

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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Review: Tinder Triumph

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I'm sure a couple of you reading this have downloaded Tinder at least once in your life, but have you ever actually gone on a date with someone you matched with?

I was extremely skeptical of Tinder and I disagreed with everyone that said they had met their "soulmate" on Tinder. Then, at a staff meeting, I suggested that one of the reporters should go on a date and test out Tinder. The story was, of course, given to me.

When I downloaded Tinder, it was fun at first, filling out my profile and bio. I even added that I was looking for a free meal and a date to my sister's wedding. Men responded back that they would love to take me out to dinner. Even more wanted to come to the wedding, and then I realized this assignment wasn't that difficult.

I ended up matching with someone I had previously matched with when I had Tinder my freshman year at the Univer-

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IT Budget Takes a Hit



At the IT Service Desk in the basement of Albertson Hall, an IT employee assists a student customer. Photo by Ross Vetterkind

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In recent years, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, as well as a number of UW institutions has experienced a decline in enrollment. This has caused a number of services in the university to evaluate and reduce their budgets.

Information Technology is one of the sectors being impacted by the reduction, which will lead to reduced services for students and faculty at the university.

In the last four years, enrollment at UWSP has decreased by 15 percent. Last year, the university's tuition revenue was \$6.8 million less than its peak enrollment in 2012-2013. This year, tuition revenue is expected to be lower as well.

Previously, UWSP's tuition target, the number of students required to reach sustainable tu-

ition revenue, was approximately 8,700. Last year, only 8,200 students were enrolled. Due to this decline of revenue, which partly funds the university, reductions to the internal budget are in the works for the upcoming years.

The expected budget for 2019-2020 is \$2.5 million and the following year is expected to be \$2 million of available tuition revenue.

With shrinking revenue totals, university services could dwindle in the gap of enrollment.

"IT is the life blood of any institution," said Peter Zuge, chief information officer for IT.

The department is responsible for the campus' networks, internet, software packages and other technological services. The service also assists students and faculty with troubleshooting account, computer and software issues.

IT receives most of its funding from student tech fees and from

the institution itself, and in light of the reduction, is currently investigating alternative funding.

The department is hesitant to change service fees within the university because all sectors of the university are experiencing the same financial strains. IT is currently pursuing efforts to recruit and provide programs in order to reach out further to prospective students. This action will help down the road, but not at the moment.

The cut will mean a reduction of IT's services, but it's still uncertain which services will be affected. Critical services, such as campus wifi, will remain as is, but other services that aren't as frequently used may be reduced or eliminated completely.

"We're doing everything we can so that the students will see as little impact as possible," said Zuge.



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Local YMCA Searches for New CEO

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The Steven Point YMCA is looking for a new executive director and CEO.

Dave Morgan, the previous director and CEO, left the Stevens Point area to take over as president and CEO of the YMCA in Greater Kalamazoo, Michigan. He served the local YMCA for 13 years.

"I will truly miss the people that made my job so easy there in Stevens Point," Morgan said, "my staff, dozens of committed board members and committee members."

Morgan explained that his job would have been a lot harder without the community partners and the donors in our community that allowed the YMCA to have the ability to support children and families in need.

Morgan also said that he's proud of the work the YMCA accomplished. The staff and volunteers worked hard to offer accommodating facilities and programs to the Stevens Point community.

"But what I was always most proud of was our ability to serve everyone regardless of their position in society, their religion, ethnicity, their socio-economic status

or their abilities," said Morgan.

Dan Newhouse is the interim executive director and CEO until the position is permanently filled.

Joe Seubert, senior director of operations at the SP-YMCA, said that the hope is to get the position filled by June 1.

Seubert said they are on the lookout for someone who can lead staff, make connections in the Stevens Point area and has the ability to fit the needs of the community.

Seubert explained that the hiring process starts at Y-USA which is based in Chicago. They post the job opening, then send the applicants to Stevens Point.

"The hope is that the person will be a good fit for the community that we are. This is a great community to live and work in, here in Stevens Point," Seubert said. "I may be a little biased, but to some Stevens Point is not the ideal size for them. For someone coming from a larger setting, they might not feel comfortable here."

Seubert said that is why it is important that the new CEO and executive director be a good fit, because they need to be able to make the connections and build relationships with the community to help bring in donors to continue to support the YMCA and their facilities.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Sunday, February 18

Student had his bike stolen from Knutzen Hall. It was last scene yesterday. The bike was locked up and the bike lock was cut and left on the ground.

Monday, February 19

Staff member called regarding a suspicious male individual she has seen multiple times reading and looking at gun related readings.

Tuesday, February 20

Staff member at Delzell called to inform UPSS about a suspicious man walking toward highway 66 on Fremont Street. He is wearing a green army jacket, he is bald. She stated he might be high or in an altered state of mind.

Thursday, February 22

Portage County Comm Center radioed that there was a car fire in the Northern part of Lot Q fire and police and 553 will be on scene.

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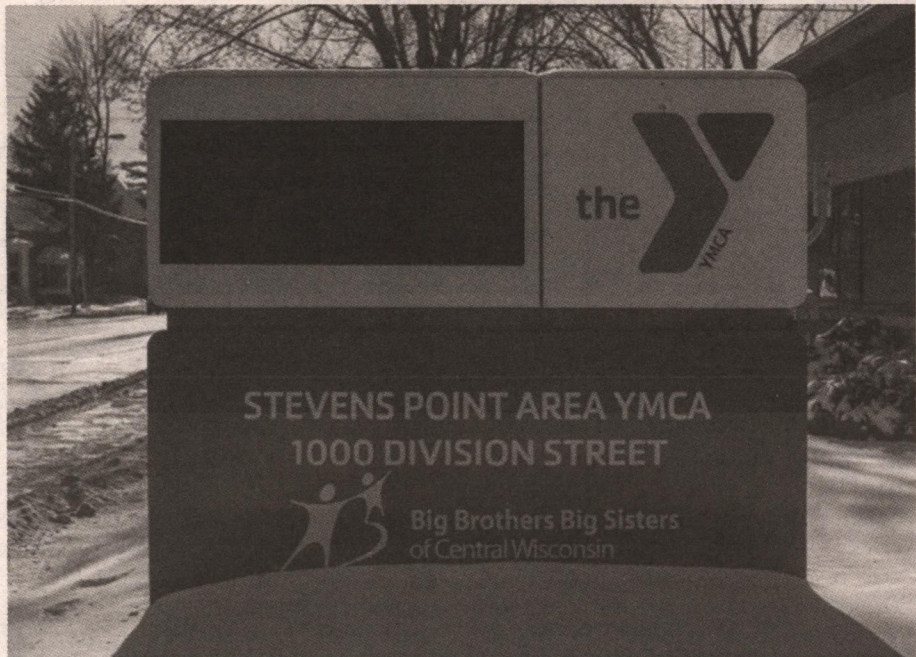
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Sign in front of the Stevens Point area YMCA.

Editorial Policies

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

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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.

NRA rejects Trump's Gun Reform

President Trump made a call for a federal ban on rifle sales to those under 21, which was opposed by the National Rifle Association. "It should all be at 21," Trump said. Trump's suggestions come after authorities identified the 19 year old suspect who shot and killed 17 people in a high school in Florida.

Mexican President's Visit on Hold

The White House confirmed Saturday that plans for Donald Trump to host Mexico's President Enrique Pena Nieto have been put on hold. President Pena Nieto and Trump agreed that now is not the right time for Pena Nieto to make his first visit. The Washington Post pointed to a phone call between the leaders that culminated in a standstill on the border wall.

Tweet of the Week

Screen Capture from twitter.com



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · Feb 20

A woman I don't know and, to the best of my knowledge, never met, is on the FRONT PAGE of the Fake News Washington Post saying I kissed her (for two minutes yet) in the lobby of Trump Tower 12 years ago. Never happened! Who would do this in a public space with live security.....

46K 22K 96K



Gubernatorial Candidates, Walker and Gronik, Talk Education and the UW System

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Democrat Andy Gronik and Republican Scott Walker recently made stops on their campaign trail to talk with students of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Because the University cannot endorse political candidates, these stops were hosted by College Republicans and College Democrats for Walker and Gronik, respectively.

With state support having declined by 25 percent in the past four years alone, the decisions made by Wisconsin's next governor will make a huge impact in the future of our university.

Gronik said that the UW System is one of Wisconsin's economic engines, and so he believes in, "putting appropriate funding into higher education, and also looking at the entire system of higher education perhaps in a way that we haven't before and building on the strengths of our technical colleges, our two year colleges, our for year colleges and beyond, it's exactly what we have to do to attract young people to our state."

Amelia Heup, junior political science major and chair of College Republicans, attended Walker's campus visit. Which, in contrast to some previous visits, was largely positive for the governor and those in attendance.

Heup said that Walker did not talk about increasing funding to the UW System but instead highlighted his six-year tuition freeze, which he says will attract more students to Wisconsin universities.

"He focused on that aspect of: we have a tuition freeze, we're going to be using that to bring students in. Obviously, Point has kind of seen a decrease in enrollment and so that's another kind of key aspect, that we have that five-year freeze, and it's going to continue until we can make sure that it stops going up," Heup said.

While Walker's tuition freeze helps students, UWSP's fork in the

road website states that declining state support has made the university more dependent on tuition revenue than it had been in the past, and so frozen tuition further limits the universities ability to address this decline in support.

Declining state support under Walker has made him an unpopular guest on campus. In Walker's past visit for the ground-breaking of UWSP's new science building, he was heavily protested by faculty and students alike.

Heup mentioned that College Republicans were concerned that hosting the governor might bring about this kind of protesting, "We

weren't really sure what to expect."

But in the end, Heup said, "We had a very good group of people, we had people that obviously weren't a part of College Republicans, but it was more of a conversation, there was no dissenting, it was more of an open dialogue."

"In the current political climate that we have you'd expect it to be a big blow out but in all actuality, we had a very structured conversation and had people ask their questions and have them be answered by the governor."



Andy Gronik came to visit University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. Photo courtesy of Andy Gronik

St. Patrick's Day Word Search Puzzle

C	U	J	R	C	Y	E	T	C	M	D	M	W	Q	Q	Y	R	F	G	B
D	I	O	V	N	N	D	N	E	L	U	P	V	J	R	E	V	W	E	W
V	R	O	Q	S	M	O	E	L	O	Y	S	O	A	Q	O	R	P	E	D
L	E	N	D	G	R	X	Z	Z	R	H	S	I	T	S	B	K	M	D	G
F	L	R	W	X	P	W	F	B	D	N	N	I	T	F	W	R	L	L	R
X	A	B	G	O	S	X	O	C	G	B	Y	O	Y	N	F	S	W	R	W
M	N	W	Q	L	I	J	O	M	O	M	C	L	Z	I	E	J	I	E	H
F	D	P	B	H	G	P	T	W	H	K	H	F	X	K	J	T	N	M	M
S	X	J	S	M	A	Y	I	P	I	C	D	O	A	T	Q	T	U	N	G
O	E	I	L	X	L	D	N	N	R	T	V	N	D	I	B	R	A	K	D
M	R	V	V	V	G	C	G	A	D	W	S	L	I	I	A	O	H	F	L
I	Q	S	T	L	K	S	M	Z	F	F	V	C	K	P	C	D	C	I	O
S	E	Z	G	H	S	A	I	N	T	P	A	T	R	I	C	K	E	N	G
V	C	Y	G	E	L	U	C	K	T	Z	V	E	V	L	R	V	R	T	I
X	F	N	Z	F	W	O	A	G	F	J	D	N	O	N	N	R	P	H	V
J	W	T	L	M	X	X	H	Y	E	T	M	V	F	I	N	A	E	R	I
G	D	S	H	A	M	R	O	C	K	K	E	C	X	E	K	G	L	V	J
B	E	V	Z	O	Z	M	S	I	D	R	T	W	E	W	F	E	E	Z	F
K	A	P	J	Y	V	I	X	O	I	C	U	R	N	A	I	J	F	Y	L
I	C	I	H	S	B	W	K	Y	S	X	G	G	I	J	T	L	Q	M	C

IRISH
RAINBOW
GOLD
STOCKINGS
MARCH
CLOVER
POT
SNAKES
LUCK
GREEN
JIG
SHAMROCK
IRELAND
LEPRECHAUN
SAINT PATRICK

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 1996

Bill may Breed Slumlords

LEWIS E. MILLER
CONTRIBUTOR

A new proposal in the state assembly may restrict the rights of student tenants and could result in some chilly winter nights.

The Housing Coalition of Wis. Believes that the changes proposed by State Representative Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend) to the current tenant/landlord law will benefit landlords and greatly harm the tenants.

The proposed bill will affect areas such as small claims court, security deposits, heat and disclosing needed repair problems.

Currently a tenant may recover double the damage, court costs and reasonable attorney fees under Wis. Statute 100.20; landlord violations also include failing to return a security deposit or not completing promised repairs.

The bill will no longer allow tenants to receive double dam-

ages, court costs or attorney fees if the landlord violates tenants/landlord law and the tenant pursues the matter in Small Claims Court.

A concern of many tenants is adequate heat during the winter.

The law now requires the landlord to provide heat at least 67 degrees F or a furnace capable of maintaining a temperature of 67 degrees F.

If the proposed changes become law a landlord would have no responsibility to provide heat if the temperature dropped below -10 degrees F.

The implication is quite obvious since the time heat is the greatest necessity is when the temperature does drop below -10 degrees F.

According to current law a landlord is required to return the full security deposit or an itemized list of deductions to the tenant within 21 days of the tenant vacating the apartment.

The landlord may not deduct from security deposits for normal wear and tear or generally for any lease addendum unless the provision was separately negotiated.

Under the proposed changes a landlord would most likely not be responsible if the deposit was returned after 21 days nor if the deduction was not reasonable.

The landlord would also be allowed to deduct from the deposit for "other charges." Other charges is overly vague and invites landlord to be creative in charging tenants.

Examples of other charges might be business expenses, re-rental costs and possibly even for normal wear and tear.

Because Small Claims Court revisions a landlord who did violate the state law would not be subject to double damages.

Another area of great importance to tenants is if the apartment has needed repairs or pest

infestation.

Under the proposed changes, landlords would only need to disclose building code violations that materially affect the safety or habitability of the apartment.

In essence, landlords would not have to disclose minor problems, such as appliances that do not work and cockroach infestation.

Although these may seem "minor" to the landlord, they are quite significant and not readily visible to the prospective tenant.

Further changes to the current tenant/landlord are proposed, but space does not permit a detailed description. In order to protect tenant's rights the Housing Coalition of Wisconsin encourages every tenant in the Stevens Point area to call Representative Stan Gruszynski at 715-344-3958 and express their displeasure with State Representative Glenn Grothman's Tenant/Landlord Omnibus Bill.

COUNTDOWN TO SPRING!

21
DaysUNTIL THE FIRST OFFICIAL
DAY OF SPRING

Wisconsin Solar Industry Remains Unshaded Despite Tariff

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The Trump administration imposed a tariff on imported solar panels this January.

Robert Lighthize, U.S. trade representative, said that the tariff comes at the recommendation of the Trade Policy Committee based on information that U.S. producers were being hurt by imports.

"The President's action makes clear again that the Trump administration will always defend American workers, farmers, ranchers and businesses in this regard," Lighthize said in a press release.

The tariff will apply for four years, beginning at 30 percent the first year and dropping five percent each year.

The move has angered some solar panel installation companies who say that higher prices will hurt their business.

The Solar Energy Industries Association has opposed the move, saying that it will cancel or delay billions of dollars of solar investment and cost an

estimated 23,000 jobs. Currently, solar panel manufacturing is mainly done overseas. The U.S. solar industry imports around 80 percent solar panel parts.

SEIA said that in 2016, out of 38,000 jobs in the solar manufacturing industry, only 2,000 were actually creating cells and panels. This indicates that production of cells and panels is not a large job creator in comparison to other aspects of the domestic solar manufacturing industry.

Doug Stingle is a consultant for Northwind Renewable Energy, a Stevens Point based energy cooperative which designs and installs solar electric system. Stingle said that he does not expect the tariff to greatly impact their business, since it would most likely have the greatest effect on very large-scale installations.

Nick Hylla, executive director of the Midwest Renewable Energy Association, is also optimistic about the future of solar even with the tariff. Hylla said that, although the tariff will make solar more expensive, he expects the solar market to remain strong. Hylla said that this

is because the cost of a solar cell makes up just a portion of the total project cost. Much of the project expense is in labor and permitting which he refers to as "the human cost." This human cost continues to decline as the solar industry develops and becomes more efficient.

Hylla said that with the tariff, "it is quite possible that any increase in price will be offset by the decreasing cost of installing."

Renewables have become increasingly competitive with fossil fuels. In 2017, new utili-

ty scale electricity installations were nearly evenly split between renewables and fossil fuels. These numbers are down from 2016 and 2015 when over 60 percent of new installations were renewables. Hylla believes that solar has some advantages over other energy sources since it can be produced at different scales and often generates power at peak energy consumption times.

Hylla said, "Regardless of the tariff the enduring value of solar will be there."

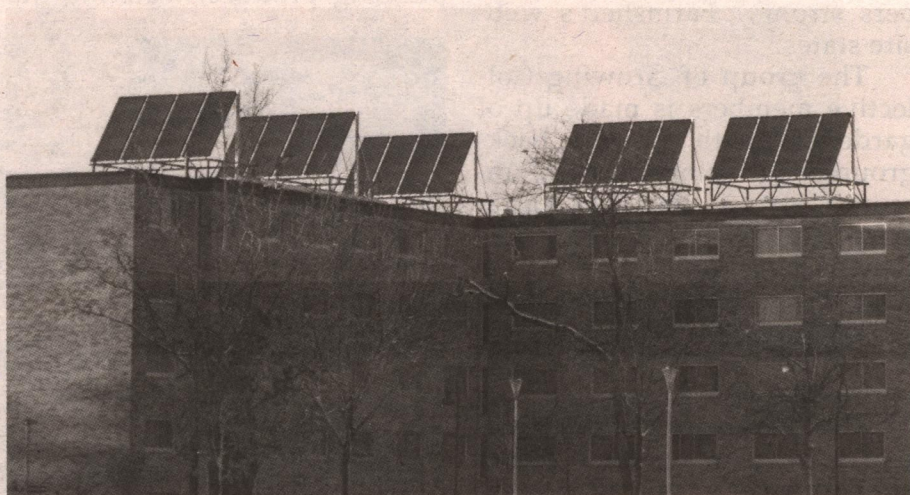


Photo by Ross Vetterkind

FREE PIZZA

**Exciting New Opportunity to
Train at Home for Part-time
Positions starting April 30th!**

**Please stop in to see us, ask questions, enjoy PIZZA, and learn more
about opportunities with Great Lakes.**

When?

**Tuesday, March 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Dreyfus University Center, Room 235**

Where?

Part-time Call Center Representatives assist borrowers so they can manage and successfully repay their student loans. They help with student loan questions, repayment, consolidation, payment relief, and more.

The majority of our new four-week training process can be done anywhere and anytime 24 hours a day, 7 days per week! You can also complete training in our computer lab 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday - Friday!

After training, your flexible work schedule (12 - 19.5 hours per week) will begin in our office based on your availability. Work a minimum of 3 hours per shift and 3 days per week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.



Great Lakes is an Equal Opportunity employer of veterans and individuals with disabilities. If you are a veteran or military member approaching the transition to the civilian workforce and would like assistance with the employment process at Great Lakes, please contact us at hr@glhec.org. We invite all applicants to complete the Voluntary Affirmative Action questions when submitting application materials. The questions are found at the end of the online application process. To learn more about our commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity, please visit our website.

Sorry, H-1B sponsorship (initiation or transfer) is not provided/available.

Registration Open Until March 15 for Farmshed Growing Collective

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Farmshed Growing Collective started its registration in January and is accepting new applicants until March 15. This is an opportunity for community members to contribute to the spread of local produce and learn to take care of thousands of different plants. The profits will go towards raising awareness and improvement of Farmshed's downtown site.

"The collective started in 2013 and is now over 40 members strong," Farmshed's website states.

The group of Growing Collective members is made up of gardeners with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Community groups such as Central Wisconsin Environmental Station, Giving Gardens, Stevens Point Area Elementary School Gardens and Tomorrow River School District also contribute to the collective.

The gardeners at the collective start growing their plants in the spring. They take care of the plants until the weather gets warmer and then transplant them outside. The collective grows different kinds of vegetables from seed, including heirloom, organic produce and unique breeds of peppers, herbs and tomatoes.

The Growing Collective membership prices range be-

tween \$5 and \$30. The price depends on how many plants members would like to pre-order. The members must also earn a certain amount of volunteer hours.

A Farmshed membership is needed in order to be the member of Growing Collective. Those who wish to volunteer without ordering their own plants can do so without a membership and free of charge. In return, they will have the opportunity to gain gardening experience.

Volunteering at the collective entails planting seeds, transplanting produce, watering the

plants and working closely with leaders who help others learn. Volunteers also help with the planning and organizing of the annual Memorial Day weekend plant sale, which takes place in May.

According to the Farmshed website, the Growing Collective values organic growing methods, collective leadership, sharing of knowledge and diversity among its members.

Jackie Mather, Farmshed volunteer coordinator, talked about the locals who make up the Growing Collective.

"Growing Collective is com-

posed of multi-generational volunteers. The members can also bring their kids along, who can participate and experience the activities," Mather said.

Farmshed will be hosting a new membership social on Tuesday, March 6, from 6 until 8 p.m. The get-together will welcome all new and returning members who want to know more about the upcoming program and meet fellow community members who have a shared passion for local high-quality produce.



Photo by Ross Vetterkind

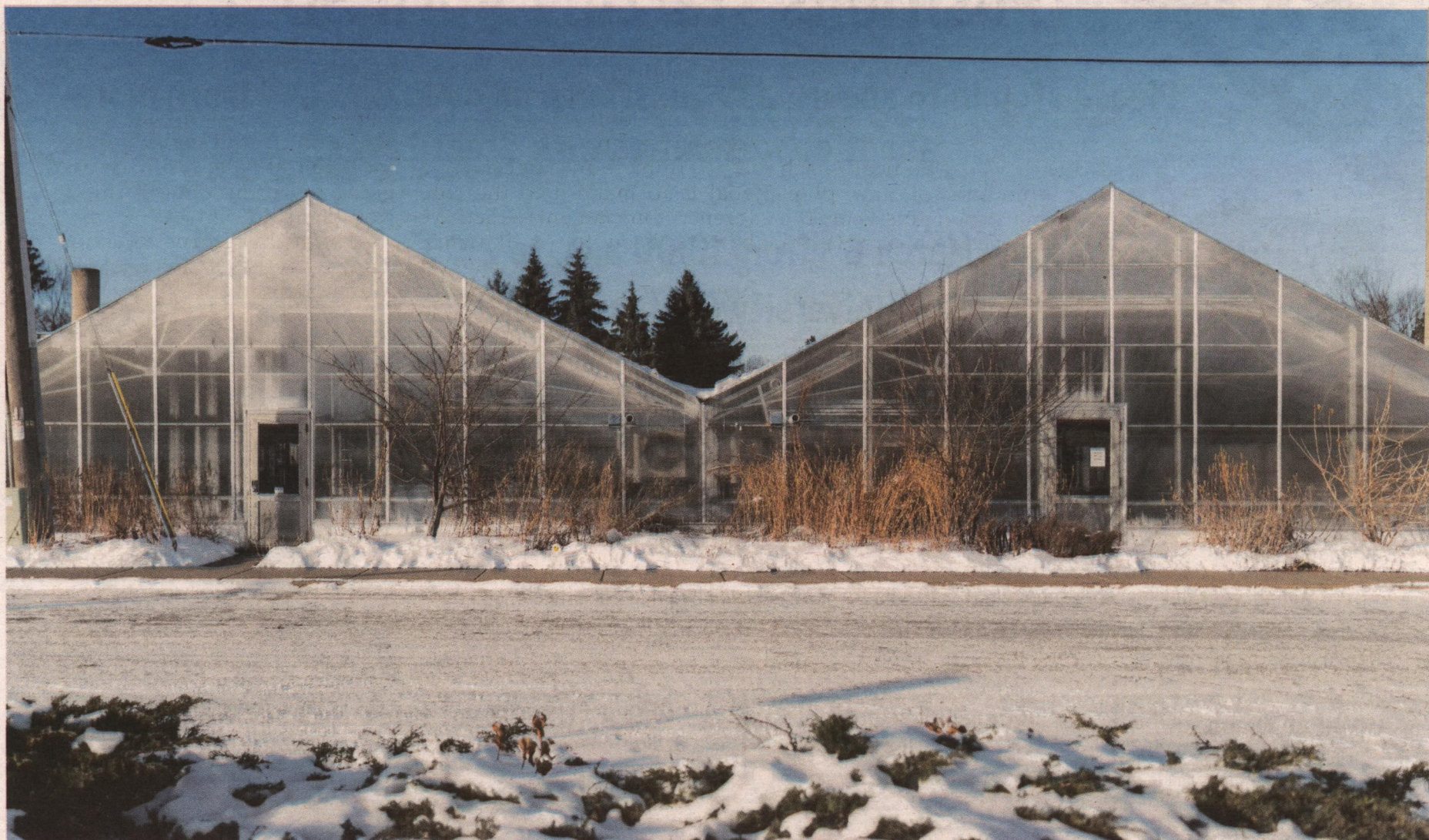


Photo by Ross Vetterkind



UWSP Softball plans on having a successful season. Photo courtesy of Kylie Bridenhagen.

Softball Team Opens Season Under New Leadership

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point softball team opened its season on the road in Marquette, Michigan, with a 3-1 record after playing in a pair of doubleheaders for the annual Finlandia Dome Tournament on Feb. 24 and Feb. 25. UWSP defeated Lakeland University 4-1 in the first game, Marian University 8-1 in the second game and Edgewood College 4-3 in the third game before falling 2-7 to Concordia University in the fourth game.

The new-look Pointers welcomed 10 first-year students to the roster this season as well as first-year head coach Ryan Konitzer, who joined the team

in August 2017. Konitzer, who previously served as head coach for Alverno College in Milwaukee, talked briefly about his transition into coaching for UWSP ahead of the weekend tournament series. "Coming to Point, it's definitely a lot different than where I came from. The talent of the athletes is a lot higher. I've been able to give them a lot more a lot sooner than I've been able to give other teams," Konitzer said. With a first-year head coach and a plethora of new players on the roster this year, the team has been working extra hard to develop team chemistry over the past few weeks, as senior infielder Averi Kanyuh explained. "We've been putting our

time in the gym and really working on defense and offense and then putting time in the weight room as well... trying to build team chemistry and get our plays down as much as we can indoors since we can't be playing outdoors right now with the weather," Kanyuh said. After finishing 12-24 last season, the team enters 2018 with heightened expectations. Senior outfielder Paige Allen outlined the team's goals for this season. "I think our biggest team goal is to make it to the conference tournament which we haven't been to in like nine years... so that's our biggest one... seeing how well we can do in the conference in general, improving our overall record from the last couple years," Al-

len said. Konitzer agreed that improvement on the team's previous records was a point of emphasis this season and expressed confidence in his team's ability to reverse the recent trend of losing seasons. "I think that most people are sick of the losing that's been going around, and I think we're really ready to find more success... I think we're very, very quick and very, very fast. Defensively, we've been pretty sound overall and having a lot better at bats. I think we're going to put up a lot of runs," Konitzer said. The team returns to action against Bethel University on March 6.

Sports Events

Men's Hockey

Mar. 3,
vs. UW-Eau Claire
7 p.m.

Softball

Mar. 6,
at Bethel University
St. Paul, MN
1 p.m.

Track & Field

Mar. 3,
vs. Pointer Final Qualifier
Stevens Point, WI
10:30 a.m.

Men's Basketball

Mar. 2,
vs. North Central College
Collegeville, MN
TBA

Sports Standings

WOMEN'S
HOCKEY
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-River Falls*	5-2-2	19-5-3
UW-Eau Claire	4-3-2	17-6-4
UW-Superior	3-4-2	14-11-2
UW-Stevens Point	2-5-2	13-11-3

*WIAC Champion

MEN'S
HOCKEY
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-Stevens Point *	6-0-2	20-4-3
UW-Eau Claire	5-2-1	16-10-1
UW-Stout	3-4-1	7-16-3
UW-Superior	2-5-1	9-15-3
UW-River Falls	1-6-1	8-17-4

*WIAC Champion

MEN'S
BASKETBALL
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-Platteville	12-2	22-4
UW-Stevens Point	11-3	19-8
UW-Oshkosh	9-5	20-7
UW-River Falls	7-7	18-9
UW-Whitewater	6-8	16-10
UW-La Crosse	5-9	13-13
UW-Eau Claire	4-10	12-13
UW-Stout	2-12	8-17

WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-Whitewater	12-2	24-3
UW-Oshkosh	9-5	21-6
UW-Eau Claire	9-5	18-9
UW-La Crosse	9-5	16-10
UW-Stevens Point	8-6	14-12
UW-River Falls	7-7	16-10
UW-Platteville	2-12	6-19
UW-Stout	0-14	7-18

SOFTBALL
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-Oshkosh	0-0	4-0
UW-Eau Claire	0-0	3-1
UW-Stevens Point	0-0	3-1
UW-Stout	0-0	1-1
UW-Platteville	0-0	0-0
UW-River Falls	0-0	0-0
UW-Whitewater	0-0	0-0
UW-La Crosse	0-0	0-2

WRESTLING
CURRENT
STANDINGS

UW-Whitewater	5-0	10-5
UW-La Crosse	4-1	10-4
UW-Platteville	3-2	4-3
UW-Eau Claire	2-3	11-6
UW-Stevens Point	1-4	6-11
UW-Oshkosh	0-5	4-10

Belegarth Club Unites Students



Photo credit: Phillip Bau

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Have you ever walked outside of Debot and seen a group of people fighting in cool medieval costumes? Well, that would be the Belegarth Club.

Due to the cold weather, they have to relocate temporarily, but as the weather becomes warm again, the field will be filled with students of this club.

The Belegarth Club is one of the most-seen clubs on campus, yet, very few students know about the club. The Belegarth Club's name originated from a national organization that has been around for eighteen years. There are realms, other organizations, all around the country that are connected to this national organization.

The Belegarth Club at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point meet Saturdays at 1 p.m. at Debot Field, or Room 110 of the Health Enhancement Center during the winter.

Campus knows them as the Belegarth Club, but in their creative medieval world, the realm

at UWSP is known as the Sand Plains, named after the geographic features of the area, explained Phillip Bau, a member of the club. Apart from the realm's name, each person who goes to a national venue to fight will receive a specific fighting name.

This club appeals to students who want to get active but aren't interested in sports. There are a range of interests to explore within the club as well. The activity of fighting itself is a full-contact activity. Besides the fighting, students indulge in many creative outlets, such as weapon designing, costume designing and music.

Philip Bau loves the culture, which includes all sorts of people, the unique atmosphere and that everything is organic, or do-it-yourself.

"I've been making my own gear and making my own weapons since I've been apart of Belegarth," Bau said. "I'm a crafty person, but I'd never thought I'd take up sewing, and now I love sewing and putting together garbs."

Everyone is always welcome

to come out and try, but the club recognizes that this activity isn't for everyone.

Their practices run for about three hours, typically start with sparring and can lead to a number of battles, such as team fights, scenario battles, capture the flag and two man region battles.

New members may attend two practices to see if this is something they are interested in. Those who wish to join are subject to pay a yearly \$5 membership fee. This fee covers travel and loaner gear, although members are encouraged to make their own.

The fees cover transportation to battles, recently the club went to a battle in Bloomington, Illinois. There were about 500 fighters crammed into a field house about the size of the UWSP Multi Activity Center. Even with a lack of space, the group still exploded with excitement. Another battle in which the club participates is "October Fest" where people from all over the world travel to participate.

When asked what this club can provide for non members,

Bau said, "It's a great way to make friends. It definitely helped me to adjust to life at college as a freshman. People are always willing to help. We look out for each other. This is a great social group. Lastly, the battles help build confidence and self-esteem."

In order to build a family environment, the group hosts a Thanksgiving potluck every year.

Quade Varga, another member of the club, said, "It's the perfect blend of fantasy and community that I've been searching for my whole life. The trading culture fascinates me the most. People are so skillful, and the culture is very organic, not handmade."

Varga also wanted to reiterate that Belegarth Club is more than fighting.

"Once you look past the fighting, you'll see story tellers, craftsmen, musicians and performers," Varga said. "I think it's a spectacular taste of a different reality, we kind of create our universe."

continued from page 1



Photo by Samj Brown

sity of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. I was hoping he didn't remember that.

We talked for a bit on Tinder but later exchanged our numbers and set up a date for the next week.

Let me set up the night for you. I offered to pick this man up because it was his birthday.

When I went to pick him up, he walked out talking on his phone. I instantly regretted having this date. What man walks out of his house on the phone when the woman decides to drive? I then found out it was his mother calling to wish him a happy birthday, and I felt awful.

We then proceeded to the restaurant and talked about his parents and how strict they were on drinking, and I discovered we have a very similar fam-

ily dynamic because it was close to how my family felt about the situation.

Once we got to the restaurant, we ordered our drinks and just got to chatting. The conversation went from talking about school, to our pets, family members and even a bit about our friends and roommates.

I will be completely honest, when I saw him walk out on his phone, I was picturing the worst date imaginable. I was prepared for awkward silences, moments where we disagreed on things, even me having to text my friends to come get me.

I was so nervous this guy was going to talk my ear off, not let me say a word and it was all going to be about him.

It was the complete opposite. He would acknowledge what I

said, had a significant amount to add to the topic, finish what he was saying and then allow me to talk about my similar experiences.

It was bizarre how much we had in common. It felt as if he had searched my family on Facebook, found similarities and only talked about those certain subjects. The whole situation was rather unusual.

I tried paying for the bill because it was his birthday, but he would not allow that to happen. We sat in the restaurant until 15 minutes to close and we still had more to talk about. We talked the whole car ride home and he even invited me in.

I was a bit hesitant at first, but I thought, "Hey, this date isn't too bad, and he seems like a nice guy. Let's give it a shot."

His roommates were extremely chill about the whole thing, which made me wonder how many girls this guy has brought home.

I don't think that was the case because he later asked me on another date, so I guessed that things were going smoothly.

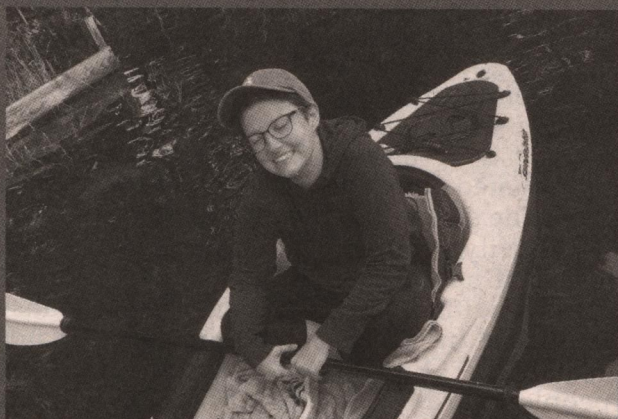
I will be honest with you, I thought this was going to be the worst experience of my life, but I honestly had a great time. I am still a bit skeptical of how this will turn out in the future, but Tinder dates, or any other dating app, may not be that bad.

If you can look past the cheesy pick up lines and are very open with what you are looking for on Tinder, I'm sure there is a match for everyone.

Humans of Point

MORGAN JEIDY

is a sophomore double majoring in urban forestry and political science.



What's your favorite movie?

My favorite movie, I would have to say, is "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." While I have a hard time choosing a favorite from the entire series, I have the deepest connection with Episode 7.

If you could meet any actor/actress, alive or dead, who would it be and why?

If I could meet any actor or actress, I would without a doubt meet Carrie Fisher. She will always be one of my all time favorite humans. There were no words that ever came out of her mouth that didn't make me think.

Are there any movies coming out soon that you're excited about?

One movie I am excited for that is coming out this year is the new Han Solo movie ("Solo: A Star Wars Story"). This was probably the most predictable answer I could have given.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble Celebrates 50th Anniversary

CALVIN LEMIEUX
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Symphonic Wind Ensemble gathered in Michelsen Hall last Thursday, Feb. 22, to play a concert to honor their 50th year and the passionate, dedicated directors graced the music program since its foundation.

The ensemble took to the stage at 7:30 p.m. to play for the packed-in audience. They played music composed by Aaron Copland, Richard Wagner, Gustav Holst, John Newton and John Philip Sousa. The pieces were composed between 1835 and 1942.

The guest of honor was Donald Greene, who organized the Symphonic Wind Ensemble in the spring of 1968. The first of its

kind in Wisconsin, the ensemble traveled all over the state to give performances for school assemblies and the public.

The other directors honored were Donald Schleicher, Dennis Glocke, James Arrowood, Scott Teeple and Brendan Caldwell. All past directors were present except Glocke, who could not attend, and Arrowood, who passed away in 2008 after a battle with chronic respiratory dis-

ease.

Through the event, faculty of the music program took the stage between performances to pay tribute to Greene and other directors.

Caldwell gave a touching and impassioned reflection on his friendship with the late Arrowood, bringing the audience to laughter as well as solemnity.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS					
Wednesday February 28		Thursday March 1		Friday March 2	
Coffee and Culture DUC Laird Room 6- 7:30 p.m.	Orchestra Concert Michelsen Hall, NFAC 7:30- 9:30 p.m.	Mat LaVore (Astonishment Artist) DUC Encore 8- 9:30 p.m.		Basement Brewhaus: Taste of Wisconsin DUC Laird Room 7- 10 p.m.	Metamorphoses Jenkins Theater, NFAC 7:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m.
Friday March 2 (continued)		Saturday March 3		Sunday March 4	
Wind Ensemble Concert Michelsen Hall, NFAC 7:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m.	Hungry Mouse concert with guest LUXI DUC Encore 8. -10:30 p.m.	Metamorphoses Jenkins Theater, NFAC 7:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m.	Sammy Obeid with Sean McCarthy (Comedy) DUC Encore 8-10 p.m.	Metamorphoses Jenkins Theater, NFAC 2-4 p.m.	



Dancing for a Good Cause

Photos provided by Katy Radiske

ELIZABETH OLSON
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
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Anyone passing by the Laird Room in the Dreyfus University Center on the evening of Saturday, Feb. 24 found themselves transported back in time as the music stylings of Frank Sinatra and Benny Goodman filled the air.

These throwback tunes were courtesy of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Jazz Ensemble, who performed live at the annual Swing Fling.

Event goers battled through snow and ice to attend Swing Fling this year, but the energy on the dance floor proved that it was worth it. The pulse from the drums and the rumble of the brassy instruments made it impossible not to want to get up and dance.

All levels of dancing skills were made to feel welcome on the dance floor. Some attendees were familiar with and skilled in the various styles of dances, such as the Foxtrot, Cha-cha or West Coast Swing. Other attendees were more comfortable swaying on the sidelines or socializing by the snack table, but that wasn't an issue. The atmosphere and energy made it a fun night for everyone.

The most entertaining part of the evening were the few times a dance circle formed and dancers really got to showcase their skills. Whenever the circle was empty, the pressure was palpable as everyone waited to see who would run in next.

The event was only five dollars for UWSP students or eight dollars for community members, but all the proceeds went towards a scholarship for a UWSP Jazz musician.

The event was organized and hosted by Delta Omicron, UWSP's chapter of a national co-ed music fraternity. Andi Franklin, senior choral and gen-



eral music education major as well as the organization's president, said they started planning for Swing Fling in October.

Aside from hosting this event, Delta Omicron members also usher events and host receptions for the music department.

"We function more as a professional fraternity than a social fraternity. Our main goal is service to the music department. That's really what we're there for, and also just to inspire professionalism in musicians and just to connect people," Franklin said.

Franklin explained that Delta Omicron is an opportunity for people to come together due to the range of people from so many areas in the music department.

This is the third year Franklin has helped with the Swing Fling event, but this year felt different from others.

"We're really excited just by the energy this year. Last year we had a lot of people, but it was a little more low key," said Franklin.

A contributing factor to this energy could have been the attendance of members from Any Swing Goes. This UWSP club hosts various events to teach others how to swing dance.

Erin Foth, junior political science major, was one of the members to attend the event. Her floor length black and red dress looked like something straight out of the 1920s, which added a flapper-vibe to the dance floor.

"My favorite thing is the live music. I am one of the prior presidents from the Any Swing Goes club, so watching people dance to it and listening to it is my favorite," Foth said.

Swing Fling provided a care-free night of good music, good food and good dancing, all for a good cause.

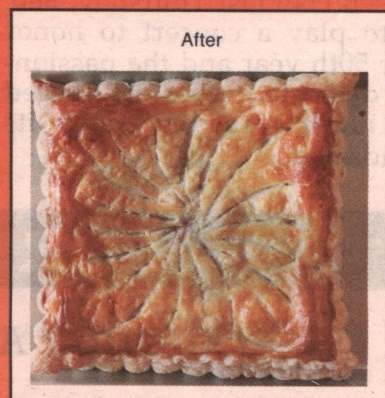


CREATIVE CREATIONS

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Before



After

Photo by Nomin Erdenebileg

Sunday fun day, anyone?

While waking up at 10 a.m. is already quite the treat, here's another thing that's pretty sweet; a Nutella and fresh strawberry puff pastry!

This is a flaky and decadent morning goody that pairs amazingly with a cup of coffee.

With the sun bright and the sky blue, I knew Frank Sinatra's voice would add an even more heavenly tone to this Sunday morning. And did he. There's something so romantic about his voice and being in the kitchen. Maybe it's the bold and brassy elements, maybe it's his moving lyrics, either way we knew he was the right way to start our day.

Now in the kitchen, each jazzy and bluesy tune seems to carry Nomin and I across the floor. As we gathered the few ingredients for this creation, puff pastry magic was ensue.

We started with laying down the chilled puff pastry on a prepared baking sheet.

As Nomin sliced up our bright red strawberries, I helped eat a few. You have to test the product, right? Meanwhile, I whisked up an egg and brushed it about an inch from the edge of the puff pastry. This was going to be the glue for the top pastry.

But before we could get to that, it was Nutella time. In my opinion, this hazelnut chocolate dream is perfect for all occasions. I've known of its powerful pairing with fresh strawberries, but now the coupling of the two with a flaky pastry, mm! This sounds like something we could only find at a French bakery. And so on this sunny day, Nomin and I were about to jump continents for a rich and riveting morning.

Using a spoon, I spread the magic from the center, out to the egg wash line. I used a "healthy" amount, because who doesn't love Nutella? Next, my graphic design creative friend took the strawberry mosaic by storm. Finding the right sized strawberries and precise angles to place them, our masterpiece was almost complete.

We followed with covering our work with the other puff pastry, while making sure to seal it well around the edges and get all the air bubbles out.

One last necessary touch was Nomin's knife artwork. She cut lines into the pastry from the center and fanned outwards. This was going to be crucial for both the baking process and the beauty of this Sunday treat.

Lastly, I brushed the egg wash atop the entire pastry, while making sure to not let it drip over the edges.

We refrigerated it for 10 minutes to set, and then popped it in the oven.

It was an agonizing 25 minutes, especially when our house started to take on the smell of that French bakery I was telling you about earlier. But alas, the timer went off and Frank Sinatra continued to serenade us as we filled our coffee mugs. We cut ourselves a slice, sat down, and continued to embrace our Sunday with ease.

There's so much to be grateful for, and a morning like this is surely one of them.