A change in legislature may affect cooperative members statewide. The Senate Bill 281, Assembly Bill 353, allows for cooperatives, also known as co-ops, to make changes to their bylaws that were once seen as illegal. According to the Wisconsin Farmers Union, the changes would have about 20 percent of co-op board members replaced by investors or outsiders. Members will no longer have the ability to review co-op records that are more than three years old, and the co-op would also have the choice to give 20 percent in return to current and future investors.

However, implementation of the bill is solely in the hands of the cooperative, and the Stevens Point co-op has chosen not to follow the bill. Cate Spaulding, the communication and newsletter manager, continued on page 2.

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On Oct. 11, the University of Wisconsin System President Ray Cross announced the proposal of a merger. Greg Summers, vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, said that the UW colleges have been experiencing a decline in enrollment for a while. Many institutions in the Midwest are experiencing this problem and the merger has been proposed to help with that problem.

"Basically, the two-year colleges would become branch campuses of the four-year campuses," Summers said.

In the Stevens Point area, UW-Marathon County and UW-Marshfield would merge with UW-Stevens Point.

The Stevens Point Academic Representation Council is a union on campus that was established in 2011.

Nerissa Nelson, outreach and marketing coordinator and SPARC member, said, "Most people found out by the newspaper before any announcement was made, and that typically doesn’t make a lot of people happy."

Nelson added that the plan is that the merger would be complete by July 18, but it’s not known who will report to whom between the main campus and the branch campuses.

Nelson said the merger is frustrating because "most people felt this came out of nowhere. It’s very frustrating that there was no staff input."

The Capitol Times said that Cathy Sandeen, chancellor of UW Colleges and Extension, would have her unit eliminated under the new structure. She said that she was notified of the plan only days before the public announcement.

Professor Mary Bowman, SPARC chair member, said, "I agree with the concern about the lack of input. I do think any plan like this should have input from the various people who will be affected. Faculty and staff, the surrounding communities and especially students. The timeframe is an issue also. Something this big needs to be done thoughtfully and carefully."

Both Nelson and Bowman expressed concern for students’ needs as it is uncertain what credits and requirements will be kept in the transition.

"Since I am the chair of UWSP’s General Education Committee, I’m particularly aware of the fact that the curriculum at the colleges is not the same as ours - different course titles and numbers, not all the same requirements - so that’s going to be a challenge to figure out. Those are a couple of examples of the many things that need to be addressed as this plays out," Bowman said.

Members of SPARC and of other councils on the UWSP campus as well as the two-year campuses have drafted a joint statement.

"It asks the merger be a transparent process with equal representation of all of those involved in the merger," Nelson said. "We also want an assessment of curricular and staff needs, preserve each campus’ individual mission and create a combined and complimentary mission, as well as the needs of students are kept as a priority."

Kelly Wilz, associate professor, continued on page 3.
agreement member of the Stevens Point co-op, said “After discussing the proposed bill with our board and staff in September, we sent a representative of our board to attend the September 27th hearing on the bill, and then discussed the impact of the bill with our membership during our annual Fall General Membership Meeting in October. From this, we collectively decided the bill is not representative of our principles as a co-op.”

The cooperative believes it is important to keep communication open between members and protect the cooperative from outside, unknowledgeable, sources.

Non-member interests can cause conflict, whereas members already have knowledge and experience with the co-op, giving them a better viewpoint when making decisions.

The group also wanted to maintain the equality of the cooperation, something the bill just didn’t provide.

To further protect themselves from the proposed bill, the cooperative talked of revising current bylaws, making a great amount of what the bill is proposing prohibited. This was discussed with the members of the co-op at a General Membership Meeting.

Spaulding later said, “Our decision to not follow the bill was made to remain in keeping with the seven Cooperative Principles, as well as our own Statement of Purpose, by-laws, and ideals as an independent co-op. We believe it is crucial to the spirit of cooperatives that our Board is elected from our membership, that financial records are open to the member-shareholders, and all members have to receive the same voting rights.”

In the article written by Nick Levendofsky, ‘A Closer Look at the Proposed Changes to Wisconsin’s Cooperative Laws,’ Levendofsky says “Proponents of the bill reason that we should allow our co-ops to change with the times; that other states have changed their cooperative laws to allow patronage-based voting in limited situations; that federally-chartered farm credit banks have had outside directors for some time; and that the changes in the bill are opt-in, rather than automatic, meaning each cooperative will decide for itself whether to adopt the changes or not.”

However, the Stevens Point cooperative, and many others, do not see it this way.

While Wisconsin co-ops may choose to adopt the bill, Stevens Point is choosing to keep members on the board and keep their records open.

Federal Judge Blocks Trump’s Ban on Transgender Service Members

Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly granted a preliminary injunction to keep Trump’s policy from going into effect. This decision came Monday, Oct. 30th when it was decided that trans members of the military have a strong case that the ban would be in violation of the Fifth Amendment. As a result this injunction trans members currently in the military can continue to serve openly and openly trans people can continue to be admitted into service.

Papadopoulos Pleads Guilty to Lying to the FBI

President Trump’s foreign policy advisor while on the campaign trail, George Papadopoulos, has pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about meeting a professor with Russian ties who promised to provide “dirt” on Hillary Clinton.

Trump on Sergeant Bergdahl

On Nov. 3 President Trump tweeted, “The decision on Sergeant Bergdahl is a complete and total disgrace to our Country and to our Military - Sergeant Bergdahl walked off his army post in Afghanistan in 2009 and was captured and imprisoned by the Taliban until 2014. Bergdahl was sentenced to a dishonorable discharge and a reduction in rank but no time behind bars. As Trump said, it was ‘a disgrace’.”
and faculty senator representing UW-Marshfield/Wood County, said, “Time and time again, we have expressed deep concern that when we merge with our main campuses, tuition will increase to that of our four-year main campuses, and will price out the most vulnerable students.”

According to The Capitol Times, “UW-Madison higher education policy analyst Nicholas Hillman said the demographic trends alone don’t seem to indicate a need for the mergers.” Wilz said she feels incredibly helpless.

“At the end of the day, we just want to do our jobs,” Wilz said. “We just want to teach our students, conduct research, and do what we love. I care so deeply for my students, and I will continue to fight for them always, but it’s hard. I think many of us are just numb right now.”

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New Marijuana Ordinance to be Proposed in Stevens Point

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An ordinance that would take big steps towards decriminalizing marijuana in Stevens Point will be proposed on Monday, Nov. 13.

The ordinance would lower the penalty for first time possession of less than five grams of marijuana or marijuana paraphernalia from $100 to $5.

This change comes after the first offense penalty was already lowered from $300 to $100.

Neither the city’s current ordinance nor the proposed update address the penalty for the second possession of marijuana, meaning that the person would be subjected to state law to determine the penalty.

Currently second possession of marijuana is a felony. However, the city district attorney can always decline to prosecute.

The proposed ordinance will go before the Public Protection Committee next Monday.

If the committee passes the ordinance, it will go before the city council meeting on Nov. 20. If the committee does not pass the ordinance, their decision can be challenged at the council meeting.

Local activist Ben Kollock and Mary McComb, district 9 Alderperson, are the driving forces behind this change in ordinance.

“I don’t know if the effect is going to be very great. Our police are too busy looking for serious stuff to be concerned about marijuana.” McComb said. “It definitely puts us in line with the other municipalities and states even that are decriminalizing it. It puts the law as written in line with the law as its being enforced.”

However, even if the change in ordinance were to go through, students are still subjected to university policy on marijuana use and possession.

Under UWS 18.09(3) (a) possession of marijuana on university property results fine $389.50.

Maddy Ertman, senior psychology major, said, “To me it doesn’t matter either way, but I feel like more people do that one recreationally, especially around here, more than most other drugs.”

McComb pointed out that Stevens Point isn’t the only city in Wisconsin taking the decriminalization of marijuana into its own hands. Toledo, Madison and Monona have already taken substantial steps towards marijuana decriminalization.
Marathon County Under Quarantine After Emerald Ash Borer Found at Rib Mountain

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The emerald ash borer was recently discovered in Marathon County and now the county is under quarantine. The emerald ash borer is a beetle known for destroying massive amounts of trees across the Midwest. The Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program includes The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Department of Natural Resources, UW-Madison, UW-Extension, USDA Forest Service, and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The Wisconsin DATCP said in a news release that emerald ash borers were confirmed after a tree care service discovered infested trees on private property at Rib Mountain. Specimens were identified by USDA APHIS, the release said.

Tim Allen, forest pest program coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection said, “Marathon County is newly discovered infestation so it is not as extensive compared to Southeastern Wisconsin which we are starting to see dramatic mortality and the infestation dates back to 2008.”

The DATCP said in a April 2016 news release, Portage and Wood Counties are quarantined. Quarantines prohibit ash wood products and hardwood firewood from being moved to areas that are not quarantined.

For businesses handling wood products that could carry EAB, this means that they must work with DATCP to assure that they are not transporting the pest to non-quarantine counties. For private citizens, a quarantine means that residents may not take firewood from these counties to non-quarantine counties.

As long as the federal government is maintaining a quarantine program, Marathon County will stay quarantined indefinitely. There are currently 48 counties under quarantine in Wisconsin,” Allen said.

DATCP recommends that property owners who have ash trees in quarantined counties keep a close watch for possible signs of EAB infestation and consider preventive treatments if property is within 15 miles of a known infestation.

If property owners suspect an infestation, they should call a professional arborist and visit emeraldashborer.wi.gov for detailed information.

The Emerald Ash Borer has been found in Marathon County. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Back 40 Mine Could Bring Economic Stimulus and Environmental Sacrifice

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The Back 40 Mine is a potential metallic sulfide mining site proposed by the private Canadian company, Aquila Resources. Located on the border of Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, it must be approved by both states regulations to start operations.

Currently, it has attained three out of the four permits necessary.

“I don’t support it at all, sulfide mining is one of the most hazardous environmentally degrading mining operations,” said Robert Abrahamian, senior water resources and political science majors.

“In 2016 there was the big acid mine drainage issue with the Animas River in Durango, Col. when the river was completely turned orange. That was from a sulfide mine. That’s the potential that this has,” Abrahamian said.

Wisconsin enacted a sulfide mining moratorium in 1997 called the “Prove it First” law. Under this law, the mining industry must provide an example of a metallic sulfide mine that has been operated and then closed for 10 years without negative environmental consequences. The Gold Creek Mine that Abrahamian refers to has been abandoned for 90 plus years.

The University Wisconsin-Stevens Point Student Government Association has taken a stance formally on Senate Bill 395, which would repeal the moratorium on sulfide mining that was created in 1997.

Abrahamian does not feel the Back 40 will bring economic benefits to Wisconsin. Since it is a Canadian mining company, he believes that employment will come from Canada.

In addition, repealing the moratorium would allow subsequent mining proposals that could impact Stevens Point residents directly.

“There are proposed mines in Marathon County that are very close to the Eau Claire River, very close to the Wisconsin River...so if there are issues with mine drainage there...we would feel the effects of that,” Abrahamian said.

Deaken Boggs, natural resources planning major and SGA caucus chair of natural resources, agreed with Abrahamian citing the Reef Deposits protection major and political science majors.

That was from a sulfide mine. Abrahamian does not feel the Back 40 will bring economic benefits to Wisconsin. Since it is a Canadian mining company, he believes that employment will come from Canada.

“[It] has a very direct connection to the Eau Claire River (is within a quarter of a mile) and if not properly regulated could affect the Eau Claire River and subsequently the Wisconsin River. This could have a direct impact on both fisheries of the Eau Claire and Wisconsin River and could possibly result in mass die off of fish species and greatly reduce the usability of both rivers,” Boggs said.
Bill Proposed to Change Regulation on Wisconsin State Wetlands

November 8, 2017
ENVIRONMENT I 5

Naomi Alber t
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A bill has been proposed which could make it easier to develop state wetlands in Wisconsin. If passed, Assembly Bill 547 would remove permitting requirements for wetlands which are not federally protected.

Typically, only wetlands next to navigable waters are under federal protection leaving isolated wetlands and ephemeral or seasonal wetlands under state jurisdiction.

According to the Wisconsin Wetlands Association, there are approximately one million acres of non-federal wetlands in Wisconsin, which make up an estimated 20 percent of all wetlands in the state.

Jacob Straub, Kenne dy-Grohne Chair in Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation and assistant professor of wildlife ecology, said that the bill, "...would remove the only protection that these nonfederal wetlands have."

Straub said that these wetlands are not necessarily lower quality just because they are not regulated federally. "Without a doubt they are functioning wetlands that serve the same purpose as federal wetlands," Straub said. He went on to say that wetlands provide a range of functions including wildlife habitat, flood control and groundwater recharge.

The bill's proponents, claim that the current DNR permitting process slows development. They also contend that wetlands are already protected under a state law which require 1.2 acres of wetland created for every acre developed. In an interview with Wisconsin Public Radio, Roger Roth, one the senators sponsoring the bill, argued that Wisconsin is one of the few states which requires extra protection for non-federal wetlands.

Straub said that replacing wetlands in a different location to mitigate development is not as simple as it may appear. Since wetlands take thousands of years to develop, man-made wetlands rarely have the same functional value. Straub said this functional value, the wetland's functionality and diversity of wildlife and plants, is more important than the amount of acreage.

The bill has received support from business interests such as the Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce. Lucas Vebber, Director of Environmental and Energy Policy for the Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce, called the bill "...a true win-win for all Wisconsinites."

But environmental groups view the bill in a less positive light. Many environmental organizations are concerned that the bill will result in more wetland loss.

The Wisconsin DNR reports that Wisconsin has lost approximately 50 percent of its historic wetland area, while its southern neighbor Illinois has lost 90 percent. A joint statement issued by six sportsmen's groups referred to the bill as "...extremely damaging to the hunting, fishing and trapping community."

Straub said that these isolated wetlands could be better habitat for amphibians than those protected federally. "These amphibian populations really depend on ephemeral ponds and wetlands, one reason is they breed in those areas, and the deeper lakes and deeper wetlands that have fish are not very good for amphibians because the fish eat the amphibian eggs but these non-federally protected ephemeral and isolated shallow wetlands are classic amphibian habitat," Straub said.
The Pointer

Look Into Sports

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MEN’S HOCKEY SPLITS WEEKEND
CONTESTS

A Pointer battles for the puck. Photo courtesy of Dalen Dahl.

POINTER’S COMEBACK RUNS OUT OF TIME ON SENIOR DAY

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team ended its regular season home slate with a 21-14 loss to UW-River Falls on Senior Day, Saturday, Nov. 4, to drop its record to 4-5 overall and 1-3-1 in conference play.

The Pointer’s sophomore quarterback, Mitchel Neubauer, passed for 157 yards on 20 attempts and added a five-yard rushing touchdown.

Shamaj Williams led UWSP in rushing attempts but managed only 15 yards as the rushing attack was stifled by the Falcon defense for most of the game.

Wide receiver Jerry Williams gained 31 yards on a reverse play to lead Point in rushing yards.

Pointer’s Steve Herra caught four passes for 92 yards to claim the team’s top performance in the receiving category.

UW-River Falls’ Michael Diggins scored three rushing touchdowns to give the Falcons a 21-0 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Stevens Point’s defense shut out the Falcons the rest of the way but the Pointer’s offense managed only two touchdowns in the final quarter.

Neubauer’s run and Jonte Webb’s 18 yard catch from Neu­bauer drew the Pointers within seven.

The Falcons used a 12-play drive on the following possession to run out the game clock for the win.

UWSP will wrap up its regular season on the road against UW-Platteville on Saturday, Nov. 11. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m.

Current Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UW-Oshkosh*</th>
<th>UW-Whitewater</th>
<th>UW-La Crosse</th>
<th>UW-Platteville</th>
<th>UW-Stout</th>
<th>UW-River Falls</th>
<th>UW-Stevens Point</th>
<th>UW-Eau Claire</th>
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*Secured at least a share of WIAC title

MEN’S SWIMMING FINDS SUCCESS AT TRI-DUAL

The UWSP men’s swimming and diving team defeated Gustavus Adolphus 179-121, while the women’s team was defeated by Gustavus Adolphus and Minnesota State University-Mankato in St. Peter, Minn., on Saturday, Nov. 4.

On the men’s team, Sam Jekel, Reilly Donnellan, Brandon Richardson and Jack Englehard; combined to finish first in the 200-yard medley relay (1:34.25) and the 200-yard freestyle (1:25.68).

Evan Plummer won the three-meter diving event (231.03) while Owen Gluck took the victory in the one-meter diving event (227.65).

Jekel placed first in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 54.55.

Englehardt took home first in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 47.47.

Englehardt (21.01), Donnellan (21.81), Richardson (21.89), Zack Ogurek (22.20) and Shane Johnson (22.25) took the top five positions in the 50-yard freestyle.

Payton Killian (1:47.35), Garrett Richetto (1:47.77), Jacob Aegerter (1:48.12), Grant Moser (1:49.12) and Michael Mills (1:51.25) finished in the top five positions in the 200-yard freestyle.

On the women’s team, Jackie Braun placed second in the three-meter diving event (196.75) and placed third in the one-meter diving event (222.20).

Anna O’Malley took second in the 100-yard butterfly (1:00.49) and third in the 50-yard butterfly (59.82).

Breanna Ruffolo grabbed a fourth-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke and finished with a time of 1:10.93.

Pointers’ swimming and diving resumes when it travels to Marquette, Mich., to take on Northern Michigan University on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 2 p.m.

Current Standings

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Women’s Hockey

Stevens Point’s women’s hockey traveled to Mendota Heights, Minn., to take on the University of St. Thomas on Friday, Nov. 3 and Saturday, Nov. 4 and fell in both games to the Tomcats.

Mckenna Butcher scored a goal for the Pointers on an assist from Ellie Purnett on Friday during the 17th minute in the 2nd period but Stevens Point was held scoreless the rest of the way and lost 2-1.

Goaltender Sydney Conley had a busy night, recording 34 saves.

UWSP managed two goals in Saturday’s game against the Tom­cats but were defeated 4-2.

Down 3-0 early in the second period, the Pointers rallied to draw within one point with a goal by forward Emma Berthiaume and later by Allison Karrmann (assist­ed by Ali Bagianni).

The Tomcats quickly countered with a goal of its own during the 18th minute of the second period and held Stevens Point score­less in the third period to secure the victory.

Conley recorded 30 more saves to add to her season total of 87.

The Pointers open conference play when it travels to take on UW-River Falls on Saturday, Nov. 11. Game time is set for 205 p.m.

Current Standings

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Women’s Swimming and Diving

On the women’s team, Payton Killian (1:47.35), Garrett Richetto (1:47.77), Jacob Aegerter (1:48.12), Grant Moser (1:49.12) and Michael Mills (1:51.25) finished in the top five positions in the 200-yard freestyle.

Logan Fredericks, Brennan Miller, Steven Quagliata and Luke McElhenie each contributed a goal for UWSP earlier in the season to set up the victory.

Goaltender Connor Ryckman made 18 saves.

The Pointers return to the ice on Friday, Nov. 10, as it travels to take on Saint Mary’s University in Winona, Minn. Game time is set for 7 p.m.

Current Standings

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WRESTLING SWEEPS FOUR CLASSES IN HOME OPENER

UW-Stevens Point wrestling welcomed four teams to Bennett Court as it opened the season at home on Saturday, Nov. 4, with four Pointer athletes winning their respective weight classes.

Senior Dylan Diebitz won the 125-weight class with match victories coming via a match fall and two major decisions.

Fellow senior Boone Roycroft swept the 157-weight class with two match falls and a pair of decisions.

Junior Ben Vosters won the 197-weight class with a fall, tech fall and a pair of major decisions.

Fellow junior Dan Squires reigned victorious in the 174-weight class with a pair of match falls.

The Pointers return to the wrestling mat on Saturday, Nov. 11, for the Dan Gable Open in Oshkosh. Matches are set to start at 9 a.m.

WOMEN’S SOCCER SEASON ENDS IN DOUBLE OVERTIME BY UW-STOUT

The UWSP women’s soccer team ended its season on the road in a double overtime loss to UW-Stout 2-1 in the first round of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

The Pointers countered an early goal by the Blue Devils with a goal of their own before halftime. Francesca Hamilton assisted freshman Kenadie Cain for the Pointers lone score during the 41st minute to tie the game.

After a defensive struggle in the second half and the first overtime, UW-Stout’s Hannah Kirchner scored during the 103rd minute and second overtime to lift the Blue Devils over the Pointers.

Senior goal keeper Sarah Pepelinski recorded six saves in her final game with the UWSP women’s varsity soccer team.

Pepelinski finishes the season with 80 saves and a save percentage of 0.833.

Hamilton ends the season leading the team in goals (9), points (21), shots (49) and shots on goal (32).

The Pointer’s season closes with a 9-8-2 overall record and 2-3-2 in conference play.

Men’s Hockey
Nov. 10, at Saint Mary’s University
7 p.m.

Nov. 11, at University of St. Thomas
7 p.m.

Women’s Hockey
Nov. 11, at UW-River Falls
2:05 p.m.

Football
Nov. 11, at UW-Platteville
2 p.m.

Cross Country
Nov. 11, NCAA Midwest Regional
Rock Island, IL
11 a.m.

Wrestling
Nov. 11, Dan Gable Open
Oshkosh, WI
9 a.m.

Swimming & Diving
Nov. 11, at Northern Michigan University
2 p.m.

Current Standings

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Ultimate Frisbee Looks to Use Winter Months to Grow

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women’s Ultimate Frisbee team is a club sport that practices on campus and travels to tournaments to compete and represent Stevens Point. The women’s Ultimate team started on campus in 2008 and normally consists of 10 to 18 players. This year’s team is mainly made up of first and second-year players. Women’s head coach Marcus Menzel said, “We recruited heavily this year and our team consists of seven freshmen, three sophomores, one junior and six seniors.”

The young team’s season is split into spring and fall. Both seasons feature between two and three road tournaments and include some long-distance traveling. So far, the team has competed at tournaments in Eau Claire and Hartford, but they will be traveling outside the state for the spring season.

“For the spring season, we will head to South Carolina, Illinois, Iowa and possibly Minnesota,” Menzel said. The Stevens Point team competes in a conference that includes most UW schools as well as Marquette University and Northern Michigan University. However, when the team is out of state, they compete against teams in the Midwest and the East Coast.

As fall turns to winter, the team will take practices indoors to keep everyone well-conditioned and better themselves for the season ahead. “As a team, we are looking to improve individual talents over the winter inside, so when the spring comes we are eager to get outside and continue working together to accomplish our team goals of being competitive and having fun,” Menzel said. Though the team is young, it will have an entire winter to prepare for the warm Midwestern and Southeastern tournaments in spring as players look to gain experience, obtain high placements, have fun and grow as a team.

As a club sport, the team is always looking for and welcoming new players to the team regardless of experience. Those interested can contact president Lindsey Reach at shockwavesocial@gmail.com for more information about tournaments and practice times.
The Few Pitfalls of Stranger Things 2

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The first season of “Stranger Things” is the timeless, classic tale of a young boy taken into an alternate dimension by a creepy, flower-headed monster and the friends and family members who try to figure out what happened to him.

There are also evil scientists, an adorable bald girl with telekinetic powers, alcoholic sheriffs and a glorious dose of ‘80s nostalgia. It hit Netflix in July of 2016 and blew everyone away. “Stranger Things” could have been a show that clung to its nostalgia to keep people invested, but it didn’t. It took everything that everyone loved about ‘80s movies and created a unique, fantastic story.

“Stranger Things 2” picks up one year after the events of season one. Will is back from The Upside Down, Eleven is still missing and everything has mostly gone back to normal.

The most notable difference is Will’s not being able to get The Upside Down out of his head. He keeps having visions of a giant monster in the sky and is going to see a scientist at the lab from the first season about his “episodes.”

Season one had the disappearance of Will and Barb to keep the show interesting and exciting. What keeps the show moving through a majority of season two is the great characters. There is still a lot of action and suspense, but the story does not really pick up until the second half of the season. The first half is dedicated much more to the relationships between the characters.

There are a great many things that I loved in Stranger Things 2, but there are a few notable gripes I have with this season that make it not quite live up to the first season.

I love the story of this show, but two parts anger me immensely. The first is episode seven, “The Lost Sister.”

This episode is supposed to be the one with a lot of character development for Eleven. It centers around El finding another girl that was experimented on and given similar powers to her. This “sister” takes El under her wing and has her join her group of killer outcasts then tries to get her to kill a man, but El realizes she must save her friends in Hawkins.

While that plot is cliché, it is not horrible. It just completely stops all the suspense that has been building for the last six episodes and is a full hour of just one subplot. There are no other main characters for much of episode seven.

That subplot should have run its course with other episodes so when that plot dulls (which it does), there can be somewhere else for the show to go.

The one thing that made me yell at my television was the scene when Eleven leaves her cabin to go find Mike, but finds him talking to another girl in the gym and decides to just go back to her cabin without anyone seeing her.

“Stranger Things” is not a stupid show, but that was a stupid scene. Eleven is a strong, powerful character that has more important things going on than her not-boyfriend talking to another girl. She has been stuck in a cabin for a year but seeing a girl that is not her is just too much? No, I refuse to accept that.

Other than those two times, “Stranger Things 2” lives up to what the first season created. It definitely has its flaws, but it is still exciting, creepy and funny.

Both seasons are available now on Netflix.

Humans of Point

BELLA PIETSCH

is a senior communication major with an emphasis in public relations and a professional writing minor, graduating in December.

What is your ideal morning in Stevens Point?
My perfect day in Point would start with breakfast at the Wooden Chair and a walk through the Sculpture Park.

What is your favorite outdoor space or nature area?
I typically run and stay active at my gym, Adventure 212, but when I get a chance to run outside, Schmeekele Reserve is a great place to do it.

What is your favorite thing about UWSP?
I love that Stevens Point has a family feel, but offers diverse and cultural opportunities through the prestige of the university. I’ve always felt at home in Stevens Point, and I’ve formed unparalleled relationships with my peers and professors during my time here.

What are you going to miss about Stevens Point?
Upon moving out of state, I’m definitely going to miss the people who shaped my educational and professional experiences. Let’s be real, I’ll also miss the affordability and comforts of the community that raised me.
AIRO Busts Myths Surrounding Indigenous Peoples at Coffee and Culture

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On Nov. 1st, a panel of speakers from American Indians Reaching for Opportunity took to the stage of the Laird Room in the Dreyfus University Center to share stories of their culture and experiences, as well as to answer the student body's questions about cultural issues surrounding Native peoples.

The event was an installment of Coffee and Culture, a diversity-driven lecture series hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Campus Activities and Student Engagement (CASE).

The student speakers began the night with a moment of silence out of respect for UWSP's use of ancestral Ho-Chunk and Menominee lands, as well as mourning for the passing of Dennis Banks, an Ojibwe activist, lecturer and author. After introducing themselves, including a brief salutation in their native tongue, the panelists dispersed among the crowd to engage in small-group discussions with attendees.

Each group of roughly 20 attendees spoke with two or three panelists each and were given a small basket of prompts on printed slips to begin conversation. Discussion topics ranged from current political issues, such as the use of Native apparel and imagery as Halloween costumes and athletic mascots, to the personal experiences of the panelists and the cultures of their tribes.

Addressing the crowd at the end of the night, student speaker Brianna Roehrborn said, "As time passes, Native Americans are considered to be historical figures as opposed to being groups of actual people. We are not savages. Our regalia are not costumes."

Another attendant, Maddi, praised the credibility of the speakers and their experience, saying how she liked that the panelists "were actual people that are living it, rather than having a teacher talk about it."

At the end of the night, the panelists told attendants that the best way to be an ally to Native-American students is to be kind, to treat everyone with respect and not to perpetuate harmful stereotypes. They also mentioned that they are always looking for volunteers to put together their yearly powwow, which is hosted the first weekend of every May.

The remaining Coffee and Culture presentations for the fall 2017 semester are "Intersectional Feminism," hosted by the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center on Nov. 15, and "Let's Take a Walk: Diversity in Action," on Nov. 29th, each taking place in the Laird Room in the DUC at 6 p.m.
All Tiny Creatures Bring an Evening of Sound and Motion

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On Friday evening, Center­t­ainment Productions invited Madison musicians of All Tiny Creatures to come to The Encore of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point as part of their current performance tour. All Tiny Creatures is an experimental rock band that uses a mix of synthesizer, guitar, bass and vocals, as well as having psychedelic visuals projected behind the band to put on not only an aurally pleasing show, but a visually-intriguing and provocative one as well.

While the amount of people in attendance at the show was low, the bands who performed were still able to put on an excellent concert. The concert opened with a set by Barry Paul Clark, under his solo-project pseudonym adoptahighway.

Clark used a mix of loud but curiously vague, growling, distorted bass guitar playing over heavy, bulging synthesizer loops to create a bizarrely ungraspable but not unappealing sound. His music swelled, sizzled, scratched and droned, combining with the occasional double-exposure, literally moving first-person camera visuals created a swirling, disorienting effect.

As a result of the blurry, distant sounds and slow-motion, often hazy, out-of-focus visuals, the mood was seductive and mesmerizing. If his goal was to induce in the listener-viewer a sense of no-destination wandering in numbed solitude, he succeeded.

After adoptahighway's set, the stage was given over to No Death. No Death is another one-man project, using slow, flowing synthesizer and more tranquil and simulated visuals than Clark to create a dreamy, long-winded, ambient tapestry of sounds as songs. The music was reminiscent of the senses involved with swimming in repetitive, echoey, murky, oozing sound-fluid—occasionally with a driving bass and drum beat.

Finally, these two musicians came out on stage together and were accompanied by multi-in­strumentalist Thomas Wincek to form All Tiny Creatures. Wincek, hailing from Middle­ton is the founder of All Tiny Creatures and the only official member. For this tour, he was joined by the other two men. With Wincek on synth and vocals, Clark on bass and No Death on guitar, the trio played a lengthy array of songs ranging from slow and melodic ballads, to driving electronic instrumentals, to funky, upbeat tunes.

The show concluded with the band performing a cover of the song by comedian-musici­an Tim Heidecker, of Tim and Eric fame, titled "Trump Talkin' Nukes."

The concert left the attendees mesmerized and transported for a time, but ultimately brought back to our own precarious present—in other words, engrossed, enamored and entertained.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

Thursday November 9

Keep Calm and Carrion
Schmeeckle Reserve Visitor Center
6-7 p.m.

Friday November 10

Spamalot
Jenkins Theatre, NFAC
7:30-9:30 p.m.

College Bingo Night
DUC Encore
10 p.m.-12 a.m.

Saturday November 11

Spamalot
Jenkins Theatre, NFAC
7:30-9:30 p.m.

Stacey Berk faculty oboe recital
Michelsen Hall, NFAC
3-5 p.m.

Sunday November 12

Spamalot
Jenkins Theatre, NFAC
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Darkness At Noon Event Shows Community the True Beauty Of This Summer's Eclipse

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On Thursday, Nov. 2, students, faculty and community members were invited to a public presentation, Darkness At Noon. The attendees came to listen to highlights of trips made to Nebraska and Wyoming this summer to see the solar eclipse.

The North American total solar eclipse that happened on Aug. 21, 2017, caught the attention of many. Liza Wernicke, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate in physics and astronomy, discussed the tools and equipment used to view the eclipse.

"You know the saying bigger is better but when it comes to telescopes and viewing an eclipse smaller is actually better for viewing the sun," Wernicke said.

Jesse John, senior education major, discussed how his goal during the event was to measure the exact diameter of the sun. Both Wernicke and John used a special eye piece clip that attaches their phones to the telescope so they could record the eclipse. As they played the video, the crowd started to buzz and murmur when the crack of light disappeared while Wernicke and John excitedly exclaimed their amazement in the background of the video.

But not everything was simply done. The researchers did experience some issues. The telescopes had to be readjusted and re-calibrated, and one of them completely shut off due to a connection problem.

"We practiced so much in advance, but still things went wrong," Wernicke said. "There is no way you can be totally prepared for everything. But that’s just how science is. You do the best you can and make it up on the fly as you go if things go wrong."

John mentioned one really great thing about this event was that it required some geometry to figure out the diameter of the sun.

"When I get out into the classrooms after I graduate, and my students ask me why they need to know this sort of thing, I can give them a real-life experience," John said.

"This eclipse is a humbling reminder of the vast beauty that we live in. Not only are we a part of the universe but the universe is part of us," said Alyssa Likeness, physics and astronomy major.

Geography and geology professor Neil Haywood discussed the relevance of the event along with connections made with others.

"No one can own an eclipse. They can only share it, and that’s what we all did," Haywood said.

The event was attributed to locals who helped, along with financial sponsors and contributors. But the project would not have happened without the late Chris Cirmo who was the dean of the College of Letters and Sciences until his death in May of 2017.

Senior lecturer Art Stevenson discusses the circumstances surrounding the August 21, 2017 total solar eclipse. Photo by Ross Vetterkind

Professor Neil Haywood closes the night by discussing the relevance of the results of the UWSP study. Photo by Ross Vetterkind