had a hot hand behind the arc, going 4-6 on three point attempts on his way to 15 points.

The Hornets used a 10-2 run later in the half to pull the score to 67-65. Bublitz and Williams shut down any comeback attempt with a three pointer each. The Pointers went 8-8 on free throws in crunch time to bring their lead back to 10 and give the team their first victory of the year.

Junior Zack Goedeke recorded a game-high and career-best 12 rebounds down low for UWSP.

The Pointers will face Lawrence on Nov. 26 to close out the season-opening road trip.

SPORTS EVENTS

MENS HOCKEY

Nov. 26,
at Adrian
6 p.m.

Nov. 27,
at US U-18
National Team
1 p.m.

WOMENS BASKETBALL

Nov. 27,
at University of
St. Thomas
2 p.m.

MENS BASKETBALL

Nov. 26,
at Lawrence
7 p.m.

Nov. 29,
vs. UW-Superior
7 p.m.

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Marrakech Morocco: The Next Step of The Paris Agreements

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From Nov. 7-18 in Marrakech Morocco around 200 countries gathered to follow up in the Paris Climate Agreement from December.

The goal of the Paris COP21 agreements was to get countries agreeing on climate action. The goals for the Marrakech convention are to create policies which prevent the negative impacts of climate change.

In December of 2015, world leaders met in Paris to discuss the need to place restrictions on carbon emissions. By doing so, the hope is to counteract the negative impacts of climate change.

The Paris talks ended with 195 Countries, including the United States, signing the agreement to lower carbon emissions to pre-industrial levels.

Earlier this November, those same countries met again in Marrakech Morocco in order to agree on policies they would implement to prevent harm from climate change.

The Conference of Parties, also known as COP, is part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The coalition of countries meets once a year to review the Convention’s progress and establish the rules of its implementation.

Other aims of the Conference of Parties are to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate, and to make sure countries can still do so while growing their economies.

After the election on Nov. 8, one day after the conference began, Donald Trump was elected President of the United States. Now the United States’ role in the action has a high degree of uncertainty due to Trump’s skeptical approach to climate change.

Trump’s 100-day plan outlines an action that would withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement.

This portion of the plan has been met with criticism from both sides of the political spectrum. Fox News President, Bill O’Reilly, said Trump should accept the Paris Treaty on climate to buy some goodwill overseas.

Ellie Wirth, senior education and German major said, “It’s like taking a step backwards. If all the rest of the world is jumping on board and we’re just falling off the rails, we’re just going to keep falling.”

The United States is one of the world’s biggest polluters alongside India and China. Our potential withdrawal from the Paris Agreements may cause other countries with less of a role in carbon emissions to lose incentive to be part of the agreement.

Some countries refuse to step down and are leading by example, despite not being major powers in the world economy.

As a result of the Marrakech Forum, a collection of 47 developing countries have formed a group referred to as the Climate Vulnerable Forum. This coalition is committed to generating 100 percent of their energy from renewable sources as soon as possible.

Developing countries are disproportionately affected by the adverse outcomes of climate change, despite their low greenhouse gas emissions. The economies of these nations are based heavily on agriculture and that industry is threatened by intense weather patterns tied to the rise in atmospheric carbon levels.

Critics believe it is unfair that the countries which are doing the least polluting are getting hit hardest by climate change. Industrialized countries are the biggest contributors to the problem and if the United States withdraws from the Paris Agreement, other nations may suffer for our actions.

With or without participation from the United States, the conference has shown the world that countries will pursue actions to progress with the Paris Agreement. The Marrakech meeting demonstrated that there are no borders when it comes to preventing the harmful results of climate change.

Wisconsin DNR Sued Over High-Capacity Well Approvals

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Nine high-capacity wells have recently been approved in central Wisconsin. The wells are used for irrigation for agriculture. High-capacity wells are controversial due to their high usage of water.

High-capacity wells pump more than 100,000 gallons of groundwater every day.

According to the Wisconsin Administrative Code, “a high capacity well system has one or more wells, drill holes or mine shafts on a property that have a combined approved pump capacity of 70 or more gallons per minute.”

Many fear that the wells will drain the water table.

Sections of the Little Plover River first dried up in the summer of 2009 and the river has periodically been drying up ever since. Entire lakes in the area have dried up in recent years as well. Many point fingers at the central Wisconsin agricultural industry for the lack of water for irrigation as the cause.

The high-capacity wells are usually needed to supplement the large water demand of farms.

Central Wisconsin’s agriculture primarily靠s on potatoes. The crop demands a lot of water which the sandy soil found in this part of the state cannot efficiently hold onto.

The water drains away, limiting the amount of water available to the plant. As a result, farmers turn to irrigation which needs high-capacity wells.

Adam Kamal, senior biology major, said, “I think it’s really irresponsible to use water like that here in Wisconsin. It’s detrimental to the entire habitat which is already under stress of urbanization, and from other water usages like city water.”

Clean Wisconsin is an organization which aims to protect and preserve Wisconsin’s clean water, air and natural heritage. The group has filed a lawsuit against the DNR in response to the recent deregulation of high-capacity well approvals.

The lawsuit has challenged the authority of the DNR to permit the wells. This is done in order to prevent the water table from being lowered.

Clean Wisconsin claims that high-capacity wells which have been awaiting DNR review will no longer get an effective environmental review process as was previously required to receive a permit for a high-capacity well.

The DNR has placed criteria on which well applications are reviewed. The review process looks at the potential well’s implications on trout streams, springs with water flow greater than one cubic foot per second, water loss, drinking water and public safety.

Well applications which meet the criteria will be reviewed. Any approval must “ensure the well does not result in significant adverse environmental impacts and may require preparation of an environmental impact statement.”

Clean Wisconsin believes the DNR is not enforcing their own statutes of preventing water loss, therefore threatening the public use of water in the State.

The Wisconsin DNR has been limited on staff due to state budget cuts, therefore the review process has gotten less strict. State legislation has not made it easy for the DNR to regulate.

According to a release from May 2016, Wisconsin’s Attorney General said the “DNR does not have explicit authority to consider cumulative impact or to impose monitoring requirements on high capacity well approvals.”

After the recent election of Patrick Testin over Julia Las-sa, who was a strong supporter of restricting the number of high-capacity wells in the central sands area, many are uncertain of the future of central Wisconsin’s groundwater.

If Clean Wisconsin wins the lawsuit, the DNR will repeal the recent deregulation given for the high-capacity wells.
Benefits of Thrift Shopping Go Beyond Saving Money

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Buying new clothing can be harmful to the environment and violate human rights, but thrift- ing is an alternative that helps decrease the harm done around the world.

How our clothes are made is not often found at the forefront of our minds. But the manufac- turing of much of our clothing is wasteful and harmful to the environment.

A recent investigation by Greenpeace, a global campaign- ing organization for the health of the earth, revealed an industry-wide problem that is severely hurting the environment. Out of 15 global brands 14 brands' clothing contained hormone-dis- rupting chemicals known as non-ylphenol ethoxylates or NPEs.

These NPEs are known to break down into “toxic, per- sistent and hormone-disrupting” contaminants that affect wildlife and people; the greatest impact being on the rivers and environ- ment around the factories that produce the clothing.

It can be difficult to keep the environmental effects in mind when buying new clothing from a company like Nike when one of their largest factories in Yichun, China is 7,200 miles from Stev- ens Point.

Wisconsinites are far-re- moved from the pollution which makes it easy to forget about. But when those clothes are washed here in the U.S. those same chemicals are finding their way into our waterways as well, according to the study by Greenpeace.

Chemicals from the manufac- turing of the clothing are not the only environmental concern. The distance clothing and shoes travel to reach consumers increases the carbon footprint via the coal and oil used in transportation.

There is an industry; Cotton is one of the most pop- ular materials used in clothing manufacturing, and the USDA reports 25 percent of all pesticide use in the U.S. is attributed to the crop.

Polyester, another common material used in clothing production, is made from large quantities of crude oil and the process releases volatile organ- ic compounds, particulate matter, and acid gasses, all of which cause respiratory disease.

Through the Resource Con- servation and Recovery Act, the Environmental Protection Agen- cy considers most clothing facto- ries to be sources of hazardous waste.

In addition to the environ- mental effects of clothing pro- duction, human rights world- wide are of serious concern.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Sta- tistics reports the average wage of a Chinese factory worker as 1.74 USD in 2009. With Nike having 169 factories in China, the largest of them employing 11,500 people, that is a large number of overworked and underpaid people.

Although there have been large strides in the transparen- cy of overseas factories made in recent years from major compa- nies, one can only wonder what is still being kept from the pub- lic.

Unfortunately, the problems do not stop there. The Environ- mental Protection Agency Office of Solid Waste reports that the average American throws out 68 pounds of clothing and textiles per year.

There are over 80 billion pieces of clothing sold every year worldwide, up 400 percent from just 20 years ago, with China the leading exporter of clothing.

“The True Cost,” a film by Andrew Morgan about the cloth- ing industry, reports that only 10 percent of clothing donated to thrift stores end up being sold, with the rest ending up in land- fills in developing countries.

There is a way to combat this, despite the discouraging statis- tics.

A survey in 2006 by America’s Research Group, a consumer trends research firm, found that 12-15 percent of Americans shop at consignment or thrift stores. The Council for Textile Recy- cling estimates that 2.5 billion pounds of postconsumer textile waste, anything made of fabric, is collected and thus prevented from directly entering the waste stream thanks to thrift stores.

In Stevens Point, there are at least seven resale or thrift stores, from larger companies such as Goodwill, to locally owned busi- nesses like Nice as New. The consumer’s dollar is much more traceable through resale stores which are not manufacturing their products.

Kyle McKenzie, senior psy- chology major, said he has only purchased clothing from thrift shops for years. After taking several minutes to think, he said the last time he bought a new shirt was in 2014 for a special occa- sion. The pollution and landfill waste that is a result of the cloth- ing industry were most shocking to him, but he shops there pri- marily for the price.

Being a college student, McKen- nie does not think it makes sense to buy clothing at full price, nor will it after he earns his degree.

The only apparel items he buys new are his shoes, which he usually gets from Nike.

When asked whether or not learning about the environmen- tal impacts or human rights vi- olations of the clothing industry would change his mind about buying his shoes new, he said no. “I could never wear somebody else’s shoes.”

Buying post-consumer cloth- ing, and shoes cuts back on the negative effects that most peo- ple are unaware of, not to mention the cheaper price tags seen in thrift stores which can help college students and others with budgets.

McKenzie said he will con- sider shopping at a thrift store this year for non-clothing items as gifts because it is more afford- able. If environmental influences are not enough to convince shop- pers to switch to thrift stores, at least the price tags will.
Album Review: I’m Alone, No You’re Not by Joseph

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The album, “I’m Alone, No You’re Not” by Joseph is a compilation of 3 sisters’ voices with haunting and tight harmonies.

Listeners will be mesmerized by this group. All their songs have rustic tones, using lots of acoustic guitar, piano and percussion. Their lyrics are filled with heart and have good messages that are relatable to the listener.

The opener, “Canyon,” starts with that rustic tone, using only drums and piano playing softly in the background. As the lead vocalist starts to sing, the other two singers layer their voices to create a haunting and eerie feeling.

As the refrain comes around, the voices come together, sounding like a pleading shout.

Lyric wise, this song is about a relationship. One side of the relationship is struggling to make progress while the other says “an inch is a canyon.”

The fifth track, “Planets,” has more of a simple breakdown.

Most of the song is a cappella. After the lead vocalist starts, the other two sisters add in with quiet “ooohs” and “ahs,” giving the song a full sound. Later, Joseph layers in drums and soft piano.

Lyric wise, this song is just a silly song about planets.

It’s short and showcases the group’s impressive work on tight harmonies.

“White flag” is the high paced anthem song that will have you yelling “burn the white flag!” along with the trio of vocalists.

The classic sounds of guitar, piano and drums are added. There is even a hint of brass instruments.

“White flag” is an empowerment song, shouting to stand up for what you believe in. If you believe in something, stand up for it and don’t let others tell you what you must believe in. Fight for it!

The last song on the album, “Sweet Dreams,” brings back the haunting sounds Joseph is known for.

The song opens with a slow strum of an acoustic guitar as the trio harmonizes their voices. It’s like a lullaby, but more haunting. Voices swell and layer within the quiet sounds of stringed instruments.

The deeper the song gets, the more instruments are added until the climax hits and the layering starts all over again. The very ending quiets down and lulls the listener to sleep, per the title: “Sweet Dreams.”

Overall, this album has a rustic tone and repeatedly uses the same instruments to give consistency. Lyric wise, listeners can connect to the songs and maybe even sing along.

This is a great album that is good for either studying music or easy listening.
A Magical Review: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

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On Friday, Nov. 18 author J.K. Rowling’s magical world full of witchcraft and wizardry returned to theaters with the release of her first movie screenplay, “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them.” Rowling’s newest addition to her fantasy world is a prequel to the events that occur in the Harry Potter series set in New York during the 1920s. The story follows Newt Scamander, a magizoologist, who has traveled the world to research different magical creatures in order to publish a scholarly book about them.

Stopping in New York en route to Arizona, Scamander gets into a tisk of trouble when his enchanted briefcase full of magical creatures gets mixed up with No-Maj (non-magical human) Jacob Kowalski’s. Some of Scamander’s beasts are accidentally set loose in the city and the two men, along with some local female witches, must collect them all before any true trouble occurs.

The movie beautifully opens with a brief sample of the nostalgic main score to the Harry Potter films, but quickly changes to a high rising, fast paced string based melody giving off the feel of something new, hopeful and exciting. This type of music continues throughout the film as well as some darker, sadder scores and some classic sounding 1920s jazz music added in the mix.

British actor, Eddie Redmayne, has a show stealing performance portraying Scamander’s character.

His character has several dimensions, ranging from having a shy demeanor and witty lines while also saving room for a caring heart and soul. At one point Scamander even has to perform a matting ritual in order to capture one of his beasts, resulting in him dancing and making an arrangement of ridiculous sounds.

Naturally, Scamander also gives the entire thesis of the movie in two simple sentences when he says, “We’re going to recapture my creatures before they get hurt. They’re currently in alien terrain surrounded by millions of the most vicious creatures on the planet; humans.”

While Scamander’s role was appealing to watch unfold on-screen, all of the new fantastic beasts that are introduced were even more entrancing to witness.

Creatures ranging from a hilarious platypus-like animal who steals anything shiny and is a master escape artist, a rhino-hippo hybrid that glows lava on the inside of its bumpy head, a shy, but brave bamboo like critter that hides in Scamander’s pocket, to an adorable sloth like monkey that can see into the near future and many more all steal the hearts of the audience with their majestic qualities.

The CGI, sets and costumes were all so bewitching and well done that there wasn’t much room given to get bored or to not have something amazing to look at and analyze while watching this film.

The most fun part for any Harry Potter fanatic watching would be all of the small Easter eggs placed throughout the film, such as the Deathly Hallows symbol from previous films, the mention of familiar character’s from the fantasy world as well as J.K. Rowling’s name placed secretly within the movie.

While written, crafted and directed beautifully, David Yates, director of “Fantastic Beasts” and the last 4 Harry Potter films, and Rowling crammed a lot of information into the 1st movie of the 5 part film series.

For those not accustomed to Rowling’s magical world she has so beautifully set up, audiences could have a hard time digesting all of the plot points, characters, and developments thrown their way.

Still, this film has already wracked up a whopping 74.5 million dollars and counting in less than a week of its release and has gotten a high rating of 90 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.

Rowling has yet again blessed fans of the Harry Potter world with a magical, fantastic and beastly on-screen experience with “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” that will leave audiences feeling exactly like new character Jacob Kowalski when he says, “Aww, I wanna be a wizard.”

Scamander
“Dad can do anything.”
My Superman. Always there for me, until one day, you weren’t.

Since you’ve left us there have been centuries worth of pain. Don’t feel sad for us, though. We do remember the good times.

Your smile will always shine and your laughter echoes in our ear drums. Your stupid jokes about animals walking into bars are often repeated.

Grammar can see you when she looks at me:

The way I look with that Bud Light in my hand. How I lighten the heaviest situations.
I’m their rock.
How did you do it?

Am I as strong as you? Can I take it?

Losing you took a part of me. A part of me that I can never get back.

Time has not yet healed the emotional damage as they said it should, rather passing time ever increases the heaviness on my heart.

Though I was only eleven when you were taken, you showed me what it takes to be strong.

By being there for our family whenever you were needed.

I will never give in to the pain because I learned from you.

A part of me that I can never get back.

“Dad can do anything.”
Always there for me, until you

Yes.
No.

Your smile will always shine and your laughter echoes in our ear drums. Your stupid jokes about animals walking into bars are often repeated.

y_ou

Strong

Grandma can see you when she looks at me:

The way I look with that Bud Light in my hand. How I lighten the heaviest situations.

A part of me that I can never get back.

Time has not yet healed the emotional damage as they said it should, rather passing time ever increases the heaviness on my heart.

Though I was only eleven when you were taken, you showed me what it takes to be strong.

By being there for our family whenever you were needed.

I will never give in to the pain because I learned from you.

A part of me that I can never get back.

“Dad can do anything.”
Always there for me, until you
The Rumpke Mountain Boys took the stage of the Encore in the Drefus University Center at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point on Friday, Nov. 18.

According to the Rumpke Mountain Boys' website, they are a "foot stomping, old timey, whiskey spilling, psychedelic Jamgrass" band from Cincinnati, Ohio.

The four-man bluegrass band was founded 11 years ago and consists of Jason Wolf, Ben Gourley, Adam Copeland and JD Westmoreland.

"There's not any mountains out there, so we named ourselves after the landfill because it's the highest thing in Cincinnati," Copeland, the band's guitarist, said. "So you can get an idea of why we call it 'trash grass' and that's because we're named after the landfill."

The band is currently playing shows all over the country, from Stevens Point to Chicago to Pittsburg.

The Rumpke Mountain Boys' music incorporates a variety of bluegrass instruments, including guitars, mandolin, upright bass, banjo and harmonica.

Eli Frieders, senior communication and media studies major and bluegrass musician himself, attended the concert on Friday.

"It's definitely something I haven't heard before," Frieders said. "They are only concerned about their sound, which is cool. It's something fresh but also very rustic at the same time."

The band, dressed in jeans, t-shirts and plaid button downs, played straight through the night, enveloping the room with the kind of music to which it is easy to bob your head and tap your feet.

The Encore was transformed into a party with the music and energy from the band, some attendees dancing, some sitting, some chatting with friends and others milling around the room enjoying the music.

"We're going to break 100 for attendance, so that to me is a great show," Ben Majeska, concerts coordinator for Centerentertainment Productions, said. "Everyone is up close to the stage, dancing, people are loving it. The band is being very relatable with the audience, telling good stories. So it has all the ingredients for a good show."

Frieders thought the show could have been even bigger if it had not been scheduled on this particular date.

"They're struggling with opening hunting season tonight," Frieders said. "The fact that they're still pulling a crowd tonight is huge. The fact that the bluegrass community right now in Stevens Point is this big even though most of the people who would be enjoying this concert are gone, that says a lot in itself, I think."

The Rumpke Mountain Boys do not play their music from set lists. Instead, the four members get up on the stage and play whatever moves them.

All four of the musicians singing, there is no lead vocalist. Their seamless voices meld their songs together with a distinctive yet consistent sound.

"In all the years I've been with these guys, we've wrote a set list once," Copeland said. "And we played three songs from it. So we just quit doing that. Instead we just take turns."

The Rumpke Mountain Boys' website compares their unique style for organizing a show to "playing around a campfire... distilling shows from a sea of infinite notes created from years of jamming."

The Rumpke Mountain Boys have released three studio albums: Trashgrass (2012), Moon (2013) and High Time, Low Tide (2016).

Find them on their website at www.rumpkemountainboys.com or on Facebook @RumpkeMountainBoys.