

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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Enrollment Down 7.4 Percent From Last Year

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Current enrollment at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is 8,567.

For comparison, in fall 2013 enrollment was at 9,643. Roughly a 1,100 difference over the span of three school years.

However, the drop from fall 2015 to fall 2016 steps from 9,255 students, about a 7.4 percent drop in enrollment. Which is proportionally the largest annual decline from UW system universities this year.

While this is not the lowest enrollment has ever been, this is a historic percentage of change from one year to another.

This decline is unprecedented but so is the environment that affects these numbers.

Nearby feeder high schools have shrinking graduating classes, and in contrast to eight or ten years ago during the recession, fewer students are staying in school longer than four years.

Although the change is largely due to outside fac-

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Farm to School May Be Plucked Before Its Time



A farm located outside of Stevens Point. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.

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Governor Scott Walker's budget proposal would cut a major portion of the Farm to School program from the 2017 to 2019 state budget.

The office's coordinator position and 15 member advisory council would be cut, saving \$132,800 over the next two years. This cut will not prevent disbursement of federal grants targeting farm to school efforts but it will cut the positions in charge of the disbursement. This means that the task of disbursement would be delegated to another office.

Advocates for the program are concerned that without someone to coordinate the efforts, the big picture will be lost and progress that has been made with Farm to School will halt or be reversed.

The program encompasses a broad range of efforts to promote healthy communities.

These efforts bring local foods, hands-on learning activities such as school gardening, farm visits and culinary classes to schools. They also help integrate food-related education into classroom curriculum.

The website for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction states, "Farm to School promotes the health of children, farms and communities by connecting schools to local farms that supply nutritious, fresh and minimally processed foods."

Tony Whitefeather said his farm, Whitefeather Organics, has been working with the Farm to School Program for at least six years. Whitefeather is passionate about food education within the community.

"I think it's super important that we get fresh food into the schools, get kids interested in tasting different things so that they're more familiar with quality whole foods," Whitefeather said.

Shelly Stein, junior soil and land management major and president of students for sustainability, said "I'm worried about the decrease in education about organic farming because education is the catalyst to change. I think alternative farming is something that needs to be talked about in schools from a young age."

Whitefeather said the cut could impact community outreach, and connecting people to food is a vital part of local farming. "It is one of the main necessities of life and the more we're connected with it the more holistic someone's life can be," Whitefeather said.

Cutting the Farm to School program could have long term effects on local farmers. Whitefeather said if students are not exposed to local, organic and alternative farming practices from a young age, it does not necessarily become something they prioritize purchasing later in life.



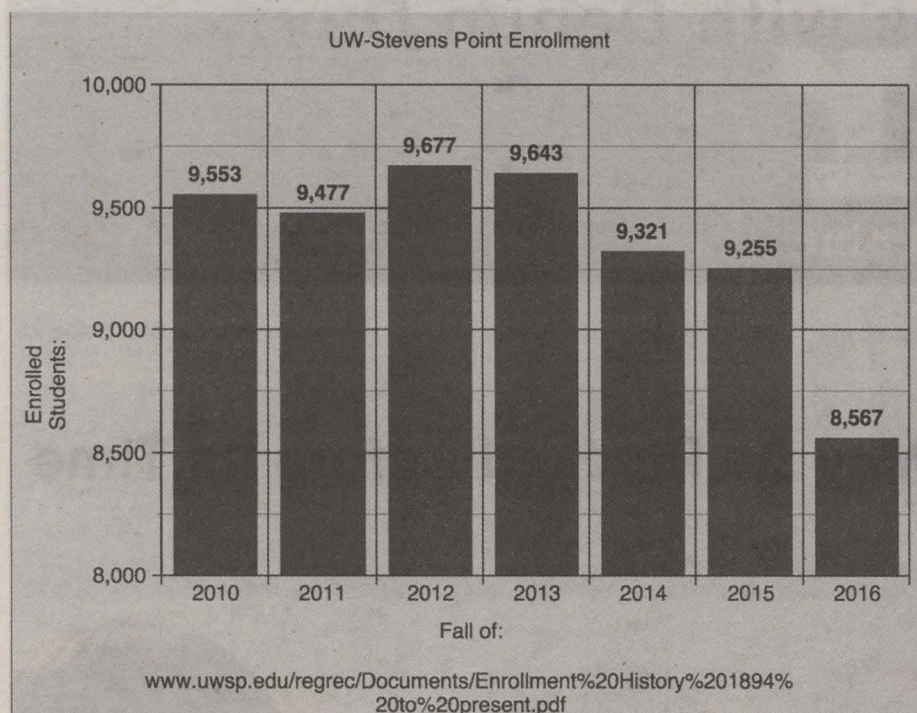
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Graph by Wesley Hortenbach.

tors, a drop in enrollment has effects on campus.

As reported in The Pointer earlier this semester, Greg Lang, administrative assistant for Dining and Summer Conferences, said the decline in employment reflects declining enrollment within the university.

With less students comes less money to put into the school.

Erin Hintz, budget director for the university, told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that if the numbers don't pick up, she estimated the campus will lose \$3.8 million in tuition revenue for campus operations.

While UWSP has been thriving in several areas, one spot that has partly affected enrollment is the school's retention rate.

Jim Barrett, associate vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, said, "Over the same amount of time we do have a change in retention rate which is not something we are happy about. We've always historically had an above average retention rate. Our average right now is 76 percent."

Retention used to be at a high of 83 percent. Retention is measured by full-first time students in the fall that come back the next fall.

"We have done a number of things around campus to address retention. We have a lot more offerings through the TLC, a retention coordi-

nator and a title three grant for retention," said Barrett.

Even if the long term numbers do stabilize for the university, there are still financial trade-offs that are occurring in the short term.

The newly elected Student Government Association president and vice president have concerns as well.

Katie Hansen, vice president-elect of SGA, said, "With enrollment down, we will have less segregated fees to work with and less tuition for academic programs."

Barrett noted that nationally when the economy is doing better there is a decrease in college enrollment. During the recession students would stay in school beyond four years inflating tuition numbers.

Today, besides students not overstaying their time at school, many are in and out in less than four years.

Between an increase of AP classes at high schools and the new general education program at UWSP, students are potentially funneling in less money to the university to get their degree.

Given that there are stark changes in outside forces impacting enrollment, the decline is not a calamity according to Barrett.

"I think enrollment based on what I see is going to stabilize, the numbers shouldn't keep falling and people shouldn't worry," said Barrett.

REPORT

Sunday, April 16

A student's bike was stolen from outside Steiner Hall between 1 and 4 a.m.

Monday, April 17

A large black truck with lots of bumper stickers and white male driver and passenger was reported two separate times to be driving around campus yelling out the windows and harassing multiple women on Fourth Avenue.

Tuesday, April 18

A student in Schmeckle Reserve during a class lab found a bag with used medical needles, poetry, and a paper copy of a driver's license in it and turned it in to PS.

Wednesday, April 19

Incident free!

Thursday, April 20

Connie Anderson of the Philosophy Department removed a sticker from a lamp post by Fourth and Isadore that is associated with inappropriate and discriminatory statements online.

A staff member reported that her car had been keyed in Lot R.

Friday, April 21

SP Police Department requested a PS officer to patrol Lot Q looking for a vehicle that could contain methamphetamine.

A baseball had been hit and made contact with a person's windshield, causing it to "spiderweb" and cave in near the Allen baseball field.

Saturday, April 22

PS and SPPD attempted to locate an individual in a room in the Suites.

A man known to be banned from campus was seen leaving the DUC.

THE POINTER

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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.

Photo Courtesy of vectorportal.com



Tweet of the Week



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 2d
I am committed to keeping our air and water clean but always remember that economic growth enhances environmental protection. Jobs matter!

Screen Capture from twitter.com

Wednesday, April 19

Todd Ricketts, nominee for Deputy Secretary of Commerce withdrew his candidacy.

Thursday, April 20

A report from Reuters released documents from an internal Russian government thinktank about how the team that answers to Putin had high hopes of working with Trump, and how to run a social and social media campaign to pick a US administration that would be favorable to Russia and its policies. These documents were written in June 2016.

Friday, April 21

Republicans announced that they are working on a healthcare proposal with the support of Trump, despite saying after the failure of Obamacare-lite that they would be shelving the issue until a later date.

Sunday, April 23

Far-right politics advanced in the French elections as Marine Le Pen has made through the preliminaries and into the general election for President of France.

Monday, April 24

Congressional Republicans are working to pass a spending bill by Friday, April 28 that would including taxpayer money to pay for the proposed wall along the US-Mexico border to keep the government from shutting down.

Take Back the Night Unites with Denim Day

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On April 26, two events aimed at ending interpersonal violence and rape culture will coincide: Take Back the Night and Denim Day.

The event is being coordinated by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Women's Resources Center in conjunction with the Student Government Association and Promoting Awareness-Victim Empowerment.

The event will start outside of Old Main at 5 p.m.

Participants will march to the square in downtown Stevens Point and later to the Sundial on campus before moving to the Dreyfus University Center Encore room at around 7:30 p.m.

The march will feature speakers such as Representative Katrina Shankland, an outspoken advocate for the issues of interpersonal violence and rape culture. After the speakers present, participants in the march will be given a chance to have their stories heard.

At around 9 p.m. the event will be capped off with live music provided by local bands Funkyard Dealers, Easy on the Eyes and Soul Symmetry.

Lyn Ciurro, senior communicative sciences and disorders major and executive coordinator for the Women's Resource Center, said this event is one of the biggest and hopefully will be the most



Madigan Army Medical Center participates in Denim Day. Photo by wikimedia commons.

well-attended Take Back the Night program yet.

"There's been an increase and more visibility regarding incidents on campus," Ciurro said. "People on campus are more in the know, they're more energized to do something to want to stop it. They'll want to do something. They'll want to make a change."

Ciurro said by compounding Take Back the Night with Denim Day, students are given more opportunity to act. This is especially true for students who would normally only participate in Denim Day, who

are now given the opportunity to act by attending Take Back the Night.

Alorah Mence, English and art major and concert coordinator for Take Back the Night, said, "I really want them to know that they're not alone, that we recognize them. Everyone deserves to have a voice and no one should be ashamed of anything that ever happens to them."

Take Back the Night is a foundation seeking to end sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual abuse and all other forms of sexual

violence.

Denim Day, which is the event colliding with Take Back the Night, began in response to a single issue. Denim Day protests were originally triggered by an overturned rape conviction by the Italian Supreme Court in the 1990s.

An 18-year old girl was raped by her 45-year old driving instructor. The justices felt that the girl must have helped her rapist remove her tight jeans, making her experience no longer rape but consensual sex.

Destination Imagination: Teamwork at Its Best

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Every April, thousands of people from all over Wisconsin come to Stevens Point for the state level competition of Destination Imagination, DI.

The tournament involves teams of kids of all ages, from preschool to the university level, working together to accomplish a goal in an innovative and creative way. The DI websites calls it "an opportunity for kids to connect with and support other creative thinkers who participate in the program."

Jim Pelikan, vice-chair on the board of directors for the Wisconsin Destination Imagination team, has had his own children involved in the program for years.

"It's tough on some kids because it's not an 'everybody gets a trophy' type thing," said Pelikan.

"We want to make sure kids are getting involved in the STEAM curriculum," which is the traditional STEM subjects with the added "Arts" portion, Pelikan said.

This year there were 265 teams, and a total of 1,600 kids. Meaning over 6,000 people were on campus and in

Stevens Point as a result.

Teams compete at one of 13 regional competitions first, and the top two teams then move on to state, which is held at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point every year.

The top three teams from State then move on to the Global Finals held each May in Knoxville, Tennessee where competitors from more than 15 countries come together.

Pin trading is common at the Global competition as well, where kids from all over the world exchange mementos of their experience with one another. It is so popular that the Destination Imagination website has guidelines for the types of pins that can be traded.

The entire organization is made possible by generous volunteers that donate their time to run the regional, state, and global level competitions.

Mike Broetzmann is one of those volunteers who helped manage the technical challenge this year. As an affiliate challenge master, he sees the value of bringing parents into this educational experience as they can serve as a team's advisor.

From contributing ideas to screwing in bolts, parents are not allowed to interfere at all.

"This is where kids can showcase their different talents," said Broetzmann.

Competition is divided into seven challenges, and by elementary, middle, and sec-

ondary school levels.

The different challenges are technical, scientific, engineering, fine arts, improvisational, instant and project outreach. The eighth category is the rising stars level which is not competitive, but aims to expose young children to the atmosphere of team work.

Michelle Shulfer, senior lecturer of clinical laboratory science, has children of her own that have been part of Destination Imagination, and has been to Globals with them. In eighth grade, her son's team took first at the state level, and brought home the gold at Globals in the improvisational category.

"It's all team building and helps the kids think outside the box and be creative," said Shulfer.

There are never many teams from the university level at the global finals according to Shulfer, and she thinks a lack of awareness is a large part of the issue.

The Milwaukee School of Engineering has been known to compete, and Shulfer would love to see more local university competition at Destination Imagination.

To form a team, volunteer or learn more, visit www.destinationimagination.org.



Students of all ages compete in different challenges. Photo by Samantha Stein

Michigan Ordered to Replace Water Lines to Flint

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The state of Michigan has been ordered to fund the replacement of water lines within the city of Flint to finally provide adequate and drinkable water to the city's residents. This demand comes after years of building concern for the water's quality and harmful lead levels.

Flint's water issue has grown since an initial complaint in 2014, following the state's choice to reroute the water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River in an attempt to save money in the increasingly unemployed city.

"The water plants are not the problem. It is the pipes," Ed Miller, political science professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, said.

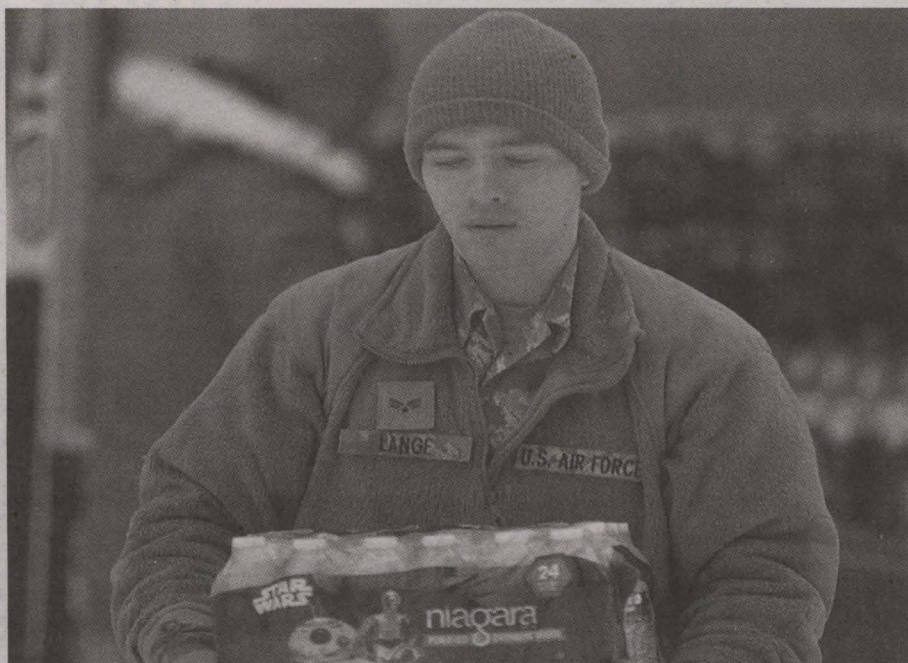
Miller went on to explain that water is tested within the plants, not straight from the faucets of citizens where the contamination arises. The rerouted pipes from the Flint River infected the water flowing to residents with dangerous amounts of lead.

Local and state government played a large role in the choice to change the water line and water supply due to rising economic worry.

Flint will use the money to replace the water pipes by 2019.

Attempting to replace the water lines and bring them back to safe, consumable levels will be a costly feat.

Not to mention, "they don't know where the water lines are," said Miller. "There



Flint water response team. Photo provided by Flickr

was an issue with the maps, they were not accurate."

Without knowledge of where the water lines are, it will

be difficult to replace the ones causing the contamination.

There is concern about the Flint water being an issue

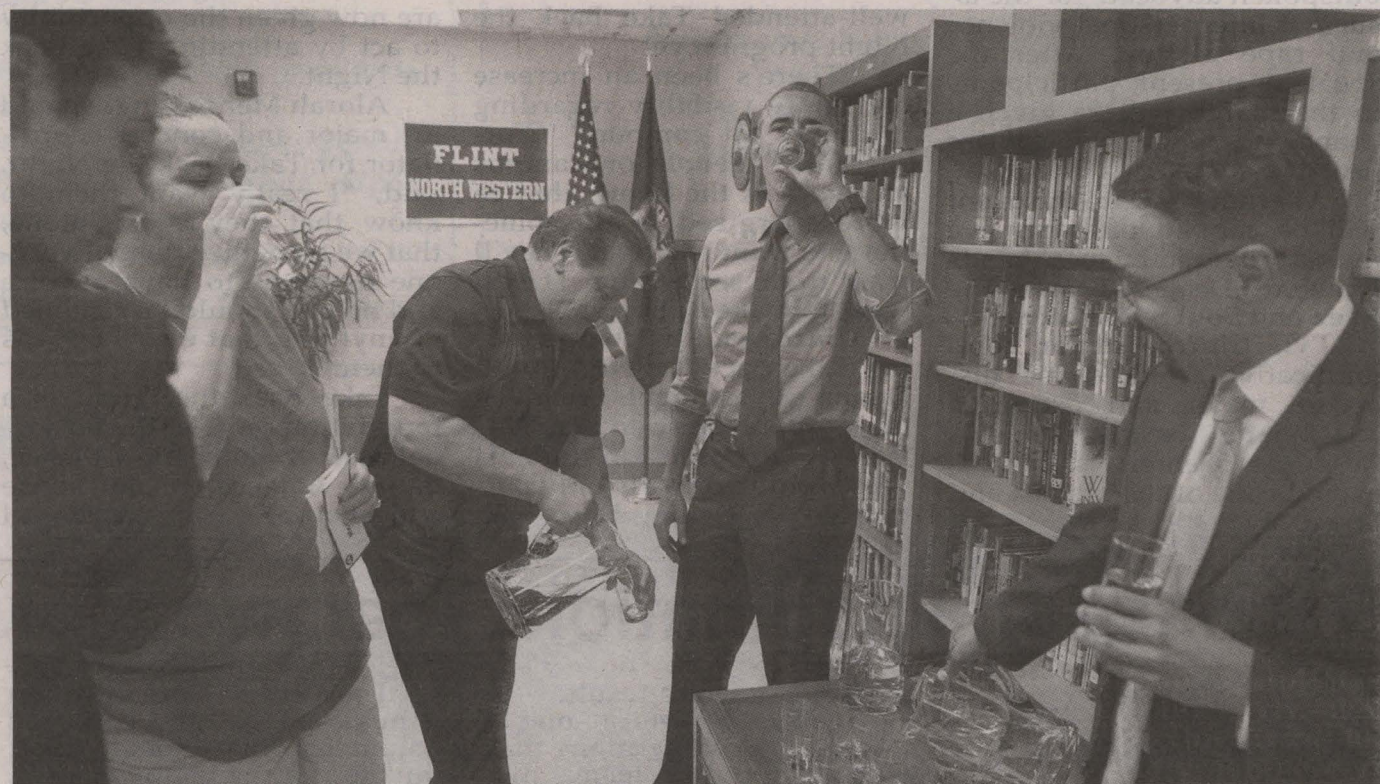
of race, with the recognition that Flint is a majority African American city.

The Civil Rights Commission issued a report titled "The Flint Water Crisis: Systematic Racism Through the lens of Flint," which brought forth the notion that systemic racism allowed Flint to "fall beneath the cracks to face cost saving matters at the expense of citizens."

Although there has been success, the fight is far from over.

Flint remains crippled by automation and the closing of major General Motors plants leaving much of the population unemployed.

Regardless, the government will now replace poorly regulated pipelines from the Flint River to the homes of more than 90,000 residents within the city's limits.



President Obama dealing with the Flint water crisis. Photo provided by wikipedia

Segregated Fees Survive the Budget For Now

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Segregated fees have survived. Governor Scott Walker's budget proposal suggested making these fees optional, which would have been the end of most student organizations and other services across campus.

The Student Government Association at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has worked to educate the student population and organize rallies and effective protests.

Jordan Farrell, junior natural resources planning and political science major and legislative affairs director for SGA, said the fight is not yet over.

Although the provision concerning the fees was removed along with 82 others since they

were deemed non-fiscal items, segregated fees could still be under threat in the form of a separate legislation bill.

On Mar. 31, SGA president John Peralta sent an email to the student body informing them of an emergency student assembly.

"It is imperative that we organize and lobby against this opt-out proposal, because we have so many students that depend on these services," said Peralta in the email.

Apr. 14, a group of 11 students and SGA members traveled to the state capitol in Madison and presented their concerns with the provision to the Joint Finance Committee, the one responsible for approving Walker's budget.

For the sake of the organizations which include The Pointer, 90FM, all student or-

ganizations, intramural sports, the Student Involvement and Employment Office, counseling services and student health services at Delzell among many more, segregated fees are needed to fund them.

Farrell helped explain the role of segregated fees to the large group at the student assembly meeting.

He said that if the provision were to go through, part of the problem is that the GI Bill, which helps veterans pay for college, would not be able to pay for the segregated fees even if a student chose to support the services on campus they fund.

The GI bill does not cover any part of a student bill that is not required, so that would lead to the decrease in funding of student organizations.

Farrell emphasized the importance of being prepared to

lobby against any legislation that may be proposed at a later time that aims to make segregated fees optional.

He said that even though the provision was removed from the budget and is not an immediate threat, SGA is still collecting letters from students showing support for segregated fees that will be used to lobby against any legislation that may threaten them in the future.

If any student wants to voice their opinions on why the fees should remain or have any personal stories lending to the value the services the funds have provided, SGA encourages people to do so.

Letters can be dropped off at the SGA office in the basement of the Dreyfus University Center anytime through the end of the semester.

Neil Gorsuch Approved as Supreme Court Justice

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REPORTER

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On April 7, President Trump's nominee, Neil M. Gorsuch, was confirmed by the senate to become the 113th justice of the United States Supreme Court.

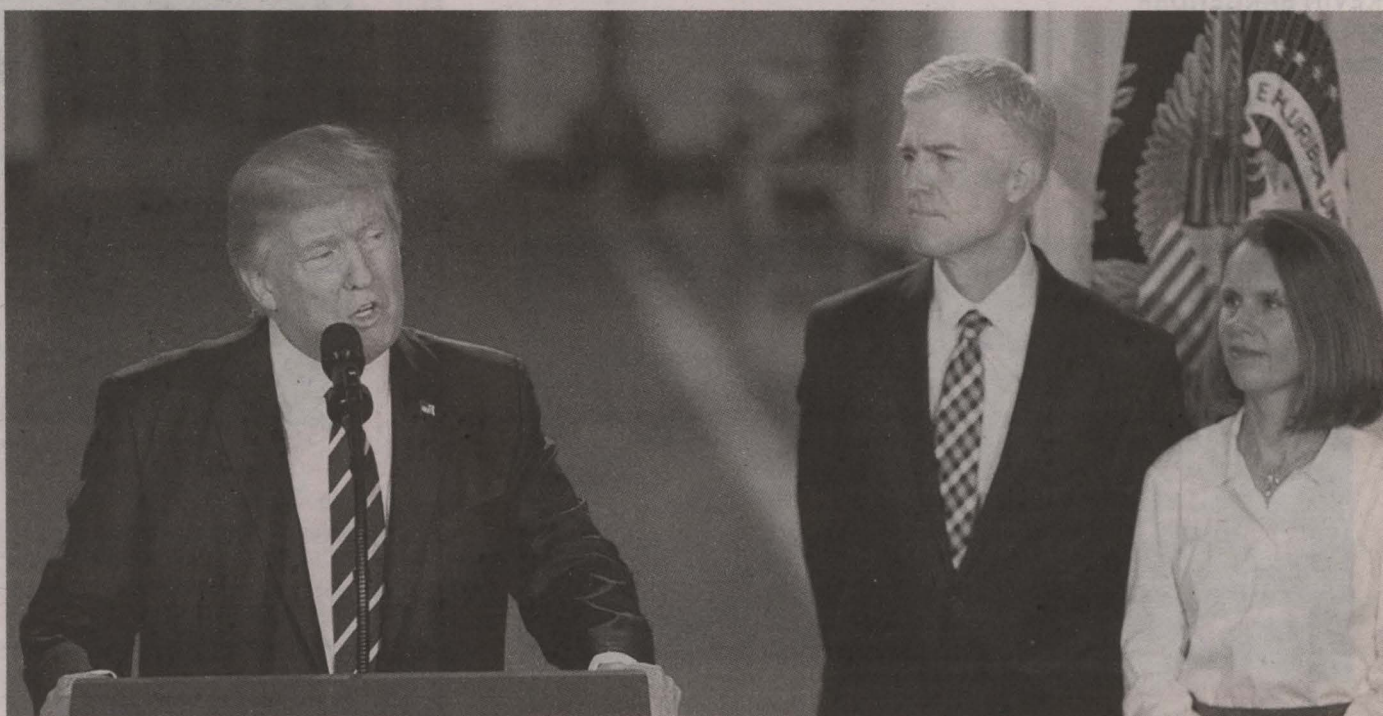
This is the second presidential nomination to replace Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in February 2016. The first nominee, Judge Merrick Garland was nominated by former President Obama in March 2016.

Senate Republicans did not take up the issue for nearly a year, choosing instead to wait until after the presidential election in which they hoped would result in a Republican presidency and nomination.

Senate Democrats fought against the nomination of Gorsuch with a filibuster, which would have required the senate to acquire a minimum of 60 votes to approve the nominee, instead of a simple majority of 51 votes.

Republicans responded by voting to change the rules of senate proceedings, often referred to as the nuclear option. The change in rules means filibusters can no longer be used against appointments to the supreme court or the federal judiciary.

Gorsuch was approved



President Donald Trump introducing Gorsuch as his Supreme Court nominee at the White House, January 2017. Photo provided by wikipedia

with a final vote of 54-45.

John Blakeman, professor of political science and chair of the department, said that the controversy over Gorsuch's approval was more about who nominated him than it was about Gorsuch's qualification as a Supreme Court Justice.

Blakeman said, "He is very well educated, he was a lower federal court of appeals judge, he had a stellar reputation. In most political times a lot of

Democrats would have voted for him."

Blakeman said that getting rid of the filibuster option, "arguably may split the senate in half and it might encourage presidents to support supreme court nominees who are a little more radical and less towards the political middle."

Results from this change in rules may become visible sooner than later.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, the

chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said on April 20 that he expected there to be a vacancy in the supreme court this summer, referring to a rumored retirement of one of the current justices.

If there were another Supreme Court nomination by President Trump, Republicans would have an easier time approving the nomination, as they currently hold 54 of senate seats.

SPORTS

Track and Field Team Looks for Strong Outdoor Season Finish

KEVIN BARGENDER

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The 2017 track and field season is nearing an end. For the seniors on the team, this is the last chance to experience the thrill of competing for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Senior Jerry Williams believes that this is the best year he has had on campus.

When asked about how he felt the team was competing this year, Williams said, "We are doing super well and that's all I ever wanted in the four years I've been here so it's really good that we are coming together."

Williams said his goals at nationals are to win the long jump and triple jump. His team goal is to place better than in previous years in both the conference championship as well as the national championship.

For some of the younger student-athletes on the team, there is more time to grow and become better athletes in the future.

Sophomore Alexia Beecher said she is happy with her progress this year and grateful for the opportunity to be on



Dane Tyler during a cross country meet. Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

the team.

Beecher, who competes in the pentathlon and heptathlon, said, "Being part of the UWSP track and field team is something I'm extremely proud of. The friendships I've made from this team are irreplaceable."

Beecher added that she put in work during the off-season to get stronger by spending

more time in the weight room to improve on her freshman season.

"Personally, I'm always trying to be a better athlete than I was yesterday," Beecher said.

Track and Field Coach, Brett Witt, said he is impressed by this season but believes that the team could have had a stronger finish to its season.

"We're a little banged up so maybe not quite as well as we would have hoped," Witt said.

Coach Witt does believe they will have enough time to get healthy for the conference championship and the national championship.

Even with injuries, the expectations of the coaches are to match or beat the success the team had in the indoor conference championship, finishing second, and the national championship, finishing fourth.

Williams was mentioned as one of the many standout performers for the Pointers this season by Witt for the men's team.

"Jerry Williams was the national champion field athlete of the year for division III so you really can't do better than that. Mack James, Brent Reier, Logan Heil, Jeremy Lee were All-American's during the indoor season," said Witt.

With success in the past, the Pointers are hoping that their winning ways will continue in the future.

The Pointers will have one more weekend of meets until the conference championships on May 5-6.

Look Into Sports

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WOMEN'S GOLF HAS ROUGH START TO SPRING



Tiffany Boak takes her stroke. Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

Friday welcomed the spring season for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's golf team.

UWSP traveled to Beloit to participate in the UW-Whitewater Spring Fling. The Pointers finished 13th.

Tiffany Boak was the top finisher for UWSP with a score of 95. Boak

ascended eight spots on the leaderboard with her day two score.

Point will be back in action on Saturday, April 29 as they travel to Iowa to complete their regular season in the UWSP Spring Invitational.

TRACK AND FIELD TEAM HAS SOLID WEEKEND IN ILLINOIS



A UWSP runner rounds the corner. Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's and women's track and field team traveled to Rock Island, Illinois to compete in the Augie invite and the Meet of Champions. Stevens Point finished third overall in both meets.

The Women's team competed on Friday in the Augie event and had favorable results.

The 4x400-meter relay team won their event for the Pointers with a time of 3:55.30. Kathy Derks, Abby Clement, Makani Peters and Sarah Vils were on the winning team that beat the next closest opponent by more than two seconds.

Clement had another strong event as she finished second in the 100-meter dash, while Vils finished second in the 200-meter dash with a time of 26.22 seconds.

Isabella Weekly finished second in the high jump with a distance of 1.60 meters and second in the long jump with a distance of 5.37 meters.

Jacklyn Butler finished second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.94. The race came down to less than a tenth of a second in the battle

for first.

The Men's team competed on Saturday at the Meet of Champions and had many contributions from senior Jerry Williams.

Williams grabbed the win in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.68 seconds and finished first in the triple jump with a distance of 15.10 meters.

After two strong showings for Williams, he and teammate Mackenzie James finished second and third in the long jump with distances of 7.38 and 7.29 meters respectively.

UWSP's Jeremy Lee and Abraham Schroedl finished in the top two spots of the decathlon with totals of 6,560 and 6,256.

Christian Ferguson netted the Pointers another good finish by ending in second place in the high jump with a height of 2.04 meters.

Logan Heil finished second in the hammer throw with a distance of 56.19 meters.

The Pointers will be back in action on Friday, April 28 as they travel to Des Moines, Iowa for the Drake Relays.

SOFTBALL STRUGGLES AGAINST BLUGOLDS



Cori Semler takes a lead. Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point softball hosted UW-Eau Claire for a doubleheader on Saturday, April 22. The Pointers finished 0-2 in the series.

Stevens Point was unable to get anything going early in game one and ultimately fell 9-2.

The Blugolds had strong hitting in both the fourth and sixth innings helping to lift the team over the Pointers.

Payton Mix put Point on the board in the bottom of the sixth inning with a two-run home run. The Pointers then failed to score for the rest of the game.

Game two proved to be just as

tough as game one for Stevens Point as the game was ended early after the fifth inning.

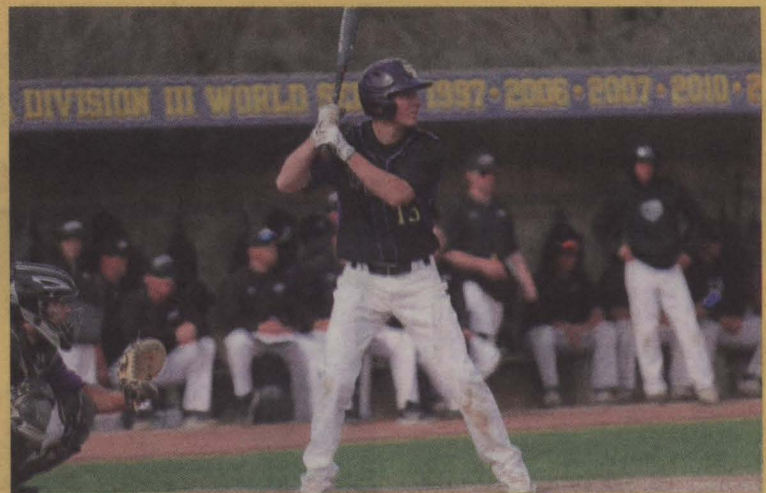
Eau Claire cranked out big hits in the second and fourth innings, winning 11-1.

Cori Semler had Point's lone RBI on a single that was charged as an error.

The Pointers will finish up the regular season this week in games versus St. Norbert, UW-Oshkosh, Wisconsin Lutheran College, and UW-La Crosse.

These games will be played Tuesday, April 25, Wednesday, April 26, Thursday, April 27 and Friday, April 28.

BASEBALL SPLITS SERIES WITH WARHAWKS



Tyler Thomka up to bat for the Pointers. Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point baseball team hosted UW-Whitewater on Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23, in a four-game series. The Pointers finished with a 2-2 record.

Game one got off to a slow start as the Warhawks scored three unanswered runs in the first five innings.

The Pointers picked up momentum in the sixth inning with four RBI singles by Clint Rose, Ryan Stanicek, John Popham and Jordan Carlson, taking a 4-3 lead.

Cole Erickson pitched nine innings as the Pointers held the Warhawks scoreless in the last four innings, holding on to the 4-3 win.

Fortunes were reversed in game two as Stevens Point lost 6-1.

After a quick start by Whitewater in game two, The Pointers found themselves down 6-0 heading into the bottom of the seventh inning.

William Iloncaie hit the lone score of the game with a home run in the seventh.

Stevens Point had a faster start in game three, scoring the first points of the game with an RBI sin-

gle by Rose.

The back and forth contest continued until the eighth inning when Tyler Thomka hit a three-RBI double, putting Point up 6-3.

Pitching a scoreless ninth inning and securing the second win of the weekend 6-3, Nathan Mulzer was awarded the win.

The last game of the afternoon turned out to be a shootout as the Pointers fell short 10-7.

Down 6-2 heading into the bottom of the sixth inning, UWSP scored five runs, taking the lead 7-6.

Whitewater answered when Steve Chamberlain hit a grand slam in the eighth inning, taking a 10-7 lead.

The Warhawks held UW-Stevens Point scoreless the rest of the game.

UWSP will be back in action Wednesday, April 26 when they host the College of St. Scholastica.

The team will then travel to take on UW-La Crosse Eagles on Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30, before a road game in Fond Du Lac against Marian University on Tuesday, May 2.

WOMEN'S TENNIS ENDS WEEKEND ON POSITIVE NOTE



Buckley gets ready for the ball to reach her court. Photo courtesy of Kylie Birdengen.

Saturday kicked off the spring season for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's tennis team as they hosted Wartburg College. The Pointers finished 1-1 on the weekend.

The Pointers were blanked in the first game as they lost 9-0 to Wartburg.

In the singles matches Danielle Buckley, Frances Weiss and Elizabeth Wilichowski took their matches to tie-breaking rounds before falling in their respective matches to the Knights.

Game two had a much better result as Point won 8-1 over Alverno College.

Buckley, Erin Lemmer, Abbey Johnson, Weiss, Lilly Firkus, and Wilichowski each won their singles events as the Pointers swept the Inferno in the event.

UWSP won two of the three doubles matches as the team of Lemmer and Johnson and the duo of Buckley and Firkus were both victorious 8-3 in their match wins for the Pointers.

Stevens Point will finish their season on Sunday, April 30 as they travel to Mequon to take on both Concordia University and Beloit College.

Sports Events

Baseball

April 29,
at University of
Wisconsin-La Crosse
2:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

April 30,
at University of
Wisconsin-La Crosse
12:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

Softball

April 27,
at Wisconsin Lutheran
College
3 p.m. & 5 p.m.

April 29,
at University of
Wisconsin-La Crosse
2 p.m. & 4 p.m.

Track & Field

April 28- 29,
at Drake Relays

April 29,
at St. Norbert College
Invite

Women's Tennis

April 30,
at Concordia
University (Wis.)
9 a.m.

vs. Beloit College
3:30 p.m.

Women's Golf

April 29, at UWSP Spring Invite

Part-Time Service Full-Time Student

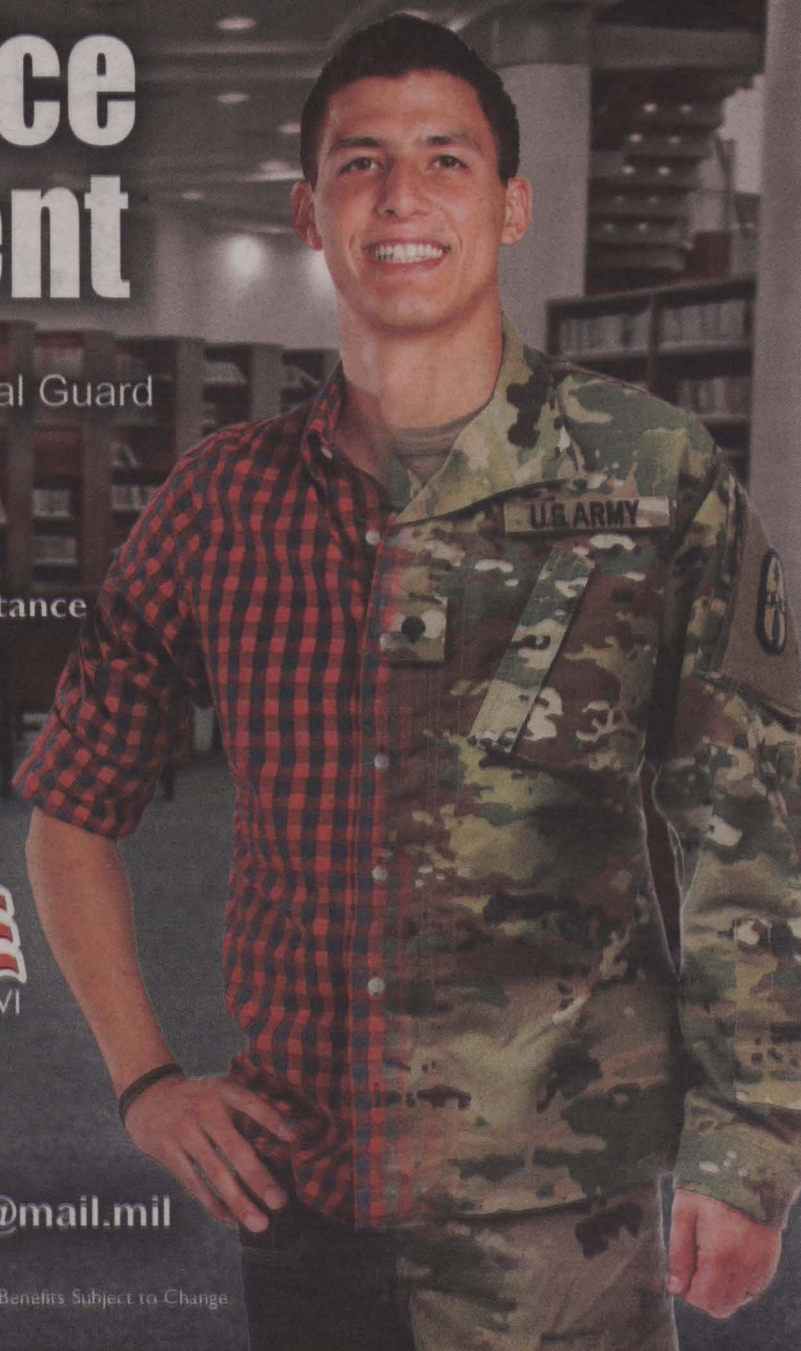
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Programs and Benefits Subject to Change



Madison Commits to 100 Percent Renewable Energy

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This March, Madison, Wisconsin joined 24 other cities nationwide, who have all committed to working towards 100 percent renewable energy use.

By making this transition, the city aims to reach net-zero carbon emissions before 2050 and cut total energy use in half by 2030. This is a community-wide goal which encompasses all sectors.

To achieve this objective, \$250,000 dollars have been designated to hire a consultant to create a plan by January 2018.

Anna Haines, professor of natural resources planning and director of the Center for Land Use Education, said the resolution is a move in the right direction but the difficulty will be in the details.

Haines said that achieving net-zero carbon emission from all sectors is quite complex since there are many factors to consider.

One sector Haines mentioned is transportation, since many city services like garbage pickup, and snow removal relies on fossil fuel powered vehicles.

If the city aims for the sole use of sustainable energy across all sectors, transitioning their vehicles to sustainable fuel is something they must address.

Haines said that energy



Wisconsin's first committed city to 100 percent renewable energy will be Madison. "Wisconsin State Capitol" by jpellgen is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

should be approached from both the supply and demand side, by first reducing the amount of energy we are using and then looking towards sustainable energy production.

"If they want to really get down to net-zero carbon emissions, they are going to have to follow their supply chain, and that gets very difficult but it can be done," Haines said.

Lynn Markham, shore land and land use specialist for the Center for Land Use Education, pointed out that one reason to move towards renewable energy

sources is that Wisconsin does not have fossil fuel resources.

The fossil fuels consumed in Wisconsin are imported from outside of the state. In 2012, the Wisconsin State Energy Office reported that 15.7 billion dollars left the state to pay for energy.

One of these fossil fuels is coal

which, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, powered 52 percent of Wisconsin's electricity in 2016. While renewables made up just 8.3 percent of state electricity production that same year.

Wisconsin's reliance on fossil fuels makes Madison's commitment seem even more ambitious. Yet, the capital city's leadership could lead the way for change in the region, since it is the largest city in the Midwest and first in Wisconsin to set this goal.

The Sierra Club has launched a campaign "Ready For 100," with hopes that 100 cities across the nation will commit to 100 percent renewable energy use.

Although 25 cities may seem insignificant from a national level, this includes major cities like San Diego, which could have a great influence on energy production in their regions.

Of these 25, only six cities have reached their goals so far.

The Sierra Club encourages citizens to contact their mayor and representatives to encourage their city to make a commitment to clean energy.

Portage County Residents Seek New Drainage Practices

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On Saturday, April 15, Justin and Lynn Isherwood hosted a kickoff event for the Friends of the Buena Vista Marsh at their farm in Plover.

The event was held to offer information about the history of the Buena Vista Marsh and to bring community awareness to the Isherwoods' perspective in regard to their current litigation with the drainage board.

Justin Isherwood opened the event by explaining why Friends of the Buena Vista Marsh was created.

"As you know, we are in a suit with the drainage district over... whether these waters have a public right and should they be acted on," Isherwood said.

Isherwood is charged with obstructing the flow of his drainage ditch by adding small trees and other debris to the waters and refusing to remove them.

He contests that the structures are improving the water quality and the habitat the water provides which are the rights of Portage County citizens.

The drainage district has said their concerns lie in increased water flow rate and the potential for loose debris to cause flooding.

At the event, an 1895 map of the Buena Vista Marsh was on display

and available as a handout.

Isherwood said that this map demonstrates water flow conditions similar to those presently in existence and that recurring dredging of the drainage systems is unnecessary and unhelpful.

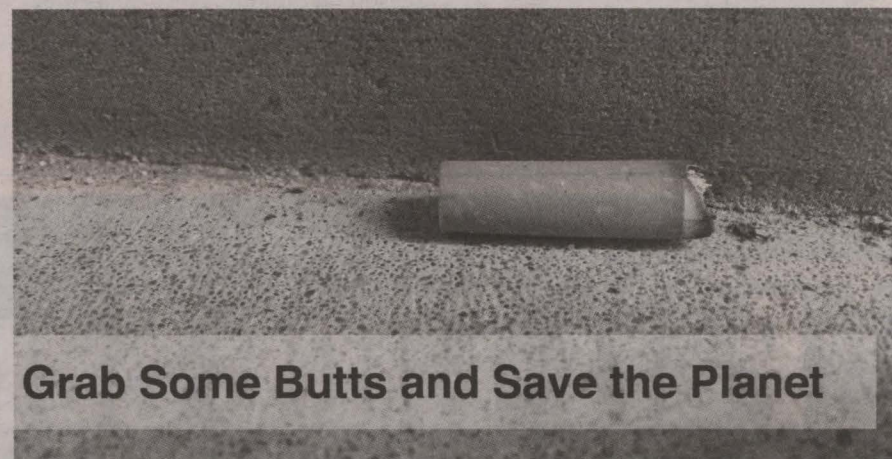
Isherwood said he thought the drainage practices may have been helpful to the land at one time, but he believes the practices are now outdated.

"The real goal is to take projects like this throughout the headwaters and indeed to invite farmers downstream to participate to see what we can do in terms of habitat, water quality, water flow and to get away from the idea that we have to constantly drain out these streams," Isherwood said.

One attendee, John K. Endrizzi, a resident of Rome, WI, said he had a vested interest in what happens with the Buena Vista Marsh.

Endrizzi said the water that leaves the Buena Vista Marsh flows towards lakes in his community, and that he expected the water quality would improve if the Isherwoods were able to continue their practices.

The Friends of the Buena Vista Marsh are pledging the organization's support for Jacob Prater and Jay West to be members of the board for the Portage County Drainage District.



A cigarette butt found on the ground. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.

Grab Some Butts and Save the Planet

GENEVIEVE ADAMSKI
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On Monday, April 17, the Environment and Sustainable Affairs Committee gathered 15 participants to collect cigarette butts around campus as part of Earth Week.

Robby Abrahamian, water resources major and political science major, is chair of the Environment and Sustainable Affairs Committee and organized the litter pick up.

Smoking has been attributed to multiple human health issues, but what about the damage it causes to the environment?

"Cigarettes are really damaging to water and rivers," Abrahamian said. "Now that the snow is all gone, it is important to get out there and collect as much as we can."

Cigarette butts account for 38 percent of all of all highway litter in the United States.

Cigarette waste is not always considered a heavy source of litter, however, a little cigarette waste can go a long way.

All of that cigarette waste has a larger impact on the environment than expected. The filters of cigarettes are made of cellulose acetate which is a form

of plastic that does not quickly break down.

In addition, 32 percent of the litter in storm drains is the waste from tobacco products according to a study done on litter in America.

In 2014, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point passed the Tobacco-Free Campus resolution which banned the use of tobacco products on campus.

The cigarette butt clean up has shown that the tobacco-free rule is not always enforced and people will still smoke and litter on campus.

However, according to Abrahamian, the number of cigarette butts collected this year is less than previous years.

Abrahamian estimates that all of the collected cigarette butts filled about half of a garbage bag, which is about half of the amount collected last year.

The cigarette waste will be sent to TerraCycle, a company that has found ways to recycle waste products that are deemed too difficult for recycling by most municipalities.

TerraCycle will melt the cigarette waste into a hard plastic which will be remolded into new industrial products, such as plastic pallets.

Fashion and Business Featuring Quyen Hom

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In the age of the internet, social media and business go hand in hand. With this budding frontier of professional innovation, many students are eager to garner as much information from those who have the know-how.

The Public Relations Student Society of America at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is organizing an event for just that.

Quyen Hom, small business owner of the Assembly boutique on Clark Street, will be giving a presentation on fashion, public relations, social media and small business giving students a view into the real world of today's business.

The presentation will be on Wednesday, April 26 at 5 p.m. in the Legacy Room of

the Dreyfus University Center.

The Public Relations Student Society of America Facebook page describes the event as a way to "learn more about how to effectively market yourself and your business over social media and get a glamorous look at the life of Quyen Hom."

Isabella Pietsch, senior communication-public relations major and web management chair for Public Relations Student Society of America, is organizing the event.

"I was really inspired by Hom's branding and marketing on her Instagram and her Facebook and throughout all her social media platforms," Pietsch said. "She really likes to go live and connect with her customers and her audience that way. That's exactly the kind of thing we talk about in public relations,



Quyen Hom, owner of Assembly. Photo by Nomin Erdenebileg



Inside the elegant Assembly shop. Photo by Nomin Erdenebileg



Cosmetic shelf in Assembly. Photo by Nomin Erdenebileg

how important it is to connect with people as much as possible."

Though Hom's boutique, Assembly, is relatively new downtown, having just celebrated its one year anniversary at the beginning of the month, it is already making a name for itself and leaving its impression on customers.

When Pietsch originally reached out to Hom to begin organizing the event, she quickly came to witness Hom's excitement and willingness to share her story with students.

The event will consist of Hom beginning with a presentation and then opening up for questions at the end.

"I really want students to be more aware of the small

businesses in our immediate area," Pietsch said. "I think it's so cool to have this one, powerful woman who's doing so well for herself with this small business."

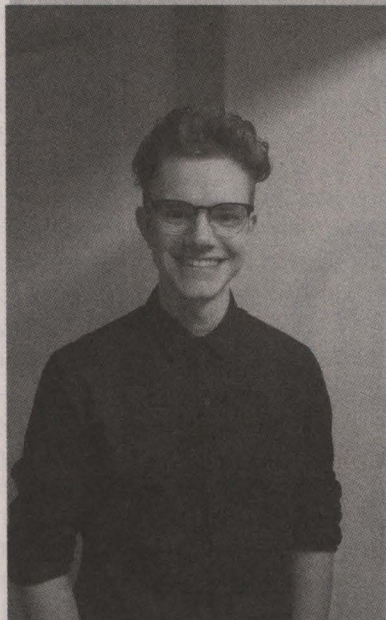
The event is open to students of all majors, regardless of membership with Public Relations Student Society of America.

Pietsch also highlighted the event as an opportunity to network, for both those in public relations and college students in general.

"I'm hoping students learn that there's more to public relations than they expect," Pietsch said. "It's really exciting to see other people make it in small business, especially all on their own."



Humans of Point



HUNTER WASLICKI

is a sophomore computer information systems and web and digital media development major.

If you could share one piece of advice with your past self, what would it be and why?

To apply myself more instead of just coasting through all my work because I have always been told I'm really smart and everything comes pretty easy to me. So, because of that I never try really hard. I just kind of coast through it all.

Do you think your past self would have taken the advice you would have given them? Why or why not?

I hope he would have but probably not because everyone has told me that I should apply myself, and I don't think that one more person telling me would change anything.

Can you tell me about the best advice you were given and why it was so important to you?

I guess to not worry about what other people think and to just do you because at the end of the day no one gives a sh--. It's important to me because it's just kind of a waste of time and it causes a lot of unneeded drama. So, if you just be yourself and not mess around with the wrong people it makes your life a lot easier.

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Centertainment Hosts a Hawaiian Night Diversion

LHEA OWENS

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On Thursday night in the Dreyfus University Center, calming ukulele tunes mixing with the smell of Hawaiian pizza could be discovered coming out of the Encore.

Centertainment Productions hosted a Hawaiian Night for University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students to enjoy a break from their studies.

Tess Tranel, junior music education major and travel and leisure coordinator for Centertainment, organized the event and said she came up with the idea by looking through travel folders.

"People on campus have been feeling really bogged down from the gloomy weather and are getting ready for exams," Tranel said. "So, I thought this would be a great way to give them a summer preview."

Scattered throughout the event were a variety of activities for attendees to entertain themselves with including: fruits, Hawaiian and cheese pizza, Basement Brewhaus hosted drinks, stick on tattoos, face painting, crafts, beach volleyball and even coconut bowling.

With enough student attendance Tranel said she planned to have a hula-hoop and limbo contest to get a true Hawaiian party vibe.

During the event the Ukulele Tree Climbing Club performed for



Members of the Ukulele Tree Climbing Club playing for Hawaiian Night in the Encore. Photo by Ross Vetterkind

students with a variety of popular songs converted into a light, but fun, acoustic sound.

Stephanie Dziarnarski, sophomore social work major, said she heard from a friend about all the events happening during Hawaiian Night and thought it sounded fun to check out.

"I just like being able to relax and getting to be somewhere other than sitting at my apartment or thinking about school," Dziarnarski said.

"How can you say no to pizza?"

Tranel said her favorite part about planning events like Hawaiian Night for students is because she simply wants to give people something fun to do on a Thursday night.

"My favorite thing about these events is seeing people happy and having fun," Tranel said. "Even though not a lot of people have shown up yet for me, I guess, it's

more about the quality of the program than the quantity."

Students who were able to make the event had a great experience surrounded by a night full of music, food and fun.

Dziarnarski said, "I like the theme a lot because now that it's warming up I just want to celebrate, go outside and pretend it's summer already."

Discussing 13th: Popcorn, Panels and Perspective

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The Black Student Union hosted a showing of the documentary, 13th, on Tuesday night in collaboration with Sigma Delta Rho and Sigma Tau Delta.

The film investigated the social and political repercussions on the African American community in the wake of the abolishment of slavery by the 13th Amendment to the Constitution.

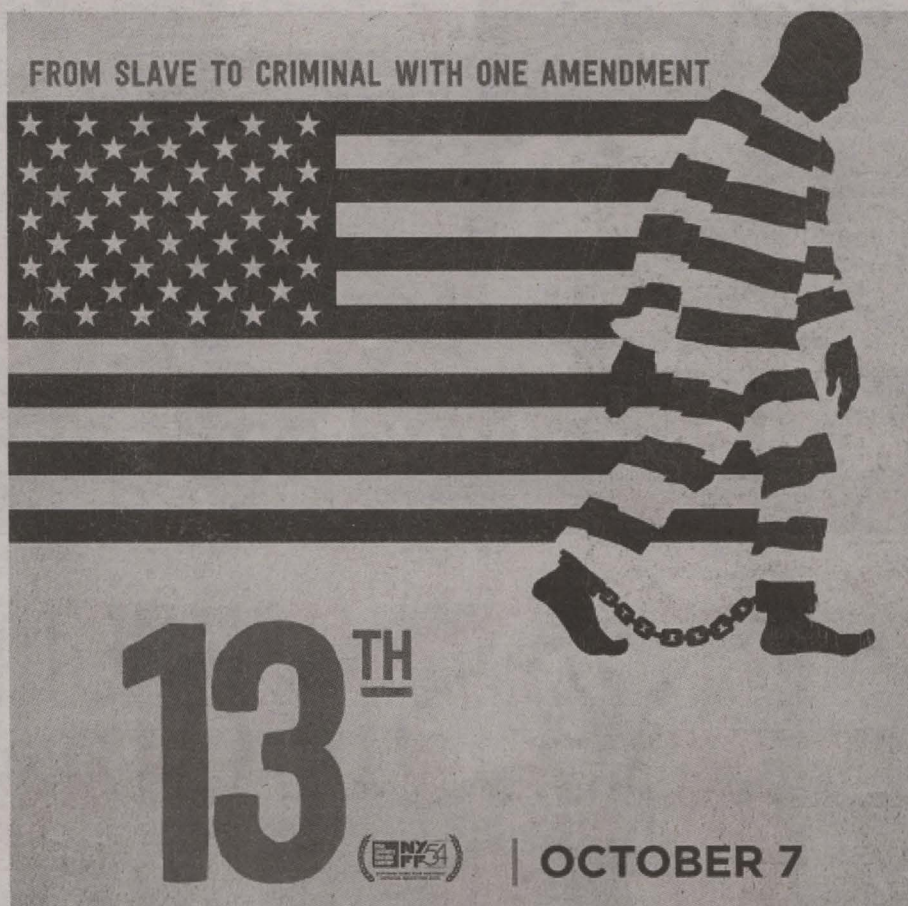
After the showing, there was a panel of three students and two faculty members to facilitate discussion and respond to audience questions about the content of the film.

"From Slave to Criminal in One Amendment," the tagline of the documentary, summarized the framework of the film, which followed a chronology of events from the passing of the 13th Amendment in 1865 up until the 2016 presidential campaigns.

In attempt to dislodge misconceptions that racism is no longer an issue in the United States, the film examined the systems of oppression and their legacies that are still in place in the society and legislation of the nation today, focusing on mass incarceration.

"You have to look at the historical construct of how this country was created," Zachary Johnson, senior political science and sociology major and a panelist, said, hitting on one of the main messages of the film. "You can't sweep 400 years of oppression under the rug. This is not an accident by any means. It's strategic."

The account of the history of these legacies is explained and narrated by public figures and academics such as Angela Davis, Bryan A.



Digital movie poster. Photo provided by IMDb

Stevenson and Van Jones.

At the end of the movie, the panel opened the discussion to questions from the audience, discussing the issues discussed in the film as a whole in society, not the exact details of the film.

The hour-long discussion covered a myriad of topics and gleaned perspective from both members of the audience and the panel, much of the conversation boiled down to a need for awareness.

"At least being aware of the issues is a really good start, if enough people are doing it," Sue Bailey, assistant professor of sociology and panelist, said.

Though action and change cannot happen instantaneously, becoming aware of the issues is a first step to enacting change.

Krishna Roka, assistant professor of sociology and panelist, reminded the audience that the companies profiting from the systems of oppression in the film "do not want to change. If we really want change, we have to demand change."

The first step to awareness is for people to do research, seek out other perspectives and expand their knowledge bases.

"Now that you know, you can go educate other people. Instead of asking, 'What can we do?' you start with, 'What can you do yourself?'" Kavana Price, junior sociology major and panelist, said.

Seeking out information is not enough though.

"Hopefully, we are teaching you to be critical thinkers, to question everything and not to buy the stuff we hear on TV or on the radio," Bailey said. "The best thing we can do is not to trust what we hear, to find out for ourselves, to learn it and to communicate it to other people."

13th, a Netflix original documentary, is available to stream on Netflix.



Panel discussion after the showing of the 13th. Photo by Kathryn Wisniewski



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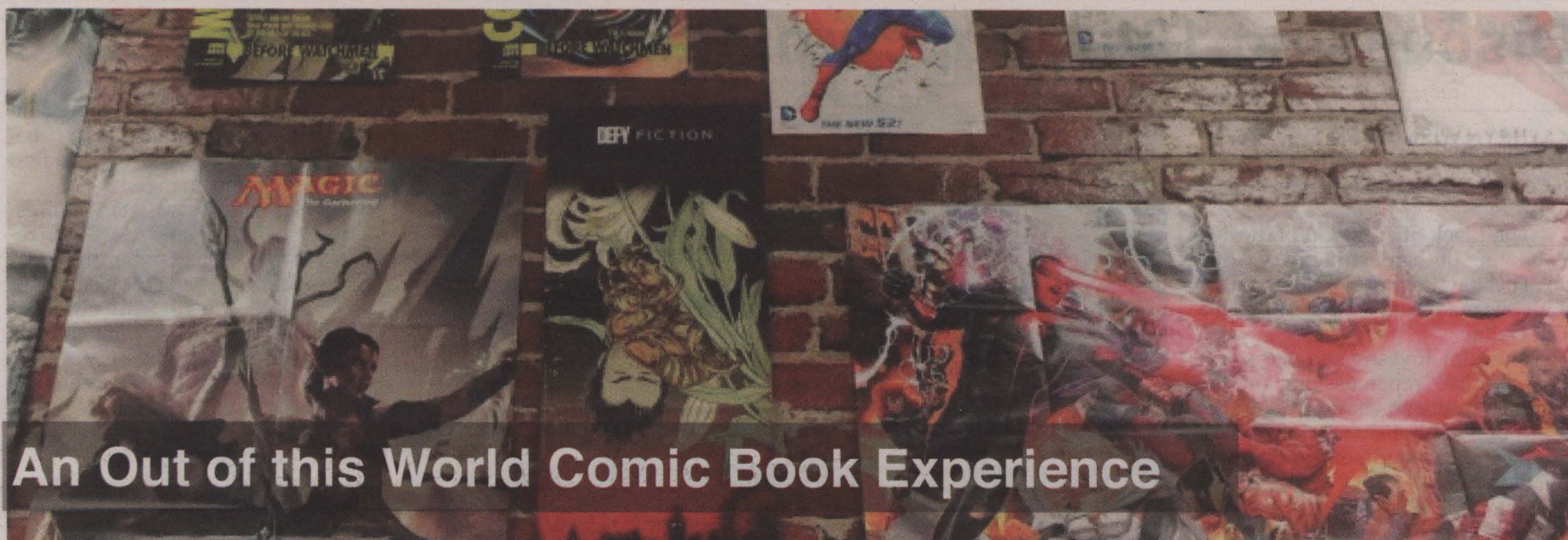
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An Out of this World Comic Book Experience

Posters on the walls at Galaxy. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.

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Galaxy Comics, Games & More, located on Clark St. in Stevens Point, is a store that welcomes gamers, comic book lovers and new comers.

According to galaxy-comicsandgames.com, the store has been open for more than 25 years and offers various products such as disc golf supplies, darts, collectible card games, miniature games, board games and comics.

Their website also said the store hosts game nights in the community at places such as the Boys & Girls Club and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Adam Mielke, UWSP alumnus, is a frequent customer at the comic book store.

With the store having recently undergone a renovation, Mielke describes it as being extremely clean. According to Mielke, the cleanliness of this comic book store is not the norm, as many of



Comics on the display racks. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.

the other comic book stores he has been in are not well kept.

Mielke said that in addition to the renovation, about six months ago the store created a menu for customers to enjoy. Some of the items that can be found on the menu are sandwiches and occasionally gumbo. Though the food has not yet had many advertisements, it has been well received by customers.

Being a gamer himself, Mielke enjoys going to Galaxy Comics to play games at no cost. He described the games that the store offers as "nerdy" because they do not offer typical board games such as Mo-

nopoly.

Hey That's My Fish, Ticket to Ride and Timeline are some of the many games that are available at Galaxy Comics.

The store also draws a big crowd for its Magic: The Gathering events, which occur on a weekly basis.

Mielke feels what makes Galaxy Comics different from other stores is their customer service.

"You would be surprised how many people own a board game shop and have zero customer service skills," Mielke said.

Chris Randazzo, owner of Galaxy Comics, attributes the

growing acceptance of "geekier" hobbies to shows such as The Big Bang Theory.

Randazzo values the importance of making and maintaining customer relationships with students, community members and passersby. He believes in treating each customer as if they frequent the store.

"We're hoping you're comfortable, you'll like it here, have a good time and that it will benefit it us at some point," Randazzo said.

Galaxy Comics is open for customers to enjoy Monday through Sunday.

Galaxy's sign display at night. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

Thursday
April 27,

Open Jam

DUC Encore

8-10p.m.

Friday
April 28,

The Middle Ground

DUC Encore

8-10p.m.

Saturday
April 29,

Weapons of Mass
Percussion

DUC Encore

7:30-8:30p.m.

Childhood
Aspiration Night

Alumni Room DUC

10-11:45p.m.