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Eco-Socialists Promote Cannabis Reform in Wisconsin

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Cannabis is legal in 33 states, either medically, recreationally, or both. Wisconsin could soon be added to the list of progressive states, if Governor Tony Evers' proposal is passed.

In Wisconsin, state law labels possession of cannabis as a misdemeanor. Those accused pay up to \$1,000 and face six months of incarceration.

The City of Stevens Point doesn't have as harsh of a punishment. Stevens Point is one of Wisconsin's municipalities that has modified its ordinances to decriminalize cannabis.

The city has modified its policy twice. First, in 2014, the City Council decided that first time offenders who possessed up to 5 grams would pay a \$300 fine and have no criminal record. A year later, the policy was changed again and the fine was reduced to \$100. In 2017, a proposal to allow possession of one gram or less by individuals 21 and

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Photo by Kylie Bridenhangen

Pointers win WIAC Title and Finish Undefeated Season

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The UW-Stevens Point men's hockey team won the WIAC title Saturday, March 2nd over the UW-Eau Claire Bugolds 3-2 at the K.B. Willet Arena. The Pointers also finished off their historic run and remained unbeaten in regulation time during their season. The game itself had about everything a person could ask for in a title game for college hockey. With big hits, skirmishes after the whistle, lots of penalties, and tight back and forth hockey, this game had it all. It was Danny Kiraly who was the hero scoring the game-winning goal in the third period.

The first period was everything you should expect. The Bugolds came out hot and heavy for the first five minutes. Keeping the puck

in the Pointer zone, pouring on shots and keep goalie Connor Ryckman honest right away. Things had settled down for the Pointers as the momentum started to turn in the first. The Pointers were on a 5 on 3 power play when Steven Quagliata went top corner on a beautiful goal from the hashmarks. He was assisted by Colin Raver. The Bugolds struck back when the Pointers turned the puck over in their own zone due to good forechecking. Luckily the Pointers scored with just 48 seconds left in the period to give them a 2-1 lead heading into the locker room. Carter Roo gave them the lead on a great tipped shot from the point, giving the assists to Kiraly and Drew McLean.

The second was all Eau Claire, they came out the same way they did the first period with a hard push in the first five minutes. This

time they were rewarded, tying the game just 4:20 into the period on a power play. With a 2-2 tie they were given life and they believed in themselves. The period also contained lots of penalties, three were given to each team to be exact. Lots of shoving and jersey pulling was involved and the Pointers were starting to get away from the game that they needed to play. The Pointers failed to score on any of the power plays they were given keeping the game at 2-2 tie with multiple chances to put the game away. Shots at the end of the period were in favor of the Bugolds 22-16.

Just like the first two periods, the third was nothing less than exciting and tense. While the rest of the team was failing to play the way that a number one team is ranked, it

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Eco-Socialists...

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older was denied.

The Eco-Socialists, formerly the Green Party, of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point have been at the forefront of cannabis reform, locally and state-wide. McHailey Johnson, Vice President of the student organization, recently attended a cannabis reform lobbying in Madison.

"It was great to meet other people and talk about what Wisconsin's legalization strategy is and what the future of legalization looks like because we're at this point where we're poised to set a really good example of how this can play out, how we can legalize it for medical use and benefit a lot of people and then switch it to recreational and create a lot of jobs too," said Johnson.

The Lobby Day was hosted by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Legalization (NORML) chapter of Southeastern Wisconsin on February 15, 2019. NORML is a national organization that aims to "move public opinion sufficiently to legalize the responsible use of marijuana by adults" while

also ensuring consumers have access to "safe, convenient and affordable" cannabis, according to the organization's mission statement on its website.

Governor Tony Evers has proposed to decriminalize the possession, manufacturing, and distribution of up to 25 grams of cannabis. His proposal also legalizes medical cannabis to be prescribed to individuals with cancer, chronic pain, post-traumatic stress disorder, glaucoma, and other medical conditions.

This proposal is included in Evers' 2019-20 budget.

"[Cannabis] can really help people who are dealing with mental or physical health issues [and] addressing those concerns first is the most important thing," said Ella Jansen, President of Eco-Socialists.

Legalization of both medical and recreational cannabis will not only benefit those who use medical cannabis, but it'll stimulate the economy, create jobs, and encourage sustainable agriculture as well. The Denver Post reported that a 2018 study by the Colorado State University-Pueblo's Institute of Cannabis Research

found a regulated and taxed cannabis industry contributed \$58 million to the local economy.

Introducing cannabis to Wisconsin will empower local business and local farmers. "We want our cannabis industry in Wisconsin to look like our beer industry, it's locally made and locally distributed and people love that and it's really sustainable," said Johnson.

Cannabis reform is one of the many issues the Eco-Socialists of UWSP tackle. The student organization is very active in the community, fundraising and volunteering for organizations and causes that they believe in. They also strive to get students involved with local politics, and are planning to take students to another Lobby Day in the future. With Evers' budget currently seeking approval, the Eco-Socialists will be busy spreading awareness of cannabis reform.

"[Our organization] is going to take measures to ensure that it is legalized and not only that but we're going to create awareness of what that legalization looks like," said Johnson.

THE POINTER

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Editorial: Spring Break Safety Tips

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Plenty of students leave Wisconsin for spring break, and I do not blame them. Personally, I am heading to Las Vegas, which lead me to compile a list of safety tips that will benefit anyone leaving the safe little bubble that is Wisconsin.

Tip #1

Do NOT accept drinks from random individuals.

I cannot stress this enough. I understand how nice of a sentiment getting a drink may be. Sure, perhaps the person giving it to you seems honest and innocent enough, but it is a chance that you should not be willing to take. Too many times students on spring break are victims of dangerous date rape drugs, like Rohypnol (roofies). If you experience any Rohypnol symptoms, which may include dizziness, slurred speech, quicker intoxication, confusion, loss of muscle control, and so on, seek medical attention immediately.

Tip #2

Travel in groups!

You might look like a horde of lost freshman searching for a

party, but traveling in large groups will prevent most individuals from attacking you or one of your friends. There is power in numbers, and you are stronger as a group; so travel in packs. However, it is paramount to keep track of those in your group, and to ensure that none of them stray too far.

Tip #3

Do NOT get into a stranger's car, no matter how close you may have become!

Lyft and Uber are, for the most part, reliable services that can safely take you from A to B. If you make new friends at the beach and they offer to give you a ride to the club or a nearby beach, pass on it. Situations such as this lead to sex trafficking scenarios, which is a growing epidemic around the world. Women At Risk International highlights the importance of safe tourism on their website.

Tip #4

Stay hydrated and keep your stomach full!

Alcohol, sun, and lack of food can lead to a disastrous time. Dehydration is very real, and being in

the sun for so long can cause serious complications; such as heat stroke. If you're indulging in adult beverages, make sure to at least have something in your stomach (your beach body isn't as important as your personal health) to keep you from getting too intoxicated too quickly. Furthermore, make sure to mix in water when you can.

Tip #5

Wear sunscreen!

This is the most obvious tip of all. The cold Wisconsin winters leave us pale and bright; so when we get our first tan of the year, we tend to burn (unless you're racking up hours in the tanning booth). To prevent getting burns, make sure to apply a liberal amount of sunscreen.

These are just five simple tips to keep in mind during spring break. As summer slowly approaches, spring is the season that bridges the gap between the cold and warm seasons. Make the right choice this spring break and take care of yourself.

New Biolife Rates Look to Incentivize Donors

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Stevens Point - Biolife plasma donors are in luck. Increased donation rates look to boost the volume of donations the life-saving company receives on a weekly basis.

Prior to March 4th, 2019, Biolife donors received \$20 on their first donation, and \$50 on their second of the week. This allowed donors to receive an average of \$280 a month; not a bad pay off for a few hours of binging your favorite show or movie every week.

Now, Biolife has introduced a Bronze, Silver, and Platinum rewards program to incentivize donors to routinely donate their plasma.

Only a select amount of healthy adults can donate plasma, so finding willing donors can present quite the challenge. Not many citizens will stick needles into their arms for a couple extra bucks a week, so boosting the rates for active donors makes sense.

The Bronze rate is not too much of a difference than the original rate; those who donate will still receive \$20 on their first donation, but will receive \$55 on their second successful donation of the week.

The Silver rate is a slight increase from that, with second donations totaling out to \$60.

If you are a Platinum member, which all members start out as, you will receive \$70 after your second successful donation. That averages out to \$360 a month!

However, there is a catch. Every donor starts out in the Platinum program. If you donate at least once every week, you will continue to receive the boosted rate.

If you fail to donate for a week, you are dropped back to the standard rate, and must work your way back up through the Bronze and Silver ranks.

So, why is this happening? According to Biolife workers, it's to

encourage more donations.

"It'll get more people through the door and donating. The extra few bucks is worth it," A Biolife phlebotomist told The Pointer.

Should you wish to donate to Biolife, now is the time. With the \$20 and \$70 rates lasting through June, donors have a larger incentive more than ever.

Biolife donations are used for a variety of reasons. For example, people with blood disorders are unable to form blood clots properly. Plasma donations can be used to treat clotting issues; making plasma a precious commodity.

Furthermore, plasma is used to treat immune deficiency disorders. Without immunoglobulin, which is found in plasma, those suffering are susceptible to other serious infections. Plasma donations are used to replace the patients' lacking immunoglobulin.

Plasma is also used to treat

genetic emphysema; which is a chronic lung disease caused by damage to the tiny air sacs in the lung where the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide takes place.

Albumin, a protein also found in plasma, can be used to treat burns, trauma patients, and surgical patients.

Lastly, hyperimmune globulin is used to treat hepatitis B, rabies, tetanus toxin, varicella-zoster, and so on.

Biolife is open 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 6 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday. All donors must pass a physical, and be over 18 years of age. The nearest Biolife is at 3325 Business Park Dr. in Stevens Point. You can also visit their website at www.biolifeplasma.com.

University Will Not Terminate Tenured Faculty, Patterson Announces

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Two weeks ago, Chancellor Bernie Patterson announced that the university will no longer need to evoke RPD 20-24 to solve its budget needs.

Patterson met with Mary Bowman, Common Council Chair; Jason D'Acchioli, Common Council Vice Chair; and Nerissa Nelson, Consultative Committee Interim Chair, on Feb. 20. Patterson then delivered the announcement to Common Council on Feb. 21.

The first letter, to the prominent Chairs, states: "I'm writing today that we no longer need to pursue the potential layoff of tenured faculty members in the Departments of Art and Design, History and International Studies, and Geography and Geology."

The second letter, to Common Council, states that: "We will not have to use Regent policy 20-24, which had required specific timeframes for recommendations and reviews involving tenured faculty. Our proposal no longer needs to go to the UW board of Regents."

The use of RPD 20-24 was included in November's Point Forward proposal. The legislation, ratified as recently as Dec. 2018, allowed for the termination of tenured faculty under a process involving multiple local

and state-wide investigations.

UWSP would have been the first university in the state to evoke RPD 20-24, and would the proposal have been approved later this spring.

This drastic change of university affairs was only made possible by the voluntary departures of several faculty since Point Forward's release in November.

The letter states that, since November, UWSP has "received 14 additional faculty resignations and retirements, four of which come from the departments noted above."

Resignations have already prevented the discontinuation of French and German majors, which Patterson had announced on Dec. 20 last year.

"We went from having six and then we went down to four [proposed eliminations], because faculty within French and German . . . they actually reached the goal where they didn't have to lay off tenured faculty because folks decided to retire early," says Dyllan Griepentrog, Student Government Association Vice President.

A locally-operated committee, the RPD 20-24 Consultative Committee, was due to submit their final evaluation of Point Forward a week after this announcement - just two weeks before the Point Forward pro-

posal would have reached the UW Board of Regents.

In his letter, Patterson encouraged the completion of the Committee's report, even though RPD 20-24 would no longer be used; the Committee then did so on March 1.

Griepentrog, a member of the Consultative Committee, says, "We released it knowing that RPD 20-24 was not going to happen, but we felt, to do justice for the affected departments - and all of the faculty, the students, the staff, all of those other people - that we had to release it."

The Committee met bi-weekly for 90 days to examine Point Forward's justifications for using RPD 20-24. At their last meeting, the Committee unanimously opposed the proposed eliminations.

The report states that much of the data used in Point Forward was inconsistent, incomplete, or inaccurate. It that, "Overall, the evidence for using RPD 20-24. At their last meeting, the Committee unanimously opposed the proposed eliminations.

The report states that much of the data used in Point Forward was inconsistent, incomplete, or inaccurate. It that, "Overall, the evidence provided by Point Forward fails to justify the discontinuance of

programs at UWSP according to the criteria outlined in RPD 20-24."

The Committee then sent the document to Chancellor Patterson, Provost Summers, the UW Board of Regents, the UW-System President, WI Governor Tony Evers and Lt. Governor Kleefisch.

However, although tenure will not be violated, these at-risk programs may still be challenged. Bowman says, "There's some uncertainty about the future of those programs already"

Patterson's letter to prominent Chairs also states: "Please note that, as with French and German, we will still explore the elimination or significant reconfiguration of the Art 2D and 3D, History, Geography, and Geoscience majors."

These majors already face significant changes for the future. French and German now have a very low number of faculty, with no additional hiring in sight. The 2D and 3D Art programs may, in the future, seek to merge into a single program of generalized studio art.

"The other concern," says Bowman, "is, if we're not able to get enrollment to move upward or at least stabilize - if it continues to decline, then yeah: we might, in a couple of years, be going 'oh, we need to make more cuts'."

Vosters Finishes Second at NCAA Tourney

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Ben Vosters competed at the NCAA Wrestling Tournament on March 8th and placed 2nd in the tournament. After the tournament, The Pointer caught up with him to talk about the weekend.

What was the weekend like for you?

"It was an emotional weekend, I knew going in though like kind of my mindset was just 'wrestle as hard as you can wrestle till you get tired, and just enjoy every minute left on the match' and I guess that that mindset coming in helped me make the run that I did."

What did that run mean to you as your last last match ever?

"It was pretty special just because I realized all the work that was put in just like you have the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. I feel like I've had quite the journey and to end it like that was something special for me, something I'll remember it for the rest of my life."

The end of the match was kind of controversial, what do you think about it?

"I haven't actually watched the match yet. I know I'll be disappointed when [I watch it], I mean I am disappointed and I haven't seen the call, I haven't watched it in real time though. Either way, [the other wrestler] wrestled a great match and you can't leave it up to the refs to make the call. I respect the kid I lost to and I thought I wrestled my hardest. I don't really regret much."

What do you think you'll remember for the rest of your life; how does it build you as a person?

"Just going through a lot of adversity and sticking to staying the course, kind of what I tell me is just stay disciplined to stay the course and good things can happen."

How do you go from here with your future? Are you going to coach wrestling?

"That's kind of the plan, I want to look at maybe going for a grad assistant position where I can go to D 3 wrestling school, I think that would be pretty fun. That's something I've been looking at going to grad school as well. So, whether that

be here somewhere else that's kind of what I have in mind".

Who do you have to praise the most for your career in wrestling?

"There's a lot of people that I have to thank starting from my coaches back from my hometown Duey Potrykus, he kind of introduced me to the sport and he's been there ever since the beginning. My high school coaches Troy Trusky and Bill Kirshner have helped me along the way. Then, the coaching staff here is the best in the country, coaches Johnson Jake and Jake Wozniak. I couldn't have done that run without them and I wouldn't have finished like I did. They have helped me grow

not only as a wrestler but as a person too".

After being done here with all this, what do you leave your teammates with?

"I hope that they can see that if you really stick to it and you invest yourself completely good things can happen and just have fun with it. It's quite the journey and it's something that once it's over, it's over".

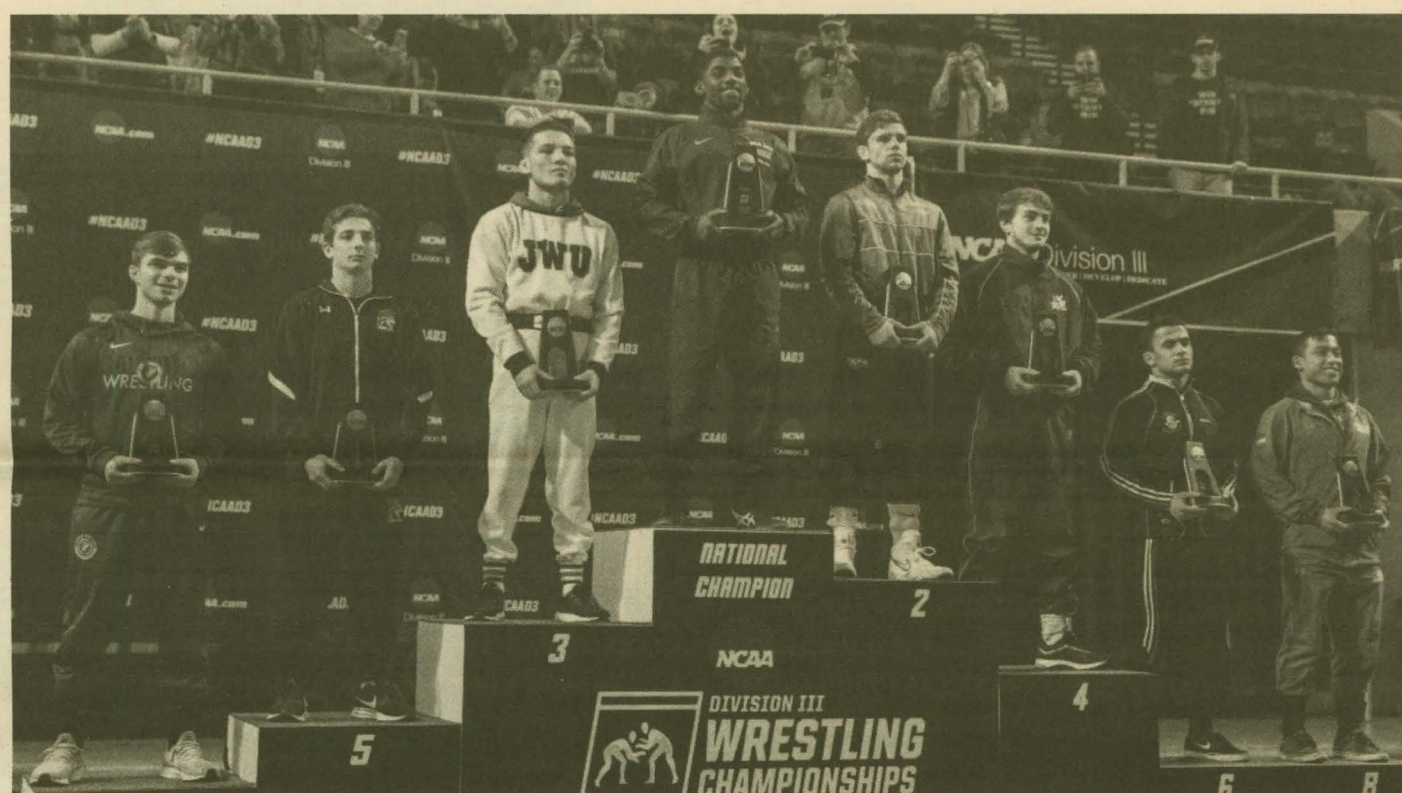


Photo courtesy of Ferrum College and the NCAA

Men's Basketball Team Hauls in WIAC Awards

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The UW-Stevens Point men's basketball team had several upperclassmen recognized by the WIAC conference office. Five seniors and one junior were recognized for their hard work and determination throughout their season. Head coach Bob Semling also experienced an honor with his 300th career win. Semling reached his 300th WIAC win in the Pointer's win against UW-Eau Claire.

Junior Ethan Bublitz was named to the All-WIAC first team for the second time following his nomination in 2017. Bublitz was the lead scorer for the Pointers in three of the last four games in the season. His point average and blocked shots were the second highest on the team with 12.5 points per game and 11 shots blocked.

Senior Nate Dodge was also named to the All-WIAC first team, his second time on the league after an honorable mention last year. Dodge was the main sharpshooter for the Pointers this season with 76 three-pointers made and 42 steals, the highest on the team. He is the player with the highest scoring averaging 15.7 points per game. Dodge is the third player in UWSP history with multiple 40-point games and was named the WIAC Athlete of the Week. In the two years, he has been at UWSP, Dodge now holds the sixth most three-pointers made in UWSP program history with 153 three-pointers made.

Senior Brett Tauber was given the Max Sparger Scholar-Athlete award and named to the WIAC All-Defense Team. Tauber is the second player in UWSP's history to be

named to the All-Defense team selection. He led the team with 41 offensive rebounds and was the third on the team for total rebounds with 114.

Senior Canon O'Heron picked up his second conference honor as an honorable mention after being named to the first team last year. O'Heron led the team with 12 blocks and 133 rebounds. His average of points per game is third best on the team with 12.1 points. On Jan 12 he experienced his first career double-double with 23 points and 10 rebounds.

Senior Drew Fredrickson was recognized with an honorable mention selection for the first time in his career. He held the second best free throw percentage of the players with 25 attempts or more, .907 percent, after making 39 out of 43 attempted free throws.

Senior Mark Nelson was honored with the All-Sportsmanship Team recognition after being limited to six games this season. Last year he was an honorable mention selection. Nelson played the first five games in the Pointers season before he was sidelined due to an injury. He was welcomed back onto the court on the Pointers Senior Night and made a free throw during the game against UW-Stout.

The UWSP men's basketball team went to the WIAC Championship game for the second year in a row.

20 Consecutive WIAC Titles for Men's Swimming and Diving

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On February 16th, the UW-Stevens Point Men's Swimming and Diving team took home the WIAC title in Brown Deer, Wisconsin. For the team, it was their 20th consecutive WIAC title. Heading into the final day of competition the team had a 44 point lead over the second-place opponent. They were victorious by winning with an outstanding 95 point advantage.

Some of the key points of the day were won by junior Jacob Aegerter and freshman Sam Young.

Aegerter won the 200-yard butterfly, timing out at 1:50.19, and Young won the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:03.42. Aegerter defended his title once again to win his third consecutive title. They also swam in the four hundred-yard freestyle with Grant Moser and Reilly Donnellan. They placed second with a swim time of 3:04.60.

For women, a very exciting event was the 1,650-yard freestyle. Anna Pilecky broke a conference, pool, and school record with an amazing time of 17:09.61.

Other swimmers and swimming events included Alec Jeffers

and Jacob Adamski racing in the 200-yard backstroke with times of 1:53.64 and 1:57.85 respectively earning them finishing places of fifth and seventh. In the 100-yard freestyle, we saw Donnellan and Moser race with times 46.93 and 47.52 getting them fifth and eighth on the board. Maddie Taylor swam the 200-yard breaststroke finishing fifth with a time of 2:31.91 and Murron Roff placed sixth with a time of 2:12.78 in the 200-yard backstroke. Lastly, Sydney Richetto and Maggie Liska swam in the one hundred-yard freestyle placing them 13th and 14th with times of 55.11 and 55.14.

Diving included Cal Straub

competing in the three-meter diving and earning a sixth-place finish with a score of 265.95. Jess Posch was in the one-meter diving event, placing fifth with a score of 369.95.

Looking ahead, the Pointers advanced to the NCCA Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina on March 20th.

Pointer Profile: Connor Ryckman

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Major: Business Management

Hometown:
Minesing, Ontario,
Canada

Favorite Hockey Team:
Chicago Blackhawks

Favorite Animal: Dog

When did you start playing hockey?

"I started playing hockey when I was seven, typically late for a kid, but I watched hockey growing up for the longest time."

Why do you play?

"I love the game. I love watching the game. When I was younger, little did I know my dad played. I didn't actually find out till you know it was in my younger years 13 or 14, but I guess it's in my blood and I love the game."

What would you do without hockey?

"Honestly? I don't know, it's been such a big part of my life for the longest time where I wouldn't know what I would do without it."

What's your goal for this season?

"This season obviously win the national championship. I think that's our goal every year, we have high expectations and I think you know the highest expectation is to win the national championship and we contend every year."

Personally, what has this season done for you?"

It's done a lot, I mean I take

every game kind of how it is, and you take one day at a time. For me, it's developing a lot and it's made me a better player for the team. I just get out there, work hard every day and try to be the best I can for the team."

How does having a team like this help you as a person?

"Yeah, good question that is not you know all involved with on the ice, there's an off-ice portion as well. I mean with academics and we're growing here as men and we wanted to develop second careers. So what these guys do for us, they really help us guide where we want to go, what we want to be, just so we can be strictly hockey and they make us better guys and better people for society for sure."

Favorite part about hockey, what do you love most about the game?

"I mean just the fact that you come to the rink every day and love what you do. I think that's something that not all people realize is that you know some people look at it as a job, but I mean we can do that, we can take every day doing what we love".

Best hockey memory?

"Hopefully it's going to be one coming up here in a few weeks here, it's so hard there's a lot out there. I mean last year was a phenomenal year and we went far as a team in the Final Four at Lake Placid, that was unbelievable, pouring our hearts and having everything out there on the line. So crazy memory although it didn't finish up and the way we wanted to do, is probably last year cap."

What are your plans afterward?

"I mean if the opportunity's there, I would love to continue playing hockey. If the opportunity isn't

there, I mean my dive into my second career as an individual, where that takes me I have no idea, but yeah if the opportunity is there, I'd love to."

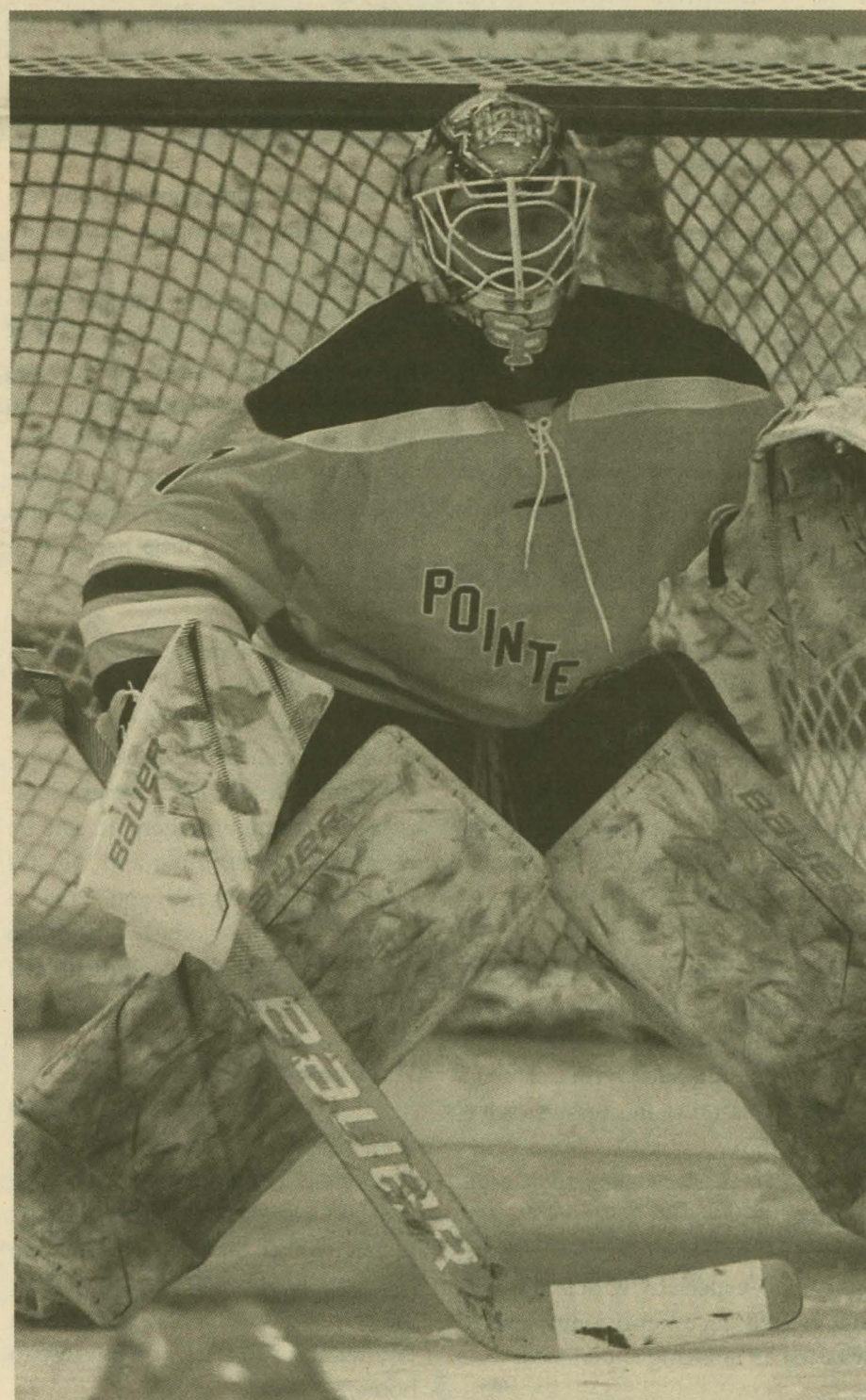


Photo courtesy of the UWSP Athletics website

Pointer Profile: Anna Pilecky

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Year: Freshman

Major: Ecology

How does it feel to be the only Pointer traveling to the NCAA in swimming?

"It makes me feel pretty good. I kind of wish my other teammates made it because they worked hard too but it feels pretty good."

You're seeded at #16 for the meet, how did you react when you found out?

"I was kind of surprised that it was that high I guess. It feels good though."

How long have you been swimming competitively?

"I've been swimming my whole life, I started swimming club when I was seven so it's been like 11 years. My brother and sister were swimming club and I thought 'I guess I'll join them'."

Have you played any other sports besides competitive swimming?

"I used to play soccer."

How do you think the next three years of collegiate swimming will play out?

"With this being my first year I can see what everything's like, and the next years I can keep impro-

ving."

Do you have personal goals during meets?

"Just to get a best time, and that's a pretty good goal for me."

You broke both the school and conference record with a time of 17:09.61. What did you think when you broke both the school record and the conference record?

"It was kind of surprising, I was just really surprised"

What is your favorite part of the sport?

"I just like racing people, the competitive aspect."

What advice would you give to others that are looking to compete at this level?

"Don't give up, if you're feeling tired during a race don't give up, you have to push through the pain and keep going."

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

"Japan."

Favorite animal?

"Cats."

Favorite color?

"Dark blue."

Pointer Profile: Sylbiann Momont

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Year: Junior

Major: Business Administration, emphasis on management

How does it feel to be named as the WIAC Women's Field Performer of the Meet?

"It was pretty good, I was not expecting it at all. There are other seniors from other schools that are better than I am so it was a huge shock and honor for me to get that award because I don't remember the last time someone at Stevens Point got it."

You broke both the school and conference record in the pentathlon with 3,572 points with the conference record in place since 1985. How does that feel?

"I didn't know I broke the record either for the conference until after the meet when coach came up to me and was like 'yeah, you broke the record' and I was like 'I did what?' I was so shocked, it's just been a really good year so let's just hope it continues for outdoor."

When you competed at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships you placed fourth in the indoor pentathlon with a score of 3,549. That's quite impressive, what did you think?

"Yeah, it is. It was a really good experience, Boston's facility wasn't the best but I just had a really good meet especially with being sick and everything and my teammates it was just an amazing experience."

Where do you see yourself in five years?

"I'm not 100% sure, I'm thinking either agribusiness with management or somehow sports management. I haven't put too much thought into it, just trying to get through the degree right now, then we'll see where I go."

How do you think your outdoor season is going to compare to your indoor season?

"I hope my outdoor season just gets better, I've improved so much with high jump and hurdles already this year just for indoor so I'm hoping for outdoor it just keeps going up. More training, more technique stuff and figure out what I need to work on a little harder and it'll all be better."

Do you have a preference between indoor and outdoor?

"I like indoor better just because you can control the environment and it's so much warmer. Compared to outdoor where it can be raining and everything and we still have to compete and you have to pack a lot more clothes. That's like my biggest issue is packing, that's why I like indoor better."

When did you start track?

"I started track in middle school, that's when I was first introduced to it. My mom did track in college so I was kind of following in her footsteps and then I got offered to run track at Stevens Point. That's the main reason I came here just to be a Pointer and run track and be close to home."

What other sports have you played?

"I did volleyball, basketball, softball, and gymnastics so I've done a little bit of everything but track is definitely my favorite."

What is your favorite part of track?

"The team, I have really good friends and some of them are seniors so it's going to be really sad at the end of this year. They're already done with their indoor season and in the next three months they're going to be done with the outdoor season and that's going to be very emo-

tional for me because I'm not ready for my friends to go. Building friendships and relationships with everyone on the team is definitely my favorite part."

If you could travel anywhere where would you go?

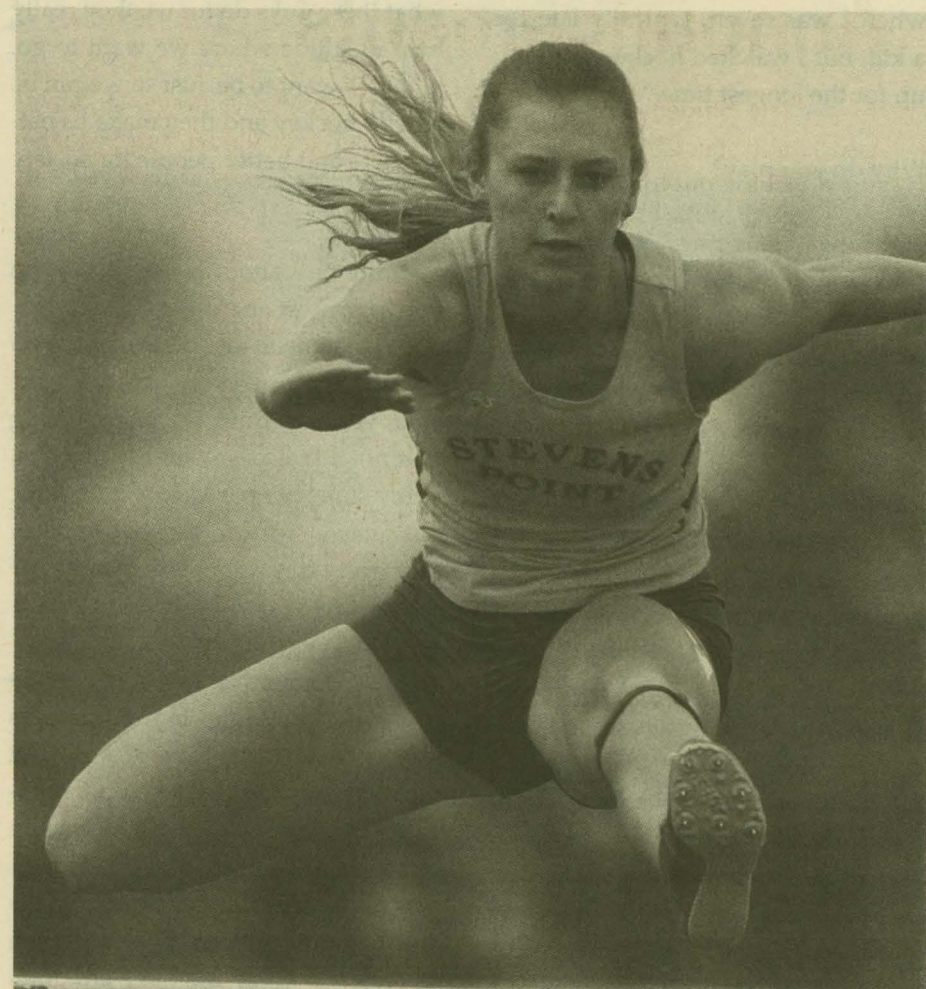
"South Africa."

Favorite food?

"Buttered noodles."

Favorite color?

"Purple."



U OF W - PLATTEVILLE
Photograph courtesy of the UWSP Athletics website

Pointers win...

continued from page 1

was the goalie, Connor Ryckman who came up big for the Pointers. Making saves on three grade-A scoring chances from the Blugolds. The most notable one was 6:36 into the period on a breakaway, when the Blugolds had a chance to put the game away. With the feeling that the next goal was going to be the game winner, Ryckman made a pad save and kept the score 2-2. Later in the third period, the Pointers took the lead on a nitty-gritty goal by Kiraly. His initial shot was saved by the Eau Claire keeper but was loose on the side. Kiraly drove the net and pushed the puck up and over the pad into the net to give the Pointers the lead. This was all the Pointers needed as they would hold on to the 3-2 lead for the rest of the game.

Leading the Pointers were Kiraly with a goal and an assist, followed up by Ryckman saving 27 of the 29 shots he faced. The Pointers claimed a bid to the NCAA Division III Ice Hockey tournament. They will face the winner of the St. Norbert vs. Augsburg game on March 16th at 7 p.m.



Photographed by Dana Bautch

Student Government Association (SGA): Weekly Announcements

The Student Government Association stands with students and is looking out for their best interest and well-being. As an organization, we choose to take a stand on issues affecting our students to support them and make sure they feel welcomed and heard on campus.

On Thursday, March 7th, a Letter in Support of LRB 0942/1 was brought to Senate. The 2019 Bill LRB-0942/1 opposes conversion therapy. It states in sub-section 2 on lines 19-20, "Conversion therapy prohibited. No mental health provider may engage in conversion therapy with an individual who is under 18 years of age". SGA took a stand on the issue and stated, "The Student Government Association wholeheartedly supports the members of the LGBTQ+ community and stands in solidarity with the community in opposition to any form or type of conversion

therapy. We encourage students to utilize the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center if they require support or assistance". After discussion, the letter passed 13-1-5. The minutes from last week's meeting are available on mySGA, which can be accessed through SGA's website uwsp.edu/sga. The letter of support can be found on our Facebook page, UW-Stevens Point Student Government Association.

If you would like to play an active role in the changes affecting students, or you are interested in representing your peers, considering applying to be an SGA Senator or a Student Interest Representative (SIR). Applications for these positions can be found online at www.uwsp.edu/sga or in our office (DUC 052). Senate meetings are held in the Dreyfus University Center's Legacy Room every Thursday at 6:15pm

SGA Upcoming Events

Mental Health Awareness Week (March 25th-28th)

Monday, March 25th

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

Tuesday, March 26th

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bonnie Samuelson

Topic: Resiliency

Wednesday, March 27th

Guest Speaker: Inclusivity Director

Christopher Benny

Topic: Intersectionality between race, gender, sexuality, and socio-economic status

Protective Services Awareness Week (March 25th-29th)

Left: Cedar Creek Winery. Right: Nueske's Applewood Smoked Meat. Photography for Taste of Wisconsin by Jade Kurda.



Review: Taste of Wisconsin Top 10

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After a headache and some Advil, I have compiled a list of my top 10 favorite vendors at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point's Taste of Wisconsin Event.

Held on March 1st, 2019 in the Laird Room, Taste of Wisconsin gave local bakeries, restaurants, shops, breweries, and wineries a chance to display their products. With 32 vendors to choose from, guests were able to experience the best that Wisconsin has to offer.

Eric Heinrichs, Taste of Wisconsin's coordinator, was able to recruit 3 Sheeps Brewing Company, Ale Asylum Brewery, Badger State Brewing Company, Captain's Walk Winery, Capital Brewery, Cedar Creek Winery, Central Waters Brewery, Ciderboys Hard Cider, City Lights Brewing Company, Good City Brewing, Lakefront Brewery, Main Grain Bakery, Morning Song Baked Goodness, Nasionville Dairy, New Glarus Brewing, Northern Oasis Spirits, Nueske's, One Barrel Brewing Company, O'so, Portesi, Polito's, Remedy Bloody Mary Mix, Sand Creek Brewing Company, Savory Accents, Stevens Point Brewery, Sunset Point Winery, Upstream Cidery, Von Stiehl Winery, Wenzel's Farms, Wisconsin Brewing Company, and Wollershiem Winery. What a mouthful. Great job, Eric.

And yes, I did sample each and every product there was to

choose from, which likely explains why my body feels like it got hit by a freight train this morning. However, the event was amazing and I regret nothing.

As UWSP graduate Jack Duffy put it, "There really isn't a bad booth. They're all great in their own regard."

After surveying the field, I was given a plethora of recommendations by over-enthused and over-served students.

"You gotta try City Lights Coconut Porter. That has been a definite stand out for me," UWSP senior Mitchell Schreiner told The Pointer.

"When I want to purchase a nice six-pack on a Friday night, this is the beer I'd go to," Fellow senior Leo Bisch said, while pointing to his glass filled to the brim with the coconut beer concoction.

With a host of recommendations, I was ready to determine who was deserving of a spot on my not-so-acclaimed Taste of Wisconsin Top 10.

#10 3 Sheeps Brewing Co.

3 Sheeps Brewing Company's Fresh Coast is a very tropical and citrusy beer, which is perhaps why I enjoyed it so much. It was easy drinking, and worth a purchase on a hot summer's day. However, it is winter right now, and this beer just made me miss summer. #10 it is.

#9 Sunset Point Winery

Sunset Point Winery made me want to become a wine snob. Unfortunately, I would enjoy every wine and rate them all the same. That being said, the most notable adult beverage sampled by yours truly was a Northern Lights Pomegranate Zinfandel. If you were to imagine a spiked Pom Wonderful, that is essentially this wine. It is juicy and sweet, and could easily be chugged during an episode of "The Bachelor". For that reason, it sits comfortably atop the #9 spot.

#8 Capital Brewing

If you like caramel, then you would LOVE Capital Brewing's Amber Lager. This beer could be consumed almost anytime. Well, not anytime. Your child's baseball game would not be ideal, but hey, I'm not one to judge. Having said that, this beer is a step above your typical light beer, but not heavy enough to be served at your favorite beer snob bar.



Sunset Point Winery

#7 Morning Song Baked Goodness

Okay, to be fair, I was a few adult beverages deep when I got to Morning Song Baked Goodness. As per my ranking system, they earned themselves a 8.9/10; a very good score (P.S.: No, there is no such thing as a 10). I was able to sample their maple bacon muffin, and their doughnut muffin. After developing diabetes, I comfortably ranked Morning Song seventh on my list. Delicious, sweet, and definitely interesting. If you have a sweet tooth, give them a try.

#6 Wenzel's Farms

Smokey, filling beef sticks ranging from bacon cheddar, to honey barbecue, to plain. Ideal for any lover of meat. Not much else to say; simple and to the point. A great vendor that I will be spending my hard-earned money on later in life when I have the money to eat more than just ramen every night for dinner (Yes, I got into this event for free. I'm poor.).

#5 City Lights Brewing Co.

I met a nice gentleman that swore this was the best beer he'd ever tasted. He also spilled on me, and I was wearing a nice vest that I now have to wash, so all things considered, their Coconut Porter gets a righteous #5 on my list. This beer was like motor oil meets coconut meets beer. Thick, heavy, but gosh darn does it ever taste like coconuts! Amazing!

#4 Lakefront Brewery

My best friend from high school's dad works here, so maybe I'm a bit biased. I've toured Lakefront a couple of different times, and honestly can say that I've en-

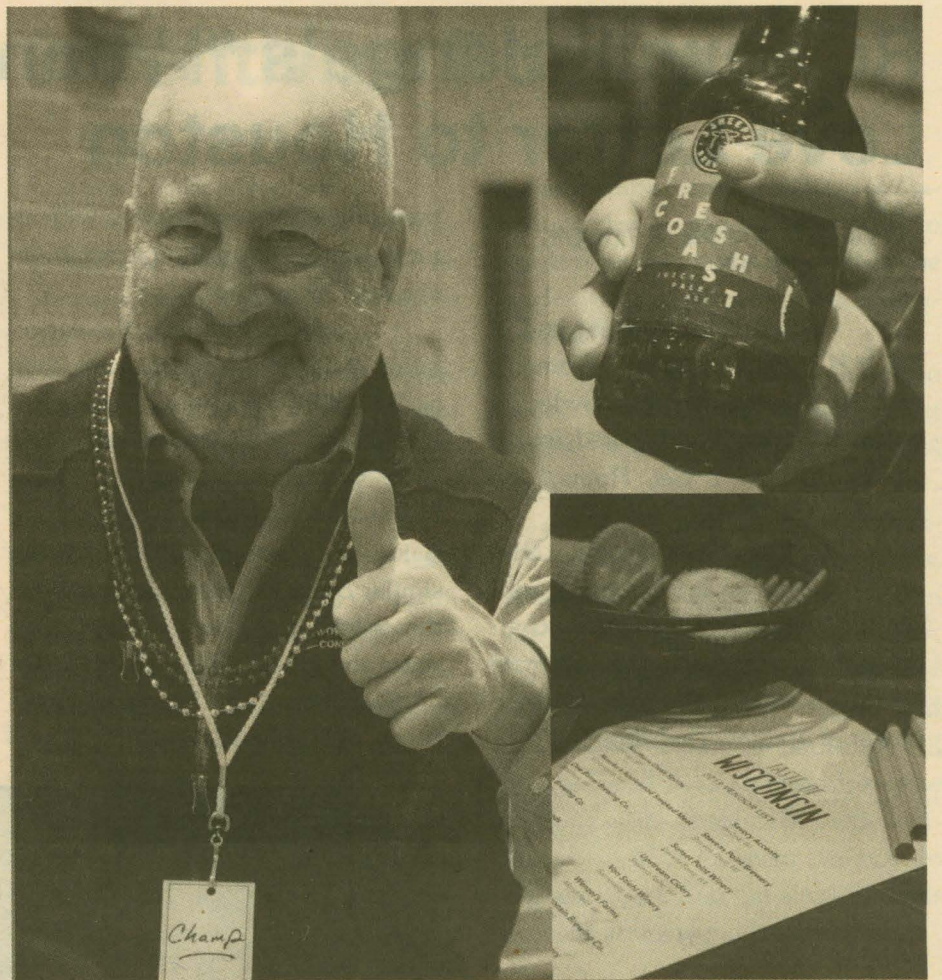
joyed each and every visit all the same, especially during summertime. Ahh, summer in Milwaukee; gotta love it. Anyways, I had a Riverwest Stein, because I hadn't drank one in a while. Good as always, though. Another amber lager, which is a favorite of mine. It just so happens that Lakefront does it the best. Bucks in six.

#3 New Glarus (featuring Mike Champion)

I was SHOCKED when I saw Mike Champion, the seminar guy, championing the New Glarus booth. Oddly enough, he's the founder of Central Wisconsin Draft Board (established by Champion in 1991, helping spur Central Waters and O'so breweries), which if you haven't checked out their Facebook page yet, you totally should. Before I get too sidetracked, let's talk about the beer. I had "Cabin Fever", which is a pale bock. Any friend of mine knows how much I love Bock beers, and boy oh boy did this one hit the spot. There's even a dash of honey thrown into the mix! Deserving of the #3 spot for certain.

#2 Nuesqke's Applewood Smoked Meat

Sorry, my bias is showing again. I got free samples of their bacon last summer, and instantly fell in love. When I got to their booth, I scarfed down all the ham I possibly could before the vendors had to restrain me. Obviously, this takes the #2 spot because NOTHING can top what has claimed the top spot. Before we get there, though, let's take a quick look at two honorable mentions.



Left: Mike Champion | Top right: 3 Sheeps Brewing Co: Fresh Coast

Honorable Mentions

Northwood's Peanut Butter Porter: The most creative beer I have ever tasted. It's a light peanut butter beer that I would have again in a heartbeat.

Politos: See you this weekend, babe.

#1 Stevens Point Brewery

You're playing yourself if you thought I would have picked anything else. When I go to bars, I order a Point Special. My dad's favorite beer is Drop Dead Blonde. What can I say? It runs in the family! At the event, I had their Casper White Stout, and it was everything I'd hoped for and more. It has notes of chocolate

and cardboard, which is exactly how a proper stout should taste. Perfection as always.

Now, by no means am I professional critic. I am easily pleased, and at Taste of Wisconsin, I had the time of my life. I loved all of the vendors, and was treated like a king all night. It was worth every penny (approximately the \$0 that I paid to get in).

If you EVER have a chance to go to a Taste of Wisconsin event, do it. It gives us Wisconsinites a chance to appreciate how great our state truly is.

Thanks for reading!



Left: Wenzel's Farms | Left center: Northwood's Peanut Butter Porter | Right center: Morning Song Baked Goodness

Review: Solange's "When I Get Home" is a Serene Love Letter to Houston

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Ushering us from the end of Black History Month into Women's History Month, Solange Knowles released her highly-anticipated fourth album, "When I Get Home," on March 1.

"When I Get Home" feels like a tour of an art exhibit; a constant, flowing walk-through of compositions, anchored by her intimate portrayals of identity, roots, and the power of dreams. The album's 19

tracks meld into one another with almost seamless transition, clocking in at a brief 39 minutes.

Solange subverts the expectation of a follow-up in the same vein as her 2016 Grammy award-winning album "A Seat at the Table." Instead, she communicates that "When I Get Home" is sort of a sister album. Aside from both records featuring similar cover art, they both establish the theme of having something to share about being Black in the 2010s. "A Seat at the Table" had something to say, but "When I Get Home" has

something it needs to feel.

This album is about vibes. It's about feeling and spirit, utilizing repetition and tranquil harmonies to allure listeners into her love letter addressed to her hometown of Houston, Texas. It's free

The track "Way to the Show" is the equivalent of smooth Sunday drive. The song is funky and futuristic. Its lyrics unabashedly reference the automobile candy paint jobs that are quintessentially Houston. "Come and get it," teases Solange, followed by rhythmic gunshots. Here, her

power is on full display.

"Dreams" is a gorgeous slow groove about the patience needed for dreams to fully bloom. Earl Sweatshirt lends a hand at producing part of the track, including the avant-garde track outro.

"Almeda," the album's standout track, celebrates Blackness over a chopped and screwed production and Playboi Carti's hypnotic ad-libs. The song's title overtly references a community in Southwest Houston. "Black skin, black braids / Black waves, black days / Black baes, black things / These are black-owned things," proclaims Solange on the track.

"My Skin, My Logo" feels like a demo, which isn't to detract from its craft. It's a laid-back, jazzy rap freestyle that doesn't take itself too seriously. In fact, Solange even laughs on the track at her clever bar "I didn't want to sock her, she had Gucci on her cleats." Gucci Mane and Tyler, The Creator provide vocals for the song as well. With constant references to the brand Gucci, Solange posits her Black skin as her own luxury brand.

"Jerrod" is another stunning track where Solange's harmonies and spacy production create a palpable atmosphere. The song then moves into "Binz," where Ms. Knowles transitions from lovelorn R&B crooner to an effortless alternative rapper.

"When I Get Home" is like a piece at an art show; some may not be sure what they're meant to be seeing. The album's experimental nature and demo-like songs certainly aren't for everyone. But it's an entirely rewarding listen, speaking to how artistically free Solange is in her life right now.



Solange, When I Get Home (Album cover). Photography by Max Hirschberger

Review: Dare to Be Exceeded, Not Fearful with This Classic Tragedy

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Dare to be feared. Dare to be anxious. Dare to have an enchanting adventure. Dare to expect nothing less than a sensational range of emotions with the UW-Stevens Point Theatre department production of "Macbeth."

A ripped up, tilted stage, dark atmosphere, and horrifying music open this classic show of "Macbeth."

Starting off with a slow-motion fight scene set in dark atmosphere, the audience was in for a real

treat.

The Weyard Sisters, played by junior BFA acting major Tess Bents, freshman acting major Maddy Van De Hey and junior BFA musical theatre major Gabi Huggler did a scary good job of bringing the audience in, just like a haunted house. Acting as somewhat of the "narrators" of the piece, they tell Macbeth's fate but in a way you wouldn't normally expect. They wanted you to feel the creepiness of who they are and what they bring to the show. The loud screams, the evil laughs, and the interesting objects and people drawn

on the incredible costumes emphasized what characters they are meant to be. You start to imagine you're in a haunted house but with a unique twist.

The actors did a fine job on the language of Shakespeare. As stated in my initial article, they put a little more practice into the diction because Shakespeare is "a new language," as Director Jared Hanlin said.

After the murder of King Duncan, Macbeth has blood up and down his arms and his entire body; the shiny blood initially after the

murder looked nothing less than realistic.

The senior BFA actor performing Macbeth, BJ Sudhoff, poured out his energy and emotions into every line and every occurrence attached to him. The blood from the murder of King Duncan, the hallucinations of Banquo, and the fight scene with Macduff performed by junior BFA acting major Dakota Brown brought a combination of reactions for the audience. Sudhoff wonderfully displayed what kind of character Macbeth is. Not only did he excel on clear language, he excelled on tap-

ping into a cracked mind. No one can deny the perfection he did on that.

Having a character such as Macbeth requires a partner in crime, literally. His wife, Lady Macbeth, performed by senior acting major Pricilla Torres, is the only person who can handle him. His emotional state of hallucinations, these acts of trauma, the paranoia - no one understands more than his wife. Torres gracefully, yet powerfully, took control for him and helped him through all of these encounters. It was a joy to watch her throughout the whole show as an empowering woman role that Shakespeare wrote. Shakespeare doesn't write much for women but when he does, they have this strength to explore and take direction into an unexpected place.

The stage was tilted and featured small two-story floors with a small bridge attached. The disheveled wooden poles with skulls, webs of insects, and territory flags that were periodically in scenes were beautifully created in making you step into the world of "Macbeth."

All of the crew really developed a new picture of Shakespeare and pleased every scene with a unique experience for the audience.

The pounding of horrifying, suspenseful music kept the audience engaged through each scene to distract them from how long a Shakespeare show is.

Taking on the huge beast of this production was definitely a challenge, but when it came to showtime, you could see that the actors

didn't have a worry bringing this story alive on stage.

"Macbeth" ran from Wednesday to Saturday, the 6th - 9th, in the Jenkins Theatre of the Noel Fine Arts Center.

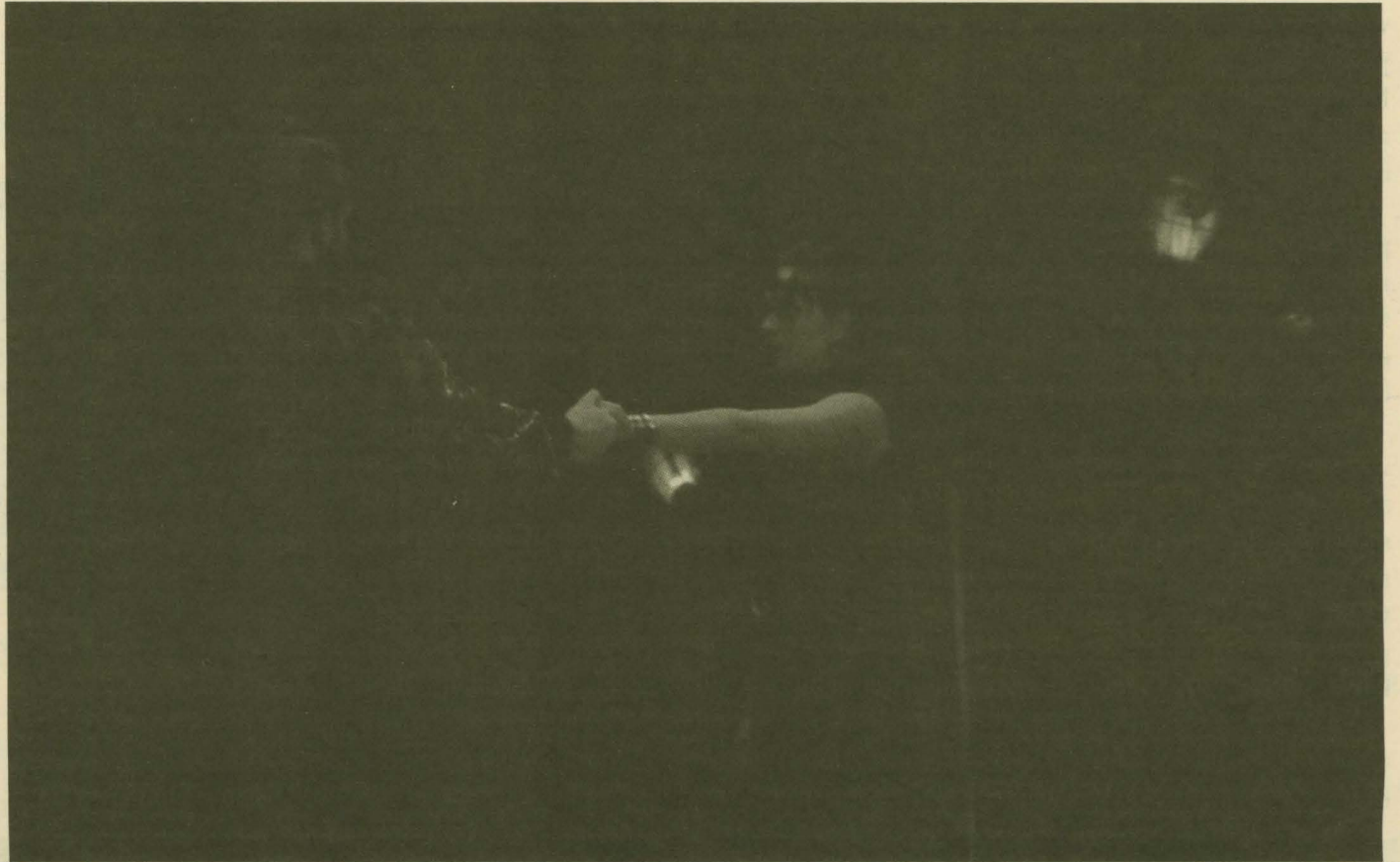


Photo courtesy of the UWSP COFAC

B.A. Drama Major Receives Significant Awards from Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

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Josiah Turner, senior BA Drama major, is the recent recipient of the Kennedy Center's National Undergraduate Playwriting Award, as well as being the second-place recipient of the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, for his play "Uncle Toms Nephews."

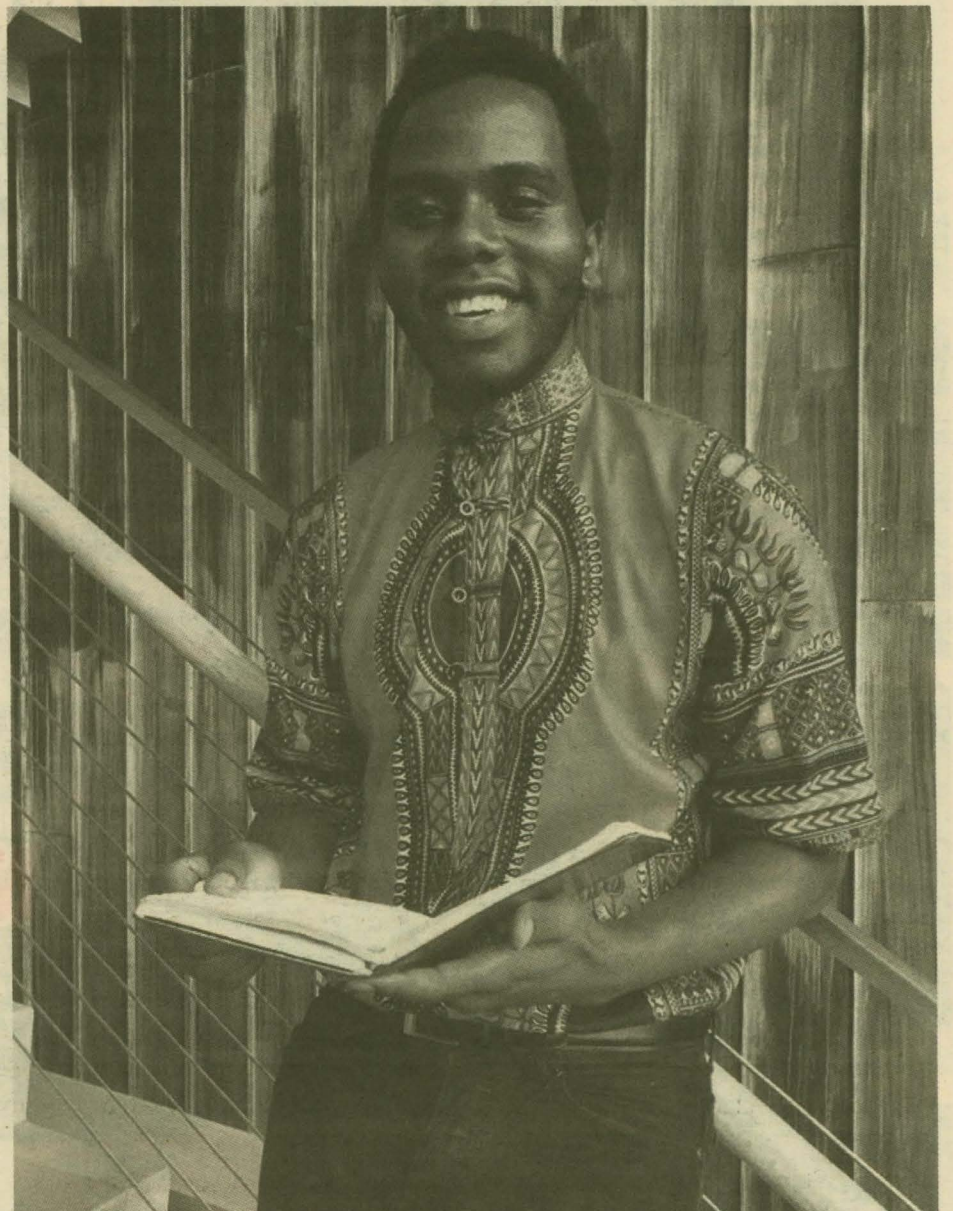
The awards, bestowed through the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, come with a cash reward of \$1500, a membership to the Dramatists Guild and the Playwright's Center of Minneapolis, an invitation to attend the KCACTF National Festival 2019 (April 15-20), and a professional development residency in Summer 2019.

"I'm really glad to have won the recognition from the Kennedy Center, especially as it's my very first full-length piece and very close to my heart. Going forward, I'm really excited to continue to workshop and develop the piece, aiming to soon mount a full production either professionally or through an MFA program within the next few years," said Turner.

Turner's full-length play "Uncle Tom's Nephews" follows 50 years in the lives of a Black family in small-town Ohio who cope with the effects of sexual trauma, civil rights atrocities, and gentrification.

Turner opened up about his process of conceptualizing and writing the play. "The show took only a week to actually write, but several months of planning and outlining. I wrote it over a week during my time at Quisisana [Resort] in Maine..."

Congratulations to Josiah for his recent award wins. The Pointer wishes him well in his future endeavors in playwriting!



Opinion: What To Do When A Power Outage Occurs

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Last week, Central Wisconsin was rocked by severe winter weather. Most students around campus lost power, including myself. Naturally, this got the gears turning about how to respond when a power outage occurs.

Many of us think we are prepared when disaster hits, but not many of us respond in the proper fashion. During times such as these, safety is and always will be the number one priority.

In order to stay safe, having an emergency plan in place will save time and potentially lives if the storm, whether it be snow or rain, is serious enough. There is a list of tasks that need to be accomplished before power is restored, so being prepared is of the utmost importance.

Before we discuss what to do during an outage, first we must understand what goes into restoring

power. When an outage occurs, power restoration relies on a few different factors. The extent of the storm's destruction, how many outages there are, and when it becomes safe for utility crews to get to the damaged areas all play a major role in when you will receive power again. Power restoration is not as simple as a flip of a switch; it is a long and somewhat strenuous process for local linemen (the men and women who risk their lives to keep the lights on).

There are many steps that need to be taken by electric companies when going about restoring power. Clearing downed lines, ensuring that public health and safety centers are operational, checking power stations and transformers, repairing power structures and substations, and finally, ensuring that distribution lines are functioning.

When an outage occurs, it is important that you have prepared a storm safety kit. Within this kit, there

should be drinking water, food, pillows, blankets, basic toiletries, flashlights, batteries, a battery-operated radio, emergency contact information, and any prescription medicines that you may take.

Wisconsin experiences rough winter weather and, if you lose power, you may opt to leave your home. Before doing so, consider the elements at hand. If visibility is low, or if the roads are slippery and dangerous, it may be safer to stay inside and wait for power restoration rather than to brave mother nature.

While you wait, it is important to keep yourself occupied. Before smartphones, people used to read and play cards (believe it or not). When the power cuts out, it may be time to play a hand or two of poker, or to read your favorite book under candlelight.

Safety is key and when an outage occurs, it is important that you are properly prepared. There are

a plethora of steps that need to occur before power is restored, so it is best to have all the basic essential items close by. In times like these, it is best to err on the side of caution. With a suitable plan in place, the chances of survival are much higher. Instead of being scared, be prepared.

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