Price Hike in Flu Shots Effects Students Willingness To Get Vaccinated

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Effective this summer, flu vaccinations will no longer be free from student health services in Delzell Hall, students will have to pay $20 to get them.

Dr. Bonnie Samuelson, a physician at Delzell said the reason for the increase in price was changed in order to save staff members.

"It came down to having free vaccinations or cutting a fellow staff member and we felt that cutting more staff would effect the care we are able to give to the students," said Samuelson. "We pay roughly $20,000 for those vaccinations." Samuelson also said that Health Services met with Student continued on page 8

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Greg Diekroeger, Assistant Director of CASE, removed the Laird Room’s displays for LGBTQ+ History Month. This removal lasted three days.

On Monday of Oct. 22, members of the Gender-Sexuality Alliance arranged to put up a display by the Laird Room to celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month. The display consisted of LGBTQ+ flags and artwork, and had not yet been finished.

By Tuesday morning Diekroeger had removed the displays, with the help of Samantha Barnum, Activities Coordinator. He explained his decision on a basis of policy: The Laird Room displays were meant only for student art and promotions for Entertainment, and these displays had done neither.

In actuality, there was no University Centers policy that mandated this decision. However, a plaque near the displays refers explicitly to student artwork.

Syl Bustamante, Coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Resources, told Diekroeger that his actions would not be received well considering both the month and recent political events — referring to possible news of the White House’s intention to define gender strictly through reproductive anatomy.

"Several groups were very upset about it . . . and the unintended messaging they could incur, with the national political scene," said Al Thompson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

By Tuesday afternoon, faculty members had shared the administrative conflict among themselves and students.

Thompson called for a meeting with Bustamante, Johanning, Diekroeger and Barnum on Wednesday morning. "I jumped in immediately to correct it. I didn’t want anybody to feel like we didn’t care," said Thompson.

Diekroeger claimed that he thought the Monday display was all that GSA would be presenting. The displays went back up by the following Friday.

"It was resolved pretty quickly" said Thompson.

On Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 4 p.m., in front of the Laird Room displays, Bustamante gave a speech reaffirming UWSP’s commitment to the success of our LGBTQ+ students continued on page 3
Cornerstone Press Will Release Little Cornerstone Series in Summer 2019

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Cornerstone Press is partnering with UW-Extension Lakes to create a new book series called Little Cornerstone which will consist of books for children on Wisconsin aquatic life such as sunfish, perch, and rainbow trout.

Dr. Ross Tangedal, Cornerstone’s Publisher-in-Chief, and Eric Olson, Director and Lake Specialist of UW-Extension Lakes, plan on constructing 16-18 page books in Wisconsin.

“Olson said he wants kids to be able to explore the species that are practically right in their backyard.

“Students don’t have to necessarily go online. If they’re in the library, usually they’ll find a lot of books on other organisms like whales and octopus, but why not have information on things that are more local?” said Olson.

The books will be pocket-book size, durable, and saddle stitch bound. The information for the books will be coming from UW-Extension Lake archived Newsletters and research done by Extension Lake members or possibly students. Images for the book could either come from Justin Siporski, Associate Professor of Biology and biological illustrator, or other Extension staff who photograph underwater life.

“The dream team to work on this would be students that actually cut across disciplines,” said Olson. “Students who work on publishing or English would be one realm, but then you’d also want... students in the College of Natural resources or the Biology program for subject matter experts.” Olson also said Education students would be helpful since they can make sure the books meet current curricular standards.

Dr. Tangedal is also excited about the interdisciplinary work to come.

“It’s humanities, UW-Extension Lakes, and wildlife,” said Tangedal. “This is a fun way to put it all together.”

Cornerstone Press offers a credit-based internship in the summer and this year students will be working on Little Cornerstone.

Madeline Swanger, former summer intern and now Director of Operations for the press, said the internship is very informative and taught her more than any class has this far.

“The publishing industry is hard to get into especially for students from a rural comprehensive university, and I believe this internship has prepared me for the competitive world of publishing,” said Swanger. “The world of publishing requires so much more than just passion or heart. You need to possess the ability to determine what will sell and whether or not you are about to make someone’s dream come true.”

The Little Cornerstone Series will be coming out Summer 2019. Students who are interested in becoming interns for the Cornerstone should contact Dr. Tangedal ross.tangedal@uwsp.edu. More details about the series and release date are yet to be determined.

This Week in SGA...

Brittany Barsi, Student Government Association Communications and PR Director

This week, SGA is highlighting Legislative Affairs Director Nick Kositzke. Our Legislative Affairs Director primarily focuses on the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) campaign, lobbying, legislative visits to campus, and civic engagement. This year, Director Kositzke’s two main focuses are on the Get Out The Vote campaign and preparing to lobby the State and Federal Government on issues important to the student body, such as funding for universities and student loan refinancing. This week’s election kept Director Kositzke busy during these past few months. In preparation for the election, he had two main goals in mind: register students to vote and make sure students know who the candidates are and what they stand for. During the first few weeks of October, Director Kositzke, SGA representatives, and community volunteers labored in the Dreyfus University Center to get students registered to vote. The final day of tabling was made into a big event on the Sundial. With the help of the Noel Family Foundation and community volunteers, SGA was able to help students register to vote out of a party bus. During the month of October, SGA helped over 150 students register to vote. In addition to tabling, Director Kositzke prepared a candidate guide for students and set up a shuttle service to bring students to their polling place on Election Day.

An update on Point Forward:

In response to the Point Forward document released earlier this year, a committee called the Academic and Budget Advisory Work Group (ABAWG) was created to examine the document and determine how to budget for the future. Two student representatives sit on ABAWG: Bradley Kerber and Jordan Farrell. Their role is to ensure student voices are being heard. They encourage students to reach out if they have any questions or concerns about Point Forward or ABAWG. Their emails are bkerber@uwsp.edu and jordan.farrell2@uwsp.edu. Each week, SGA posts an update on its Facebook page, which allows students and community members to see what ABAWG has been discussing and working on.

THE POINTER

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Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes property of The Pointer.
Tony Evers Speaks on UWSP Budget Crisis as Election Approaches

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On Friday Nov. 2, Tony Evers, Candidate for Governor, stopped at UW-Stevens Point to show their support for the university, and its students.

There was frequent cheering as Shankland spoke to the crowd about “taking Wisconsin back,” before she welcomed Godlewski to the stage.

Signs reading “Students for Tony” and “Tony & Mandela for Wisconsin” were numerous and held high in the gentle afternoon air. There were also a handful of signs for Scott Walker on display, showing support for the incumbent governor as he seeks his third term in office.

Taking the stage, Godlewski spoke on how she’s honored to share a ticket with Evers, Mandela and Shankland, stating, “This is what democracy looks like in Wisconsin.”

As Treasurer Godlewski intends to allow students to refinance their student loan debt, saying:

“We’re actually coming to the table with real ideas about how we can help hard working Wisconsinites get ahead, because that’s what’s it about. Whether it’s healthcare or roads or transportation, I mean these are all things that we care about.”

Evers then took the stage and chose the budgetary crisis as UW-Stevens Point as his first issue. Evers attributed the budget issues at UW-Stevens Point to Scott Walker’s defunding of the University of Wisconsin system.

“There is a reason why there is consideration here to do away with the humanities and the majors that work around that,” said Evers, continuing, “I’m a science major, but I believe that the humanities, especially the English language arts and political sciences, and all, and all the things that make up the humanities makes us all better people, makes us better critical thinkers, makes us better citizens.”

Evers then went on to explain why he intends to fund the University of Wisconsin system if he is elected Governor.

“If you have less money, you have fewer professors. You have fewer professors, you have fewer courses, and you have to take more than four years to get done,” said Evers, “We spend more putting people in prison in the state of Wisconsin than educating our young people. We can change that, different priorities, simple as that.”

The assembly was peaceful, though one student holding a Scott Walker sign called out for an officer’s help during Evers’ speech as a man got in his face about the Scott Walker sign. The man walked away and the officers present were not forced to intervene.

Evers spoke on many issues in his 10 minute speech, touching on healthcare, K-12 education funding, climate change and the state of Wisconsin roads, joking that on his campaign he had “hit every Scott-hole in the state.”

The speech ended with a request that everybody vote, and a statement of his support for UW-Stevens Point.

“This is a great University. We cannot let it go downhill,” said Evers.

The midterm elections were Nov. 6.
Trump Comes To Mosinee

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Mosinee – The 45th President of the United States made his way to Central Wisconsin on Wednesday Oct. 24 to rally voters to the polls.

President Donald J. Trump had plenty to discuss with his crowd in Mosinee, Wisconsin.

The event was held at Central Wisconsin Airport in the En-deavor Air Hangar at 6:30pm.

Trump supporters came out in droves. The line to enter the hangar was close to two miles long, filled with proud Wisconsinites ready to see their President.

The hangar filled fast. At 3:30pm, the doors opened. By 4:00pm, the hangar was at capacity. The rest of the audience watched from a projector outside.

Fans were excited to see the President. Sheila Pelzek, who voted for Trump in 2016, said, “It’s awesome that he’s here in our small town. It shows that he cares about us.”

The rally was held mainly to support Governor Scott Walker’s reelection efforts against Democratic candidate Tony Evers, and the GOP’s Leah Vukmir’s race against Democratic U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin.

Inside, “Make America Great Again!” hats lined the hangar. Supporters of the President were issued signs that read, “Vote Vote Vote!”, “Drain the Swamp!” and “Jobs Not Mobs!”.

When the rally began, Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, welcomed Governor Scott Walker to the stage, where he discussed his platform and pieced apart his opposition.

Governor Walker spoke on bringing jobs back to Wisconsin via Foxconn, and how in the past eight years, Wisconsin has seen substantial economic growth because of his policies.

Walker also spoke about his relationship with Trump, and emphasized how much the President cares about Wisconsin; specifically the underrepresented areas such as Mosinee.

Walker spoke on his plan to keep taxes low; something he believes his opposition will not do. Walker also stressed his belief in health care should be affordable for those with pre-existing conditions, and how health insurance will crumble under Democrats like Tammy Baldwin.

After much anticipation, Air Force One flew into Central Wisconsin Airport. The crowd gathered to their feet and awaited President Trump’s arrival.

“My Way!” by Frank Sinatra blared over the loud speakers, and finally, Trump took the stage.

The President’s first order of business was addressing the “suspicious packages” that former President’s Obama and Clinton received Wednesday morning. Trump assured the crowd safety, and that the sanctity of America would always come first.

Trump came to Mosinee expressing his changed perspective on life. Moving forward, he aims to be more peaceful. To Trump, peace is what holds America together. United we stand, divided we fall.

With peace in mind, Trump would venture on to voicing his support of both Walker and Vukmir. In order to keep America flourishing, Trump encouraged supporters to continue voting Republican.

Trump said, “We must accept the verdicts of our elections.”

Trump also reiterated the idea of lower taxes; something Governor Walker is a strong proponent for.

“Lower taxes, less regulation, more freedom.” President Trump said.

Trump would go on to explain how sanctuary cities are ruin­ning our country. As part of his plan to keep illegal immigrants out of America, Trump reinforced his idea to build a border wall, in turn saving jobs for legal citizens and keeping Americans safe.

Trump’s wall has received funding, according to Trump, and Americans will see progress on it in the coming weeks.

“I said I could do it; I just didn’t know how quickly.” Trump said.

Trump would finish his rally addressing Walker and Vukmir one last time. He reminded those in attendance to vote, and to keep the constitution in mind during the election.

The election takes place on Tuesday, November 6th. Whether you are a Democrat or Republican, it is important to get out and vote!

Local English Teachers Speak with English Education Majors at Panel

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Last week, English education majors hosted an English Teachers Panel to speak with local teachers about various topics concerning their experiences as career-educators.

Students hosted the event on Thursday, Nov. 1, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., in CCC 224. Secondary-education teachers from local schools and nearby counties attended the event. Hosting students also offered free food, free coffee, and name tags.

The method behind the panel was unique. Teachers sat at tables dispersed about the room, in pairs of two or three per table. Students would then rotate, counter-clockwise, between tables every few minutes as new discussion-topics were announced.

The hour-and-a-half discussion consisted of topics ranging from standardized testing to parent relationships.

“The ACT, the majority of it is English,” said Mandy Wright, teacher from Wausau East and previous Wisconsin State Assembly member. “It’s really a big deal, no doubt about it.”

Matthew Cepress, teacher from Weston, had said, “It’s like living in a dorm – I can tell you what it’s like but, until you are living it, you won’t really know what it’s like.”

The hosting English education students are all partaking in the same block of teaching courses this semester, in what this university refers to as the English Education Methods Block.

Methods students spend much of their semester creating a Course Unit Lesson Planning Assessment - an in-depth curriculum-plan for a hypothetical semester as English educators.

“Even though its very challenging for me . . . I love it,” said Jesse VanDehy, student currently in the English Education Methods Block. “I feel supported, every step of the way.”

In recent years, Wisconsin’s public education system has suffered from monetary difficulties.

The 2011 Act 10 legislation crippled the collective bargaining power of teachers; school districts’ funding, via federal, state, and local aid, has dropped by over $1 billion; the national wage-gap between teachers and other professionals, with a similar level of education, stretches over 18% today.

Because of these issues, public education has become a political concern on the state and national level. Pre-election advertisements, for either partisan candidate, frequently centralize on public education.

The future prosperity of schools and teachers is uncertain. Yet, students continue to pursue these careers in public education, undaunted.
POSITIONS OPENING NEXT SEMESTER

SPORTS REPORTER
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PLEASE SEND WRITING SAMPLES AND A RESUME IF INTERESTED
The UW-Stevens Point women’s soccer team faced off against UW-Eau Claire on November 1st but was upended in the semifinal round of the WIAC Championship game. After ending the game in a 0-0 tie both teams took to overtime but remained in the tie and ended the match in a penalty shootout. The Blugolds got to advance on a score of 5-4 in the shootout.

UWSP’s goalkeeper Lexi Pawlowski’s skills were put to the test during the game with UWEC attempting a goal in the first ten minutes. Pawlowski did not disappoint UWSP though and stopped the attempt. Olivia Bohmert and Maddy Hardymen both took shots on goal but were blocked and UWEC brought the ball back down the field for another try at a goal but Pawlowski made sure that UWEC didn’t get the first goal of the game.

Jacqueline Aleman took three attempts at shooting a goal in a 10-minute span but to no avail, UWEC’s goalkeeper Samantha Lefaive blocked all three. Near the ending of the first half, the Pointers blocked a second pair of shots and ended the half in a tie at 0.

Aleman and Hardymen began the second half with lots of energy taking shots at Eau Claire’s net but both shots fell short and the Pointers weren’t able to take the lead on a still scoreless game.

UWEC brought the ball up to the goal line and almost had the first point of the game but the ball flew too far to the side, hit the post and stayed out of the net.

Halfway through the second half Lefaive had to save a shot from UWEC’s for the Pointers. Both teams each recorded a second goal. The third period remained scoreless for both teams, but both teams were able to get a point during the time frames of shots each shot falling short and the Pointers were unable to get a goal of their own and the match ended with a 5-4 win by UWEC.

The Pointers finished their season at 12-2-4.

The first shot was taken by UWEC and was no good as the ball hit the post. Hardymen and Lexi Ahrens both made their attempts with a UWEC goal in between making it 2-1. The Pointers had back to back misses but Kaitlyn Hess added another point to UWSP’s score. Both teams were able to get a point during the seventh round of the shootout. The eight round began with the Blugolds scoring a goal but the Pointers were unable to get a goal of their own and the match ended with a 5-4 win by UWEC.

The UW-Stevens Point women’s soccer team fell in a 2-1 loss in a Friday night match up with the University of St. Thomas in the first round of the WIAC Championship game. After ending the game in a scoreless tie and ending the match in a penalty shootout. The Blugolds got to advance on a score of 5-4 in the shootout.

UWSP’s head coach Ann Falkowski commented on the game, "It was kind of one of those games when you couldn’t get a flow going, bust legs and a little bit of everything, but both teams played hard and sometimes on the road a 2-1 ugly win, we will take it," said Falkowski.

The Pointers each took a series of shots but each shot fell short of the net.

Emma Berthiaume brought the Pointers even with St. Thomas as she scored at the 12:19 mark of the second period. She recorded her first goal of the season. Cara Lemirande recorded the assist.

That was shocking I was hoping to get it on net for a rebound and all the sudden it went in, I was literally in shock," said Berthiaume. "Good things happen when you shoot the puck I think we need to do it more, and that’s a clear reason right there," said Pointers head coach Ann Ninnemann.

Conley turned away 28 shots from St. Thomas’s for the Pointers. On the other end of the ice, Mackenzie Torpy turned away 9 of the shots for St. Thomas.

"I thought it was good, definitely could be better, I just need to be aware of everyone, and keep doing the same thing, just make sure I know everyone is on the ice and help my team out as much as possible, putting pucks up so we can win tomorrow" said Conley on her goaltending.

At the 19:18 mark of the second period, Maddy Fiedler of St. Thomas brought the Tommies to 2-1 as she put the puck past Conley. She received the puck from Alyssa Wallace.

The third period remained scoreless for both teams, but both teams each recorded a series of shots on goal saved by both goal tenders.

The Pointers finished their season at 12-2-4.
Splashing Into a New Season

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As a new season begins to unfold the men's and women's swimming and diving teams are working hard inside and outside of the pool. Head coach Al Boelk said that at the beginning of the season they have a lot of workouts and trainings for the whole team to work on.

"Early in the season like this, we are trying to lay down a strength base, we are going to the weight room four times a week in between our strength training and our explosive power dry land training we are trying to get stronger and more explosively powerful than we've ever been. They are stretching a lot so we are trying to be more flexible than we have ever been. In the pool in the early part of the year we are laying down an aerobic based foundation and just now we are in the training phase of trying to do lactate tolerance work so we are starting to do some really fast-paced explosive swims. The whole last month was boring. I mean sitting and watching them swim aerobic sets was like watching paint dry. Now we are actually gonna be doing race quality stuff."

Coach Boelk says that all of this training isn't working towards winning conferences specifically but rather to better the swimmers individually. "A long time ago I learned to stop having expectations and hopes as to if we are gonna win a championship or not, or how many people are gonna go to NCAA's or not, the way I figure if the hope that everyone swims faster than they ever have, if they all can put up their best times and every day of the season we've trained correctly, we've done the right things, they're eating and sleeping right, staying hydrated, doing well in school and everyday train correctly then everyone is gonna do their best times and if everyone does their best times then all the super cool stuff like winning will just happen so it takes a lot of pressure off when you think of that way. Hopes for the year superficially is that I hope every kid swims their best time, cause if we do that all the other stuff is gonna go pretty darn good. So if we just train these kids good, keep them healthy and go for best times the winning and stuff is just gonna kinda happen."

The team is also working on coming together and working as a team according to Boelk. "I hope that we can have a very cohesive team. We are a very young team like on our women's side we have more freshman on the roster than all of the upper classes combined so we have a lot that we are still trying to figure out as far as who we are as a team, so that's kinda the big thing right now, just kinda creating a culture creating a chemistry and that doesn't happen overnight relationships take a while to form, it's not like we just throw everyone in the pool and after one week everyone is holding hands it's quite a process. So a hope is that we can really start to come together as a team."

With a team as big and as young as the swimming and diving team Boelk is looking for swimmers that are not only good in the pool but are also good out of the pool, showing signs of leadership among the team. "I watch for leadership to emerge and I watch for caring and compassion amongst teammates to emerge. Everybody has a different level of talent and I hope that by the time every kid of finishes their career we've tapped out their talent that they can leave here saying: 'I went as fast as I had the God-given potential to be' not everybody has the potential to become an Olympian or an All-American at NCAA's. So what I'm watching for is leadership to emerge and for kids who are really caring and compassionate to emerge, often times the leaders are the kids who really care about the other kids. In a season this long and in a sport this intense we get caught up thinking about the superficial stuff like 'oh watch this guy he's gonna be the best, oh watch this woman she could very well break a conference record.' It takes the focus away from what's really important. These kids hang out together for many hours inside and outside the pool all year long so the team chemistry and the team culture is way more important than Pilecky won the distance event this weekend, well that's cool but what I'm watching for is more of the bigger picture chemistry stuff."

The women's swimming and diving team were overtaken by freshmen this year with 18 new freshmen. "We lost so many women that I'm like, we gotta rebuild, we are a totally different team than we were last year. But it's fun it's a process of watching people get to know each other watching relationships form, watching a group of people gradually form into a team. Like everything in life it's a process."

A few of the freshmen are proving to have some real potential. "Anna Pilecky is a [heck] of a distance swimmer, it's been fun watching her train, I have no idea how fast this girl is gonna get because she works really hard. She has a great feel for the water. Last weekend she just crushed everyone in the distance events, so that was fun. Maggie Liska is a sprinter and she has a ton of potential and is right now already swimming well. She has never lifted weights before which is crazy that she can get the time she does and she is only gonna be getting faster."

The team also has some experience returning this year with Reilly Donnellan, Jacob Aegeter, and Grant Moser. All three men went to NCAA last year and are on their way back to the NCAA this year. Reilly Donnellan "the way he is training he could very well become the second man in conference history to break 20 seconds in the 50. He went 20.2 last year and it's sort of a big thing in swimming if you can go 19 in the 50 you are among a very very very small group of people in the United States and in the history for that matter. And I think as a senior he has a legitimate chance of doing that."

The swimming and diving team will be at Gustavus Adolphus Tri-Dual on Saturday, November 3.
A Tale of Two Campuses

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I thought this past homecoming weekend would be somewhat uneventful. Without any major plans, I spent some time with my friends until the late hours of the night. We got hungry into the night and decided to walk downtown to grab a bite to eat.

With it being homecoming weekend, drunk college students congregated to their late-night mecca: Polito’s. The place was packed to the brim with college students who had the same idea as us; a greasy slice of Polito’s sounds good at 2 in the morning. My friends with me were all Black.

Navigating a town where you are the stark minority is challenging, but something that I was semi-used to. I grew up in an affluent city 40 minutes from Milwaukee and about an hour from Madison; the town was considerably White. It was always a struggle to find community between people of color growing up and I was happy I had found a sense of community here, even if that population is still vastly underrepresented.

After a painfully long line, we got our food and started to leave. As we were starting for the exit, my friend overhears a girl: “Well we’re all trying to leave but I guess these niggas think they can just shove their way through.” A boy next to her commented: “I don’t think you’re allowed to say that.” Her response was: “I can say whatever I want to.” The girl who said this was White. We were not showing our way through anyone. We were not being rude. And even if this did occur, it didn’t give this girl the right to use the N-word. This incident is one of the countless antagonistic incidents I have experienced living in this city.

Growing up in my hometown I definitely experienced racism, but it was subtle. I can remember a few accounts of overt racism that I have heard. But going to UW-Stevens Point opened my eyes to a blatant and occasionally terrifying racism that I’ve never experienced before.

Especially during the 2016 election, I remember Division Street being ground zero for harassment. Trucks with Confederate flags would roar past me, calling my other Black friend and I the N-word. This friend even experienced getting followed by a truck once on his way back to his apartment downtown. The experience obviously shook him up so much that he started asking people for rides home after class or late rehearsals, so he wouldn’t have to fear that his life could possibly be endangered.

But these aren’t the only experiences Black people have had in this city. Another close Black friend of mine had the N-word plastered across his dorm door. Another had been screamed at as she was walking outside the dorms by a student out his window. Division Street is still scary today. I am still taunted and jeered at almost every time I walk down that street. My lighter complexion gives me some privileges in terms of the level of harassment I receive, but people I know who are darker than me have experienced far worse.

I am sick of this. I am sick of feeling scared that myself or my friends could possibly be attacked every time we walk off campus. I’m reaching my threshold of exhaustion that I must deal with when we’re having these conversations surrounding race.

When Black people try to let you know of something that is possibly offensive or racist: listen. Making a mistake and learning from that is one thing, but when these incidents are repeated they contribute to the overall environment. Ignorance or failure to educate themselves on these topics creates a society that allows people to comfortably scream the N-word out of their windows at passing Black students. Racism shouldn’t be tolerated. Refusal to grow and change cannot be tolerated.

I am not “pulling the race card” – I am simply trying to exist. I only want to graduate with my degree like any other student here. It’s alarming that I can only feel somewhat safe on my school campus and as soon as I walk a street over, my anxieties on whether I’ll be subject to a hate crime rattle me to my core.

But I won’t allow this to overcome me. I can’t afford to let these people hold some palpable power over me. I won’t shrug off the severity of these overwhelming feelings but I refuse to let this to drown me.

It feels to me we have a story of two very different campuses. One where many White students can feel safe, emboldened to learn, and find a home for themselves. The other campus being the one where the minute Black students leave the premises, targeted harassment is simply expected.
School Spirit on Display at Fall Fashion Show

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There are few, if any, residents of Stevens Point who would name the city to be the fashion capital of the world. In fact, often our long Wisconsin winters prompt some interesting fashion choices that leave such things like color coordination and aesthetic pleasure as afterthoughts.

But for those on campus who feel like they need a little "material culture" in their lives, they should look no further than the University Book Store. Their specialized fashion show on Wednesday evening added fun and flare to the typical university clothing staples.

The University Book Store routinely teams up with Campus Activities and Student Engagement to bring their new fall clothing items to students in an engaging and inventive way. The Encore was transformed to feature a runway reminiscent of a Paris fashion week, and the show featured a diverse range of models to represent our vibrant campus community.

The crowd was small but boisterous, and afterwards all were encouraged to stay and enter their names for a chance to win the clothing worn by the models. In keeping with the mood of the evening, attendees received exclusive deals at the bookstore after the event, along with a small reception featuring sparkling drinks and snacks. Models and show patrons were seen shopping side by side as they searched for their next look.

Though UW-Stevens Point has faced its fair share of issues in recent years, one can nearly always count on catching a glimpse of purple and gold worn by students walking to or from their classes. Clothing that promotes school spirit is one of the key ways in which our campus community is bound together; whether that be a scarf worn by a student for homecoming, a hat on a proud parent, or a sweatshirt owned by an alumni, it seems that the old adage "once a Pointer always a Pointer" proves to be true.

We are in need of more unity and camaraderie on campus. And though it was just a fun night of promotion for the University Bookstore, this annual small fashion show helped to bring us a bit closer to that goal.

Genderqueer Poet TC Tolbert Discusses Writing, Politics, and Importance of Queer Community

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TC Tolbert, feminist genderqueer poet, dancer, and collaborator visited UWSP on Nov. 2 in the Collins Classroom Center. Tolbert came to Stevens Point for the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Fall Conference, held at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center. The event, a reading and Q&A discussion, was organized through the Department of English.

Tolbert begins the event by asking the audience a question: what do they want from this experience? Some people ask to hear him read some of his poems, some want to hear about his writing process, and many others desire to ask him personal questions.

"Does anybody feel uncomfortable that I’ve asked you to talk first?" asked Tolbert. The intimate group gathered in the lecture hall of Room 227 express some nervous laughter in agreement. The audience is an equal balance of students and community members, along with some faculty members.

Tolbert explains that he asked this question as part of his philosophy for speaking engagements; he believes that the audience and speaker are joined. He believes in a give-and-take between the presenter and audience, hoping both parties can learn something from each other. "If you just want to read my ****, look me up. It’s all there. Let’s have a conversation."

Tolbert discusses his upbringing in a Pentecostal household in Tennessee, with subjects of abuse, struggling with thoughts of suicide, and coming to terms with his gender identity. Family and love are explored, with Tolbert revealing that he has a close relationship with his family, albeit they might not fully accept his trans identity. Familial relationships are complicated, explains Tolbert, and he explains the strides they have made and how much farther there is to go regarding full uninhibited acceptance.

When Tolbert is asked about his writing process, he gives a quote that he follows: "Write to understand, not to be understood." He said that many poets tend to care about audience way too soon in their writing process. Tolbert decides to write for nothing other than for himself. His poetry often explores heavy topics, stemming from his wonder about his own pain. "Poetry teaches me how to live," he explains.

Tolbert reads two poems during the hour. The first: a letter to Melissa, a name he used to go by before transitioning. The poem details his inspirations, his life now, and his own human condition. The second: a poem for a close friend who was lost to suicide unexpectedly. The readings had a profound effect on the audience: a myriad of snifflies from the group indicated the emotional impact of these personal poems.

Considering the current climate of the Trump administration's policies on transgender people, a question was later asked whether this era of Trump inspires him to create art in protest or if it is too draining. Tolbert responds that he has not had a lot of time for art. Matters of protesting and activist groundwork make it difficult to find space to address art.

With constant breaking news regarding immigration, LGBTQ rights, and justice for people of color, Tolbert’s response isn’t surprising: the uplifting of marginalized people takes time and dedication. His earlier warning of avoiding "horizontal hostility" characterizes his spirit and his response. ‘Horizontal hostility’ describes instead of punching up or down in power structures (white supremacy, fighting for LGBTQ rights, equality for women), you target someone you share identities with; instead of fighting the things that keep you both down, you tear each other down. Tolbert warns us not to target each other to gain a foothold in civil rights, instead hoping we link together to dismantle these systems as a community.
History Club Spooks Community with Haunted Nelson Hall

Halloween night the UW-Stevens Point History Club held its Haunted Nelson Hall tours, featuring tours through the old Nelson hall with frights and a look into its past.

Michael Clay, Junior, history and political science major and member of the History club said, "We made about $300 which is about a 30% increase from last year."

Clay said that proceeds would go towards future History Club meetings and trips the club takes.

"The third floor was my favorite place, it was generally the creepiest place for everyone and we really scared the most people there. Just scaring people in general was pretty fun," said Clay.

Katy Nachampassak, Junior, Education major and participant in the tours said, "I was told it was going to be mostly educational... it was somewhat, but mostly it was creepy."

Nelson has been rumored to hold at least two deaths. One of which was a girl who jumped from the top floor window after hearing her fiancé was killed in one of the world war and another was a staff member that took their life in the 3rd floor bathroom.

"Inexplicably uneasy is a way to describe how a bunch of us felt that night during set up and take down," said Clay.

Clay also explained that one room in particular that had no windows and only held a single desk facing the wall gave everyone a really bad vibe.

"One of the staffers from that night did claim to see 'something' on the third floor the other night," said Clay.

Ben Loef, senior and biochemistry major said, "The tour guides did a really good job giving a history lesson as well as scaring everyone."

Jasmine Van Sluys, senior and Spanish education major said, "It was neat going through each floor, and its only $1 with a student ID, so I definitely recommend people go next year."

The tours through Nelson showed the old residence rooms, an empty elevator shaft, triangular rooms and wooden stalled bathrooms that featured claw foot bathtubs, so students living in Nelson could bathe if they didn't feel like showering.

If students wish to take part in the History Club, they typically have office hours in Collins Classroom Center room 230 from 1-3 p.m. and meet Wednesdays at 4:30 in CCC 231.
"Being a POC at a PWI"

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The "Coffee and Culture" series presented by Campus Activities and Student Engagement here at UWSP has long been a popular event for both student and faculty alike. Focused on promoting an inclusive environment and increasing the awareness of other experiences and stories on campus, the series has consistently been a catalyst for healthy discussion.

Monday's program was no different. Titled "Being a POC at a PWI," or "Being a Person of Color at a Predominantly White Institution," the evening highlighted the experiences of various men and women of color on campus and allowed them to share their stories with those in attendance.

All speakers were from Diversity and College Access, and were members of either the Men of Color or Women of Color Initiatives on campus. Each speaker had a diverse background and meaningful set of experiences with diversity, discrimination, and microaggressions.

First to speak was Mai Penzkover, who has Ojibwe and Cree ancestry and is a transfer student from UW-Eau Claire and works at the Native American Center. She shared that her experience at UWSP has been largely tolerable, but was subjected to racism and discrimination at Eau Claire, especially in the tense times immediately following Trump's election. The increase in racist actions and comments after the 2016 presidential election was a recurring theme of the evening. Eminie Vazquez Torres said that after the election, attending UWSP became a daily struggle. "I'm paying thousands of dollars to be insulted every day," she mused. Vazquez Torres endured harassment from neighbors, roommates, and classmates, and was in danger of serious academic consequences due to the harsh conditions on campus. However, Vazquez Torres believes that her involvement with DCA has saved her, and said of the organization, "There are people here for me.

Additionally, Dominick Francois, who experienced an incident where he was called the n-word by a girl who he was not interested in romantically, took his story to the Dean of Students. Francois's case is ongoing, but at the end of his story, he reaffirmed his decision to report the incident by saying "Nobody deserves to be called that, or to be treated like that."

While Vazquez Torres and Francois's experiences were blatant and extreme, others shared some of their subtler, but just as frustrating, experiences. Rainer Shooter, of Native American ancestry, said "I found myself trying to speak on behalf of my entire culture" when relating his experiences with classmates and professors who were unaware of his culture and experiences. Shooter stated how frustrating it can be to feel as though he has become a spokesperson for an entire race of people. Harrison Mitchell, a Dance major, shared these sentiments. He admitted that he became angry with his peers for the prevalence of microaggressions and lack of understanding of his culture, and that often he is immersed in a culture that is not positive.

After the speakers had finished sharing their stories, a moderated question and answer session followed. Those in attendance also took this time to share with others their personal experiences on campus, and ask questions of the speakers about how allies can find ways to be more tolerant and informed of cultures that are different from their own. Throughout the evening, both the speakers and students attending the event found ways to grow and accept each other and inform the other on their particular culture.

The purpose of "Coffee and Culture" is to foster discussion and invite inclusively. In this tense political climate, students at UWSP are in need of all the support and acceptance possible, and events like this that are held on campus free of charge are a wonderful way to broaden students' horizons and expand their worldview, even if it is just to look a bit more clearly at the person sitting next to them.

Fall Film Preview

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Movie fans across the country are rejoicing as the beginning of November ushers in the award season. Like every year, November and December are packed to the brim with prestige films, all vying for that glistening Oscar gold.

Sit back, make some popcorn and enjoy this short respite from the super-hero film onslaught as we give you a preview of some of the most exciting films coming out this award season.

"First Man"

Okay, you caught me. This film is already in wide release. However, this team up of director Damien Chazelle and the ever-brooding Ryan Gosling as Neil Armstrong is worth your attention, regardless of the month it came out in.

While fans of Chazelle's previous films, "La La Land," and "Whiplash" will be disappointed to discover the complete lack of jazz music in this film, the white knuckle flight sequences and top notch performances make this film well worth your time.

"Beautiful Boy"

While "Beautiful Boy" sports one of the least interesting titles of this award season, Steve Carell and Timothée Chalamet both make a grab for the Oscar again in this family drama, about drug abuse and identity.

"22 July"

It wouldn't be the award season without a healthy dose of depressing films that make you want to curl up alone in dark room for a few hours. This is exactly what "Bourne Ultimatum" Director Paul Greengrass has delivered with this drama about the worst terrorist attack in Norway's worst history. After Greengrass's work on "Unit ed 93," it's safe to assume that this film will be brutal, and unrelenting in its portrayal of these events. "22 July" is currently streaming on Netflix.

"The Favourite"

Experimental director, and provocateur Yorgos Lanthimos returns with this 18th century dark comedy. Fans of Lanthimos earlier films, "Dogtooth," "The Lobster" and "The Killing of a Sacred Deer" will be excited to hear that Lanthimos's signature pitch black humor is still on display here. The film takes place in gorgeously photographed palaces, and English countryside, boasting performances from Emma Stone, Rachel Weisz and Olivia Coleman. I could say more, but why bother? You know you want to watch this movie.

"Mary, Queen of Scots"

Saorise Ronan and Margot Robbie star in this lavish historical drama about the feud between Queen Elizabeth I, and Mary Stuart. The production design looks extravagant, as do the two central performances from Ronan and Robbie. A rivalry spun out of control and two of the best actresses in the business in the central roles? Sign me up.

"Vice"

The days of Christian Bale as the muscular, growing Batman are over. In "Vice" Bale portrays Dick Cheney, and he looks so much like Cheney you'll have to double check to make sure Cheney isn't playing himself. If Bale as Cheney doesn't have you hooked, then Sam Rockwell as former president George W. Bush will. Throw in "The Big Short" director Adam McKay, and you've got the makings for a must see biographical drama.

"Suspiria"

Luca Guadagnino's retelling of Dario Argento's 1977 horror classic looks to improve upon it in every way. This film represents a bizarre genre hop from Guadagnino, whose "Call me by Your Name" was one of last year's best films, as well as the polar opposite to "Suspiria." Early buzz about "Suspiria" is polarizing, with some praising it and others saying it's the most disgusting film in recent memory. Either way, I'll be there for it. "Suspiria" will be in select theaters on Nov 2.

There are a lot more I didn't have time to mention, but this list should get you started.
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