

# the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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## Stevens Point Police Department Introduces New K-9 Unit, Alana

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The Stevens Point Police department announced their new K-9 recruit, Alana, into the force.

Assistant Police Chief Michael Rottier explained the process. Alana, a Belgian Malinois, was chosen out of a selection of other pre-trained dogs from the Vohne Liche Kennel. Alana came from overseas in the Netherlands, where she learned her basic training in obedience and bite work. After that training, She was sent to the Vohne Liche Kennel, where she enhanced her skills and learned how to do drug searches, tracking, and proper handling.

On the day of choosing, the Stevens Point Police Department chose their dog first. They were able to choose first because they were the first caller in a list of applicants. Their decision was quick and easy as Alana was a perfect fit. She passed the tests easily. The first test she was given was a drug test, finding the box with the drugs in it and pointing it out by sitting passively, waiting for the officer to tell her she did well. The next test was to find drugs within an area and repeat the motions from the previous test. They also included a bite test to bring down a per-

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## Historic Fox Theater to be Demolished

An effort to save the historic downtown theater appeared at an end after a nonprofit said it couldn't meet requirements nor a city timeline for renovations. The Fox Theater's history traces back to 1894, when it opened as the Grand Opera House and hosted vaudeville.

Photo by Rob Mentzer/Wisconsin Public Radio via AP

ALLISON PIETTE

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CREATE Portage County's plans to save the façade of the historic Fox Theater downtown were abandoned due to timeline issues.

The changes were announced to Stevens Point city leaders on Oct. 24, in a surprise to leaders including Mayor Mike Wiza. The city recently gave CREATE Portage County \$250,000 to begin phase one of their plan to keep the Fox Theater, which needed to be completed by Dec. 15.

Greg Wright, CREATE Executive Director, said in a statement, "Conversations with the city this week provided greater clarity about the options, expectations, and timelines of the first phase of the Fox project. We learned that all work on this first phase had to be completed by Dec. 15. We shared with the city that contractors had informed us that such a scope of the project and the reality of the construction market. We were told that 'the Dec. 15 deadline does not change.'"

The CREATE project came as an at-

tempt to save the building from a 90-day raze order in late July. The raze order came from a tour of the building done by Wiza and City Building Inspector Superintendent D.J. Schneider, who deemed it unsafe for people to occupy the building.

In a news release issued in late July, Schneider says, "I have extreme safety concerns with the condition of the cupola, roof structure, and theater area walls. Other than the obvious danger within the structure, if any of these items collapse, there is a high probability that there will be damage to the adjacent buildings. These items are the immediate safety issue, there are interior safety issues as well. The bathrooms have immense water damage, the balcony supports and cracked and failing, and portions of the ceiling are falling down, to name a few."

In the same news release, Mayor Mike Wiza said, "It's unfortunate that it has come to this, but safety is a huge concern right now. While this theater was never really ornate, it holds many fond memories for a lot of people. The city has already made a commitment to help save

the façade and I hope the CREATE project finds the rest of the support they need."

The inability to save the building at all comes as a problem for CREATE Portage County's future plans to build an IDEA Center in Stevens Point. Their hopes were to put the new center in the building after its project was complete.

CREATE leaders have said that while the goal is to put the IDEA Center on the property of the Fox Theater after demolition in December, nothing has been solidified for an address.

Wright said in the statement, "CREATE Portage County is still committed to finding a new and exciting home for the IDEA Center. We are actively working to figure out what our next steps will be and will keep the community informed as we figure out those details."

As for the \$250,000, Wright said that CREATE will most likely not use the developer's agreement in any future projects. The group will instead fundraise for the IDEA Center as plans begin to form down the road.



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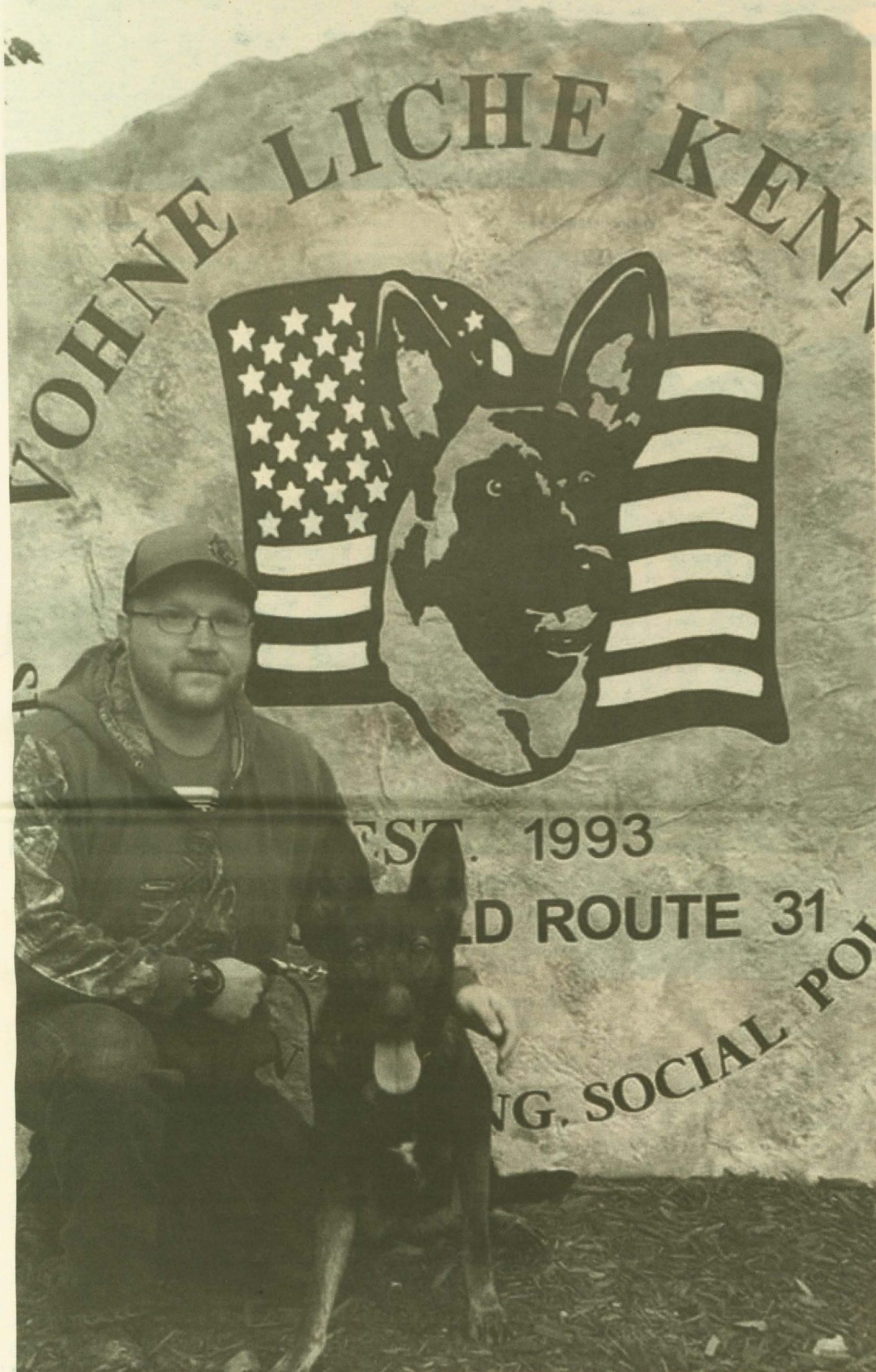
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The Sports Hub - 1 p.m. on Mondays

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## Stevens Point Police... continued from page 1

Alana, a Belgian Malinois, with Officer J.D. Ballew, her new handler. Alana is a dual purpose K-9.

*Photo from Stevens Point Police Department Facebook Page*

son with a bite sleeve on.

A K-9 officer must also be safe around human contact. Alana is a dual purpose K-9, meaning she must be able to go to schools and events for presentations. During the presentations, she must be able to stay still and she must be able to be touched and pet by small children.

Alana's new handler, J.D. Ballew, who

was the previous handler for the now passed Luna, took her for a walk around the town to test her socializing skills. Luna, one of the first K-9 officers, passed away from organ failure on September 4, 2019.

Officer Ballew also had a bonding moment with the new recruit by giving her a bath. After they bonded, Officer Ballew

took Alana home to meet the her new family before they go to Denver, Indiana for the last part of her handler training. Alana is expected to graduate from all training and be a full K-9 officer on December 13, 2019, just in time for Christmas. The duo will be bonded for life as Alana will be living with the Ballew family.

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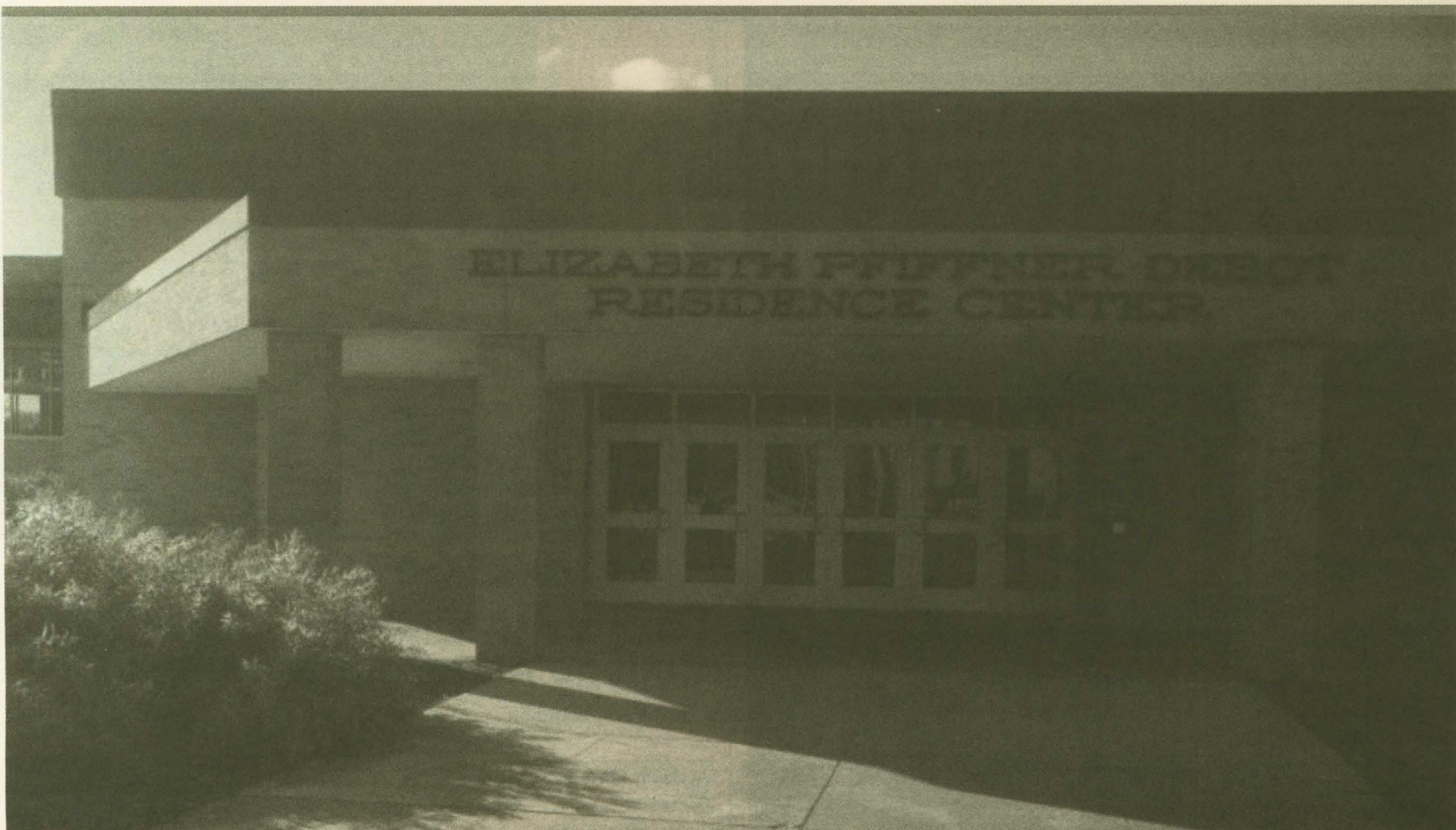
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## Final Dining and Summer Conferences Changes

The newly renovated DeBot will be serving students spring semester of this year.

Photo by Nathan Dorn

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Students have already seen changes related to their food options on campus. However, new and final changes - including new meal plans, and changes to Dawg Dollars, among others - are coming soon.

A survey, emailed to 2,771 students on Oct. 21, was open until Nov. 3. Students were encouraged to voice their opinions about dining changes through this survey. Its results will be considered by Dining and Summer Conferences before they release their final plan.

Suzette Conley, director of Dining and Summer Conferences, said, "Dining will then have a couple weeks to review those results, finalize changes, and then, on Nov. 18, there will be an email [sent out] for what the final changes will be for Spring 2020."

Additionally, Conley says that meal plan information for the 2021 school year will be announced at this time.

A grand opening ceremony for the brand-new dining facility, Upper and Lower DeBot, will take place on Jan. 16. The first meal will be served on Sunday, Jan. 19 at 5 p.m.

Some major changes have been proposed by The Huron Group, an independent consultant company to make dining "financially viable," says Conley. While some of these changes are likely to be implemented, others are contingent on the results of the survey.

The DeBot building project and declining enrollment made these changes necessary.

"I am not thrilled to be implementing these changes either," says Conley. "It is no longer a choice."

One major change concerns what products Dawg Dollars can purchase.

Dawg Dollars can be used to purchase

DSC-produced foods, snacks, bakery and beverages, carton milk, small bottled juice, drip-coffee, and fountain soda. Additionally, a variety of grocery items, including fresh produce, will be packaged by DSC, and thus can be purchased with Dawg Dollars.

Anything not produced by DSC, including: retail products, brand-name products, commercially-produced products, bottled beverages, and crafted coffee drinks can only be purchased with cash, credit and debit cards, and/or Point Cash. Retail items, however, will be competitively-priced.

While meal plans for next semester cannot be changed, likely three new meal plans will be offered beginning fall semester of 2020. In these three plans, meals would not roll-over week-to-week.

The current proposition is that meal plans will range from \$1,470 to \$1,775.

Each meal plan will include five bonus meals, which can be shared with family and guests or can be used if a student runs short of meals. Both meals and Dawg Dollars for all meal plans will not roll-over between semesters.

Lower DeBot will be open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. on weekends. The three food stations in Lower will feature southwest cuisine, food from the grill, and made-to-order sandwiches and soups. Food stations will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Upper DeBot will feature all-you-can-eat dining. It will include seven stations, including "Around the World," "Comfort Cuisine," and "Seared and Served." For the spring 2020 semester, meals will be the following prices: \$5.50 for breakfast, \$6.75 for lunch and \$7.75 for dinner.

The DUC Food Court is proposed to be open spring semester for lunch, Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Overall, Conley says, "Students' best

value for their meal plan is to go to Upper DeBot."

When asked what she was hoping for in terms of changes, freshman Marie Nelson said "[She hopes] DeBot will have more food options and space," which she notes that the DUC is currently lacking.

Another major change that received feedback back in August was the implementation of an administration fee. Currently, the fee is 15 percent based on the volume of the meal plan that a student has. However, DSC hopes to transition to a flat fee.

Some universities in Wisconsin also have administration fees. UW-Stout, for example, has an administration fee of \$952.

Since 2009, dining at UWSP has been self-operated, which was due to student demand to have more of a role in dining decisions. This means that DSC receives no funding from taxes, the state, or the university; it is 100 percent funded by program revenue. UWSP, along with four other universities in Wisconsin, are self-operated. This, according to Conley, has led to positive changes.

A self-operated dining program "was a student-run initiative to have more student employment opportunities, more local [purchases], more sustainable [food], and more of a voice in their dining program."

In 2012, DSC employed 423 students. Currently, only 240 students are employed; largely due to declining enrollment.

Planning for the DeBot building project began back in 2012. At that time there were 6,117 students with meal plans. This year, Conley says she is hopeful to have 4,810 students with meal plans. This equates to a loss of "\$2,019,315 less in revenue."

The renovation project, which costs \$16.8 million, needed to get done. The original building from 1968 had issues

with heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and was no longer in a position to just have minor renovations.

The DeBot project was originally scheduled to be completed this past summer, meaning DeBot would have been open this fall. However, due to a 4-inch margin of error in the building drawings, the project was delayed.

In regards to all the changes and delays related to dining, Conley says, "I know it's been challenging for everyone. I appreciate everyone's patience."

After the length of this building project and the many new additions at DeBot, Conley is excited to see the project come to fruition.

Morgan Briske, freshman, and Rachel Hutchcraft, sophomore, say they are "looking forward to dining at the new DeBot."

Information regarding meal plans, meal plan balance, and the DeBot renovation can be found on the UWSP DSC webpage.

Students who are interested in getting involved with dining can attend dining advisory board meetings that meet once a month on a Friday at 1 p.m. The next meeting is on Nov. 8 in DUC 374.



**Suzette Conley,**  
Director of Dining and  
Summer Conferences

# SGA

Student Government Association

## Newsletter

### RILEY GARSKI

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The Student Government Association is committed to ensuring all students remain healthy on campus and know what services are available to them. Our executive branch has a dedicated director of student health, Sage Lefebvre, who has many goals and initiatives she would like to see accomplished.

Students here at UWSP have access to many healthcare services that they are paying for through their segregated fees. Students can make medical appointments, get physicals, mental health visits, injury/illness care and more all for free! As students, you are already paying for all these services, so please use them whenever you need them. These services under normal circumstances would cost hundreds of dollars, but instead students only pay \$131 per semester. For any questions on what is available to you, feel free to contact the Student Health Director for SGA.

One project the Director of Student Health hopes to get done is to bring back the Cooking for Change event. This event would have dietetics students showing everyday students how to cook healthy food using ingredients that are easy to find. A healthy diet is important to a student's success, but not all students know how to make healthy food, and this event would go a long way in helping to change that.

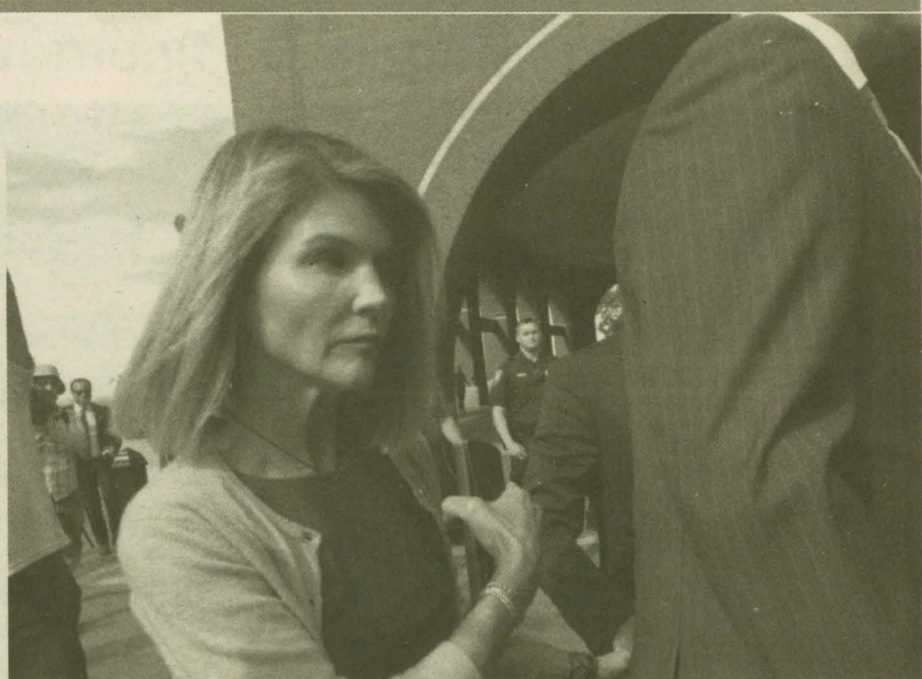
Another initiative is to get funding for a wellness machine. A wellness machine is basically a vending machine that would offer Plan B contraception,

menstruation products that are environmentally friendly and toxin free, other reproductive health items, and cold medications. This machine would likely be in the DUC and eventually moved to Albertyn Hall after it is renovated. The goal is to fund this project through the Green Fund since the wellness machine would include environmentally friendly items. Further, SGA believes that student sustainability is as important as environmental sustainability.

The Student Health Advisory Committee is also leading an effort to have students paint murals in classrooms that desperately need some color. There are several studies that show that murals and classrooms with color can improve physical and mental wellbeing. There are currently some rules and funding hurdles that need to be overcome, but the committee is working hard to get it done.

Other initiatives include an effort to bring an anaphylactic training course to campus so students can become aware of signs of anaphylactic shock and learn how to use an epi pen. It's also important to spread the awareness of the unaffordability of epi pens and how low-income individuals do not always have access to them. The Student Health Advisory Committee is also looking to bring a pulmonologist to campus to discuss the dangers of smoking, and the newly developing dangers of vaping as well.

If you have any campus related health concerns that you think should be addressed, feel free to stop by the SGA office, message us on social media or contact Sage Lefebvre. We love student input and are here to serve you!



## Celebrities Go to Jail After Paying Thousands of Dollars in College Admissions Scandal

Actress Lori Loughlin

Photo courtesy of AP Photo/Steven Senne

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The college admissions scandal broke headlines when it was found that actresses Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, among others, paid thousands of dollars to have their children enrolled in premier universities.

In March 2019, the scandal was only story that was covering news channels for weeks. "Desperate Housewives" star Felicity Huffman and "Fuller House" actress Lori Loughlin were at the center of it all, after it was revealed that they, along with dozens of other parents including Loughlin's husband Mossimo Giannulli, paid tens of thousands of dollars to forge their children's ways into top universities.

Huffman paid \$15,000 to Newport Beach consultant William "Rick" Singer, the man behind the fiasco, to have a proctor change her daughter Sophia's SAT scores, which was why she was admitted into the university she attended. However, Loughlin and Giannulli paid \$500,000 to Singer for both of their daughters, Olivia Jade and Isabella, to be recruited to the University of Southern California rowing team, despite lacking past experiences.

At the sentencing hearing in September, Huffman was sentenced to 14 days in the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California, a \$30,000 fine, 250 hours of community service, and one year of supervised release. She began her sentence on Oct. 15, yet was released 11 days later due to a policy that allows inmates to be released early if their release date is on a weekend. Loughlin and Giannulli have maintained their not guilty pleas.

On Oct. 22, a grand jury in Boston indicted 11 parents with new bribery charges, adding to the fraud and money laundering charges that were the initial indictments in March. Loughlin and Giannulli are among the parents indicted. Huffman was able to avoid the new charges by originally pleading guilty.

Originally, there were 15 parents informed of the impending charges the week prior to Oct 22; however, they were also told that they could avoid the charges if they switched their plea from not-guilty to guilty. Four of the parents changed their plea on Oct. 21 before the deadline.

Aaron Zimmerman, an admissions counselor for UW-Stevens Point, said, "There is an accountability university staff should hold for one another but at the same time it sounds like there was a lot of money involved so who knows if that accountability went out the window when money was brought into the situation. People are greedy and corrupt and that unfortunately won't change in our lifetime."

Students on campus had the same consensus about the scandal: it's unfair. Many felt as though it was unfair for the parents of the scandal to use their wealth to pay their child's way into college when there are better uses for the money. They also felt as though it was not the child's fault, and that they should not be punished for their parent's actions.

One student, who wished to remain anonymous, said, "I feel that while the parents were unfair, the kids still deserve a shot. If their academics fail after the cut off of financial help, they should be kicked out."

When asked if the students affected by their parent's actions deserved a second chance, Zimmerman said, "I think because of the parents actions the kids should have to go through another application or do something to prove they belong in that spot at that university. Somebody else likely got waitlisted or denied because their parents cheated the system, they should be required to earn their spot on their own."

When asked, the director of recruitment declined an interview on the subject.

If charged, Loughlin and the other parents could face up to 40 years in prison. If they change their plea, the parents may be able to be sentenced with a punishment similar to Huffman's sentence.

# TOYS FOR TOTS

STOP BY THE RESIDENTIAL  
LIVING OFFICE TO DONATE!

## UWSP Students Help Children in Need

Photo by Diana Heineck

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UWSP Students can help low income children get toys for Christmas by donating toys to Marine Toys for Tots at the Residential Living office, starting on Nov. 8 until December. Every donation will get a Zest Bakery & Coffee House coupon.

The Residential Living Office has announced that they will have a toy collection bin at their office, where new toys in their original packaging without the wrapping, will be collected.

Klaire Brault, an English education junior and Resident Hall Association President said, "I think this activity is a great way to give back to the community and show our support for those who are less fortunate in the community. Helping out some children in the area and providing a small toy that they will hopefully enjoy is an awesome way to give back to the community. I am certainly thinking about contributing and giving a child in our area a fun toy to enjoy during the holiday season."

Danielle Rosene, Residential Living

Marketing & Event Coordinator informed that the Toys for Tots Program, run by the US Marine Corps Reserve, will wrap and distribute the toys in Stevens Point.

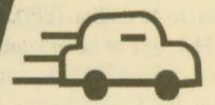
Rosene said, "Our purpose is to help the Marine Corps Reserve with getting new donated toys to help children in need in our area. It is a great way to spread holiday cheer, love and joy and support the University and the Stevens Point community."

Rosene added, "I would like to thank everyone in advance who will donate to this great cause! The Portage Co. Toys

for Tots program will need additional help getting donations this year. One of their major fund-raising businesses is not able to help this year. So, as a campus and community any additional support would be greatly appreciated!"

Starting on Nov. 8, students can drop their donations at the Residential Living Office located at 601 Division Street Stevens Point WI 54481 with main doors located on Isadore Street.

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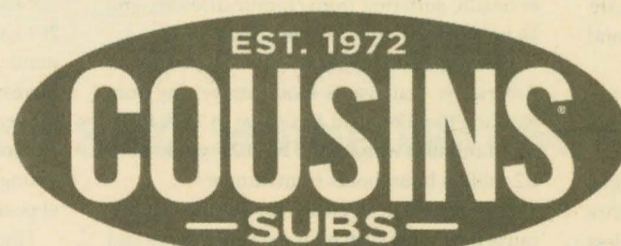
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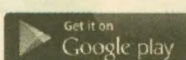
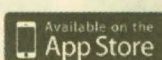
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## Critical Look: \$15 Minimum Wage

"Fight for \$15" rally in New York City, 2015. With a looming presidential election, it's important to know a bit more about a \$15 minimum wage.

Photo taken from Wikimedia Commons.

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A \$15 federal minimum wage has become commonplace in political discourse in the United States.

Recently, the Raise the Wage Act (House Resolution 582) of 2019, which passed in the House, would gradually increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 by 2024. After 2024, it would be increased accordingly each year.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the typical beneficiary of said wage is a 35-year-old woman, who earns the minimum wage, works full-time and has some college education. More than 50 percent of workers' affected are between the ages of 25 and 54, while 28 percent have children. Less than 10 percent are teenagers.

Overall, a \$15 federal minimum wage by 2024 would boost incomes for millions of low and minimum wage-workers: ranging from 17 million (U.S. Congressional Budget Office report) to 40 million (EPI).

If H.R. 582 or other similar legislation were passed, it would likely impact individuals as well as the U.S. economy as a whole. Therefore, let's take a closer look at a \$15 federal minimum wage.

For:

A \$15 minimum wage is necessary for workers to make-a-living.

According to the EPI, in all areas of the U.S. by 2024, a single adult without children will need at least \$15 an hour to make a modest standard of living. The National Employment Law Project also made similar findings.

In rural Missouri, for example, a single adult without children will need to earn \$17.17 per hour by 2024 to cover basic living costs. In costlier areas, such as Miami or New York City, this same worker will need to earn \$20.72 and \$28.72, respectively.

An increase in the federal minimum wage would not lead to job losses. Instead, it will spur economic growth.

According to The Century Foundation, worker productivity has almost doubled since 1968, but workers' wages are 25 percent less (adjusted to inflation). Wages should be increased to strengthen workers' purchasing power.

The EPI estimates that a \$5100 increase in the annual wage income of a low-income worker represents, for example, 18 months of groceries or two years of health insurance costs for their family.

Wage increases do not necessarily negatively affect employment.

A 2009 meta-analysis from the British Journal of Industrial Relations found no evidence that minimum wages negatively affect employment. Another meta-analysis in 2017 found little to no negative employment effects when comparing higher minimum wage areas to lower minimum wage areas.

A 2018 study found that the highest federal minimum wages did not negatively affect employment in the low-wage workforce. Additionally, a UC Berkeley study compared large

cities with significantly higher and lower minimum wages and found no significant effects on employment.

Minimum wage increases may lead to increased consumer spending.

A Federal Bank of Chicago report found that a \$1 increase in the minimum wage would boost consumer spending for households with minimum wage workers. Additionally, the same report predicted that a \$1.75 rise in the federal minimum wage would boost aggregate household spending by \$48 billion the following year.

A 2013 EPI report states that over a three-year phase-in period, a minimum wage increase to \$10.10 would create 85,000 jobs and inject \$22.1 billion net dollars into the economy.

Higher wages have positive effects on worker morale and productivity, reduce turnover rates, benefit employee retention, and decrease spending on welfare programs.

A report from Obama's Council of Economic Advisors found that paying below-market wages is associated with lower worker-morale, higher training costs for employers, and higher turnover rates.

TCF states that higher pay increases worker productivity due to greater motivation, improved health, and a perception of fairness. Kevin Neumann, Head of the UWSP School of Business and Economics and Associate Dean of the College of Professional Studies, says this is similar to "efficiency wage theory."

From an employers' point-of-view: "If I pay you a little bit more, you'll work harder. If you're more productive, you're worth more to me."

Low-wage workers may have poorer health. A 2014 Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative study found that minimum wage workers are more likely to report having poorer health, suffering from chronic diseases, and be unable to afford nutritious food.

Feeding America states that 54 percent of Americans that use a food pantry are from working families. And according to TCF, a federal minimum wage of \$15 by 2023 would raise 1.2 million households from hunger.

Low retention is costly for businesses, because they must search for new employees and then experience lower productivity while they are being trained.

Safety-net benefits for low-wage workers cost federal and state taxpayers more than \$150 billion a year. Increasing the federal minimum wage would reduce at least some of this spending.

Lastly, minimum wage increases can reduce poverty.

A 2014 CBO report found that increasing the federal minimum wage to \$9 would lift 300,000 people out of poverty, while a \$10.10 wage would lift 900,000. When families are lifted out of poverty: teenagers are less likely to miss as much school, their school performances improve, and they are less likely to drop-out of high school.

Against:

A \$15 minimum wage would benefit some at the cost of employment for others. According to Neuman, "the biggest issue [from this] is

a declining employment, in theory."

If employers have to pay higher wages, especially a \$15 wage, they will hire fewer employees, reduce employee hours, outsource jobs, and/or automate some jobs.

Suzette Conley, director of Dining and Summer Conferences, sees this as a potential problem for the 243 DSC student-employees. The average rate of pay among these employees is \$9.12. According to Conley, a \$15 minimum wage would have huge impacts on DSC.

"[DSC] would have a definite decline in the number of staff that we could afford, which then results in a decline in service opportunities, hours, and the decline in value, to an extent, of a product."

A higher minimum wage would likely lead to job loss, though estimates vary.

A 2011 Heritage Foundation report estimated that a \$15 wage would lead to 7 million jobs lost; whereas a CBO report found that by 2025 a \$15 minimum wage would cost between 1.3 and 3.7 million low-wage workers their jobs. Another CBO report found that if the minimum wage was increased to just \$10.10, it would result in a loss of 500,000 jobs.

Some employers, especially larger companies, are more likely to automate jobs. A 2017 National Bureau of Economic Research paper found that between 1980 and 2015, areas that raised the minimum wage also saw a rise in job loss due to automation of low-wage jobs.

Major cities that have raised the minimum wage to \$15 or above may see a reduction in employment.

An American Economic Review study found evidence that increases to the minimum wage reduce employment. The study estimated reductions in Los Angeles (3 percent), Seattle (2 percent), and San Francisco (1 percent).

Raising wages would disproportionately harm younger and poorer workers, the poorest areas of the U.S. and small businesses. A 2018 study from the National Bureau of Economic Research found that the minimum wage increase in Seattle, to \$15 or higher, caused employers' to hire fewer workers with less skills and job experience. This particularly impacted younger workers, who couldn't find entry-level positions for experience as easily.

Higher wages reduce opportunities for low-skill workers and limit career advancement, while job loss (from minimum wage increases) particularly impact low-income workers who may not have adequate financial savings.

Employers will likely charge more for goods or services and may reduce employee benefits. This particularly impacts poorer workers and workers in poorer areas.

A Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland study found that raises to the minimum wage "increase the proportion of families that are poor or near-poor."

A 2017 Heritage Foundation report estimated that a \$15 wage would increase fast-food prices between 24 and 38 percent. A 2019 survey from Harri found that a majority (71 percent) of restaurant operators would increase menu prices, while some said they would reduce employee hours and eliminate jobs.

Additionally, 40 percent of Chief Financial Officers surveyed in 2014 said they would re-

duce employee benefits if the minimum wage was increased to \$10.

A \$15 federal minimum wage is not the solution: a strong economy and targeted poverty-relief policies are.

The free market is the best way to boost incomes and economic opportunities, and wages are based on the value of work. Businesses have their own specific costs, revenue, and employee needs, and are more able to determine appropriate wages.

Focusing on reducing barriers for workers and entrepreneurs to find jobs and supporting temporary employment positions will support a strong economy.

Implementing a one-size-fits-all policy on states in the form of a \$15 federal minimum wage ignores regional differences in living costs and other expenses. Neumann points to the fact that

"Seattle's labor market or San Francisco's labor market are very different than Central Wisconsin, rural Missouri or Oklahoma."

Earned Income Tax Credits, child-care subsidies, and other targeted programs will aid in poverty relief. Neumann says that he would like to a higher base-floor minimum wage (maybe \$10 to \$12), along with more-precise, targeted programs.

"[The] minimum wage is best as part of a portfolio of poverty reduction, low-wage-worker policies."

Overall, there is conflicting evidence that a \$15 minimum wage would have an impact on employment levels; as well as whether this increase in wages will be more beneficial or harmful for the economy as-a-whole, and for the low-wage workers it is supposed to assist. Also, a \$15 minimum wage may be necessary as living costs increase across the country.

The evidence seems to suggest that a \$15 minimum wage would benefit low-wage workers' health and food security, possibly decrease welfare spending, benefit employee productivity and decrease job turnover rates. Additionally, automation seems to have an important role in a \$15 minimum wage and employers' decision-making.

The discourse and relevance of a \$15 minimum wage (or higher) are likely not going anywhere soon. This impacts workers young and old, students and non-students alike. It appears that with this topic, as with others, the answer may lie somewhere in the middle.



Kevin Neuman  
Head of the UWSP  
School of Business  
and Economics,  
Associate Dean of  
the College of Professional Studies



Suzette Conley,  
Director of Dining and  
Summer Conferences



## UWSP Loses Home Opener, Ends SNC Home Win Streak

Luke McElhenie lines up a shot in a game against St. Norbert.

*Photo courtesy of Kylie Bridenhagen*

**Jackson Jirik**  
REPORTER  
jjiri737@uwsp.edu

UWSP Men's hockey split their home and home series this weekend against number four ranked Saint Norbert College. Their first game was exciting as they fell 3 to 2 in overtime, snapping a 31-game winning streak that dated all the way back to the start of the previous season when they won the NCAA Division III National Championship.

The Pointers opened the scoring in a tight battled game on a break-away goal from Austin Kelly, with a great lead pass from Colin Raver.

The Pointers would add to the lead on a shorthanded goal from Luke McElhenie, assisted by Ryan Mackellar, using the forecheck to their advantage giving the Pointers a 2-0 lead. Everything looked well until the Saint Norbert Knights took advantage of a two-on-one chance putting one past goalie Eli Billing. This would cut the lead to one and soon the Saint Norbert Knights were able to get things all tied up in the third.

Although the Pointers had chances to score in the final 2 1/2 minutes of the game, they were unable to do so. To start off overtime the Pointers had pressure, but with a

bad pass causing a turnover in the Pointers' own zone, the Saint Norbert Knights took advantage of it and on a wraparound goal that went five-hole with them winning the game. Eli Billing played a good game keeping the Pointers alive but took the loss. Defensive breakdowns would be the hurtful part for the Pointers.

On Saturday they then went into De Pere, Wisconsin to face the Saint Norbert Knights on their home ice. The Pointers would win the game 3-1 ending Saint Norberts home game win streak at 41 games. The Pointers went down 0-1 late in the first on a goal from the Knights but

the Pointers answered back with three of their own. Goals coming from Zach Zech, Ryan Mackellar, and Luke McElhenie. Assists belonged to Kelly O'Brien, Ryan Orgel, and Luke McElhenie.

Both teams ending a big streak on each other's home ice. It'll be an interesting weekend to see where they will rank after being previously ranked number one for Stevens Point and number four for Saint Norbert. The Pointers have upcoming games this weekend against Gustavus Adolphus on Friday and the University of St. Thomas on Saturday. Both games are at the K.B Willet ice arena.

## Sports of The Week

**UW-SP Athletic Calendar:**  
Nov. 6- Nov. 21

### Women's Soccer

Vs. WIAC Semifinals tournament in Stevens Point, Nov 7th @ 2 p.m.

### Volleyball

At WIAC Semifinals Tournament TBD, Nov 7th @ 7 p.m.

At WIAC Finals Tournament TBD, Nov 9th

### Men's Hockey

Vs. Gustavus Adolphus College in Stevens Point, Nov 8th @ 7 p.m.

Vs. University of St. Thomas, Nov 9th @ 7 p.m.

At Saint John's University, Nov 15th @ 7:30 p.m.

At Bethel University, Nov 16th @ 7 p.m.

### Women's Hockey

At University of St. Thomas, Nov 8th @ 7 p.m.

At University of St. Thomas, Nov 9th @ 2 p.m.

At UW-River Falls, Nov 15th @ 7:05 p.m.

At St. Norbert College, Nov 19th @ 7 p.m.

### Wrestling

At Dan Gable Open, in Oshkosh, Nov 9th @ 9 a.m.

Vs. Lakeland University, Nov 13th @ 6 p.m.

At Adrian College, Alma College, Penn State Behrend, Fontbonne University, Nov 16th @ 10 a.m.

At UW-Oshkosh, Nov 21st @ 7 p.m.

### Football

At UW-Platteville, Nov 9th @ 2 p.m.

Vs UW-La Crosse, Nov 16th @ 1 p.m.

### Swimming and Diving

At Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI, Nov 9th @ 2 p.m.

### Women's Basketball

At Northland College in Ashland, WI, Nov 12th @ 5:30 p.m.

At DePauw University UW-Whitewater Tip-Off Tournament, Nov 15th @ 6 p.m.

At Concordia University Chicago UW-Whitewater Tip-Off, Nov 16th @ 3 p.m.

Vs Lakeland University, Nov 20th @ 7 p.m.

### Women's Wrestling

Vs Lakeland University, Nov 13th @ 6 p.m.

At Missouri Valley Open in Marshall, MO, Nov 17th @ 9 a.m.

At MacMurray College in Jacksonville, IL, Nov 20th @ 6 p.m.

### Men's Basketball

Vs. St. Olaf College, Nov 13th @ 7 p.m.

### Cross Country

At NCAA Midwest Regional at Winneconne, WI, Nov 16th @ 11 a.m.

# Pointer Profiles

These profiles highlight student athletes that have been competing for UWSP.

## Pointer Profile- Logan Fredericks

**DANA BAUTCH**  
SPORTS EDITOR  
dbaut833@uwsp.edu

**Sport:** Hockey

**Position:** Leftwing

**Major:** Accounting

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Millstone Township, NJ

**When did you start playing hockey?** I started when I was three years old. I started on roller skates and then I was probably about four years old when I ended up on ice skates. I think it was more because my brother was playing roller hockey at the time and it was just something for my dad to do with us. He brought us to the roller rink, put some skates on us and just let us lose all of our energy so that we would sleep through the night. I think that is how it started.

**What other sports have you played?** I actually played soccer my whole life up until the end of high school and during high school, I played soccer, I wrestled for a year, I played lacrosse and then every now and then I played golf casually. I think I just had more of a passion for hockey, soccer just wasn't it for me. I guess I like hitting people and it wasn't as intense for me but I definitely do like playing every now and again.

**What would you consider a successful season for you?** I think a successful season would be making it to the national championships and winning it all I think

that is a successful season. I know that's a lot of pressure but I think we do have what it takes and I think that's our goal, that's our mindset. We don't have an automatic bid so its kind of like every single game is like a playoff game for us.

**Where do you see yourself in five years?** To be honest I don't really know. I thought that life was all planned out and it kind of took a turn. So I think in five years I kind of see myself working, wherever life takes me.

**What is your favorite part about playing hockey?** I think it's just because it's basically like a family, a brotherhood in a way. Like everybody knows everything about everyone and I think that's just the thing all the laughs, all of the memories that you make on all of the bus trips. Also going to battle with the boys, that's what we call it, just that mentality that we are all in it for one thing and we will push each other till the end, till we get what we want to accomplish.

**What is one of your favorite memories from playing at UW-Stevens Point?** One of my favorite memories was flying out to Lake Placid. It was interesting, we were stuck on a plan with St. Norbert and it was all of the laughs that we had, the scenery we saw as we flew over Lake Placid, the attitude that we had hopping on the bus to Lake Placid. We were all in high spirits and then just getting into

Lake Placid, it was just one of those attitudes where we were all happy.

**If you could give one piece of advice to incoming athletes what would it be?** Enjoy everything, I mean it kind of is like a blink of an eye. I know that is kind of everybody's advice but it really is true. Four years went like that, I remember meeting Kelly, who was my roommate all four years, for the first time. I moved in shook hands, parents met and we were on our own and it feels like it was yesterday.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?** I would like to go to Europe to be honest. I like soccer so I would like to go to see a couple of English leagues, Chelsea is my favorite so it would be fun to go see them.

**What is your favorite meal?** To be honest it's not spaghetti anymore, you kind of get used to that. I think it would have to be pizza, to be honest.

**What was your favorite class?**

Probably real estate with professor Shallow. I think that was really kind of interesting to me because it's another route that I kind of want to go towards.



**Logan Fredericks.** Photo courtesy of UWSP athletics.

## Pointer Profile - Danny Kiraly

**DANA BAUTCH**  
SPORTS EDITOR  
dbaut833@uwsp.edu

**Sport:** Hockey

**Position:** Defense

**Major:** Business Administration

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Glendale, AZ

**When did you start playing hockey?** I started playing hockey when I was seven years old in Glendale Arizona. I got into it because my dad's side of the family is from the east coast and my cousins grew up playing hockey and they came over for Christmas and just got me into playing hockey.

**What made you choose to play hockey for UW-Stevens Point?** I played Juniors in Texas and a lot of my teammates from that team committed to playing here. I choose to go to a different college in Alaska and I played there for two years and I wanted a change of scenery so I kept in touch with my old teammates and they got me set up here and I thought it was a good fit and it's worked great ever since.

**What other sports have you played?** Growing up I played a little bit of flag football and soccer. The majority that I played was basketball and soccer growing up.

**What would you consider a successful season for you?** For team success, it definitely is another national win for us that's our goal coming into the beginning of each year and one that we accomplished last year so that's definitely our goal for this year. For me personally, I'm just trying to continue to work on my game and if things go how I hope for

them to go hopefully and All-American bid or an All-WIAC or any sort of award like that Maybe even NCAA All-American team that would be another good one to win. After that, if pro hockey works out that would definitely be a cherry on top as well.

**Where do you see yourself in five years?** It depends, if hockey works out I mean it would be awesome if I could still be playing at the professional level and getting paid to play. Obviously it would be really cool if that happened. If not I could see myself doing something in the computer and technical field for my field, I am really interested in things like that.

**What is your favorite part about playing hockey?** My favorite part about playing hockey, to be honest, is that it is a little bit of a getaway. Being a student-athlete there is a lot of stress with school work and a bunch of other stuff you have going on in your life and when you go to the rink every day for that one hour it's kind of a getaway and you are just having fun with 20 or 25 of your closest friends and it's just kind of a little bit of a getaway for me and it's fun.

**What is one of your favorite memories from playing at UWSP?** I would have to go with winning the National Championship game, either that or the game against St. Norbert where we beat them in the quarter-final. I still remember being on the bench when Steven Quagliata scored for us in overtime and I just lost it. It was so much fun and the atmosphere in the arena with the fans was just awesome, they were so supportive of us the whole year. That was really special for us to win

it and to win it at home, it was just a perfect season.

**If you could give one piece of advice to incoming athletes what would you say?** My piece of advice would be to just enjoy it, it goes by really fast. I know that everyone says that but I still remember getting into my dorm room freshman year and here I am a couple of weeks away from the second semester senior year. It goes by really quick for most of it. Enjoy it and have fun.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?** I would say Greece, I don't know I've just seen a lot of things posted about it online and it just seems like a really cool place, there is a lot of history so I think it would be a really great place to go. Either that or Israel.

**What is your favorite meal?** You can't go wrong with a good Chipotle burrito. I'm sad they don't have one here in Stevens Point but that would be my favorite meal.

**What was your favorite class?** Probably a class I'm taking right now which is E-Marketing with Ricardo Boeing. I just like Boeing as a teacher and E-Marketing just has a lot of technology-based stuff with the marketing side of things so definitely that class.



**Danny Kiraly.** Photo Courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

**Locations:**

**2nd Street Antiques**  
900 2nd St, Stevens Point, WI  
P, \$

**Call it New/ Call it Antique**  
823 Main St, Stevens Point, WI  
P, \$

**Blue Moon Books**  
2182 Strong's Ave, Stevens Point, WI  
P, \$

**Memory Market Ite**  
2026 Patch St, Stevens Point, WI  
(Storefront no longer open)

**Antique Up**  
3256 Church St, Stevens Point, WI  
P, \$

**Kurtzweil's Antiques**  
2408 Helen St, Stevens Point, WI  
P, \$\$\$

**Specialties:**

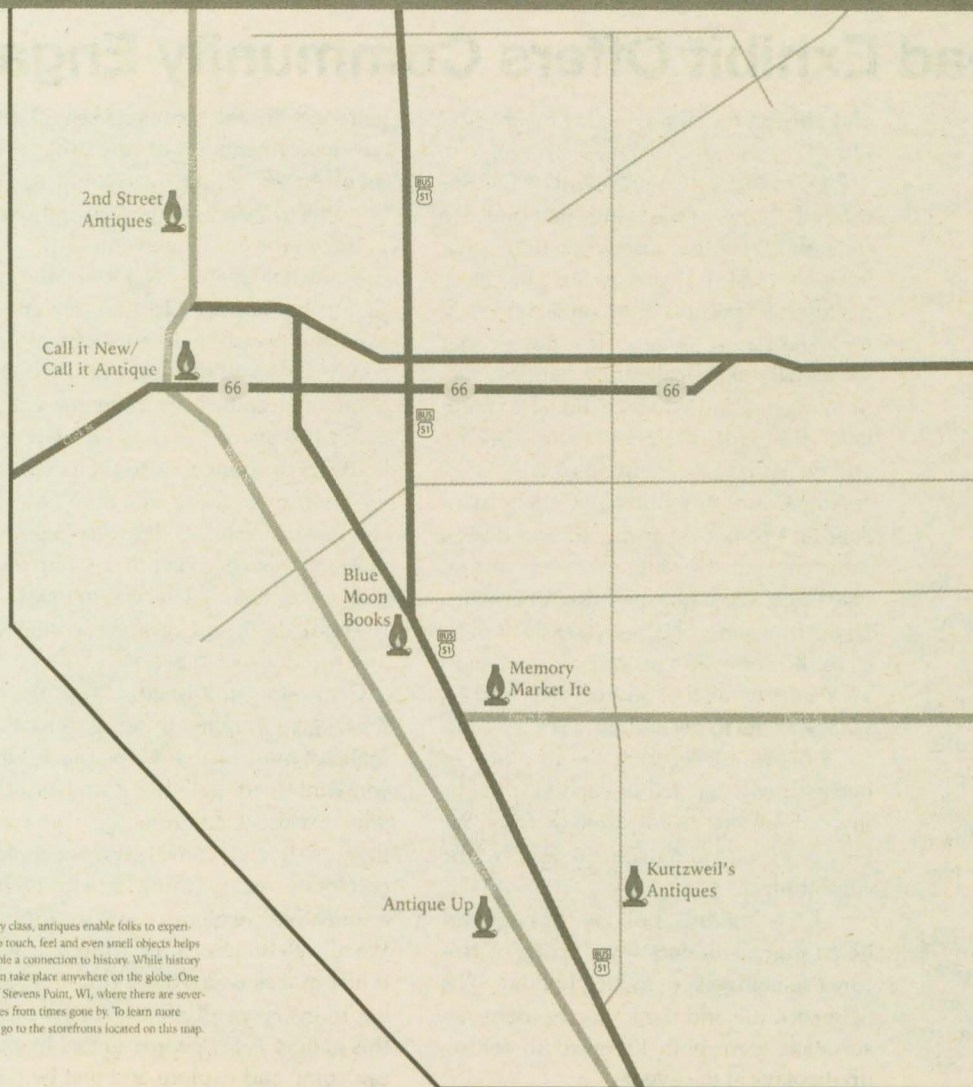
P= Privately owned  
V= Vendors

**Price Ratings:**

\$= Low  
\$\$= Decent  
\$\$\$= Fairly Expensive

**History:**

Unlike the textbooks that are read in history class, antiques enable folks to experience history in a physical way. Being able to touch, feel and even smell objects helps bring the past to the present and gives people a connection to history. While history is anything that has already happened, it can take place anywhere on the globe. One of those places is right in the "backyard" of Stevens Point, WI, where there are several quality antique stores that house treasures from times gone by. To learn more about history by physically experiencing it, go to the storefronts located on this map.



**Antique Stores in Stevens Point, WI**  
Guide for novice antiquers

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## Honors Orchestra Festival Features High School Students on Campus

FLORENCE ANDERSON  
REPORTER  
fande807@uwsp.edu

Honors Orchestra Concert conducted by Andy Moran in Michelson Concert Hall

The Music Department at Stevens Point held the first high school event of the school year on November 2nd. Schools around Wisconsin were invited to attend the Honors Orchestra Festival, allowing 30 students from seven different schools the opportunity to work with college professors and perform on a college campus.

Getting into honors orchestra is no an easy task, as it requires more than just a day of commitment. Students must fill out an application and pay a \$30 fee before attending the event. After getting accepted into the Honors Event, students received their sheet music and were asked to practice before the day of the event. Students must willing to put in hours of time and work to attend the event. Any student in their school orchestra is open to apply but must consider the event as a more than just a one-day commitment.

High school students started the day by practicing the music they would perform that night. Afterward, students attended a clinic and performance held by the String Faculty at UWSP. They were then treated to lunch before returning to practice once more. After a brief soundcheck, the high schoolers were able to ask college music majors and music staff any questions they had about col-

lege, majoring in music, or anything else they had in mind.

At the end of the day, the students performed for their teachers, parents, and other members of the public at a concert. It took place in Michelson Concert Hall, on the second floor of the NFAC. The violin, viola, cello, and bass players' hard work paid off as they executed three beautiful pieces, including "Farandole" from "L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2" by Georges Bizet and arranged Merle J. Isaac, "Celtic Roots" by Soon Hee Newbold, followed by "Incantations" by Richard Meyer.

Andy Moran, Assistant Professor of or-

chestra and french horn at UWSP, conducted the group at their performance. Moran believes the opportunity stands to benefit both students and the school, stating "It's a good chance for students to meet other string players... realize that there are other students at other schools who enjoy [orchestra] as they do... and to work on their musical skills." Moran continued, mentioning "[As a university, we are] always encouraging high school students to be on campus, to know what it's like here."

The event not only posed to provide students a chance to further orchestra interest but also expose them to music ma-

jors at the University. Other recruitment events will be held throughout the years, such a Tuba Christmas in December and Flute Frenzy in January. Their next event will be on November 8th, a Wind Ensemble Invitational. High school students interested in attending UWSP for music or students hoping for scholarships should take note of upcoming auditions. The first audition is November 20, though the next three auditions aren't until February 12, 15, and 29. More information on the event, future events, and the application process can be found at the department of music's page on the UWSP's website.



## Day of the Dead Exhibit Offers Community Engagement

GABRIELLE ARNOLD

NEWS EDITOR

garno140@uwsp.edu

The Edna Carlston Art Gallery hosted an opening event for art from student organizations, students, faculty, and community members alike in their annual Day of the Dead exhibit on Oct. 31 and will continue the exhibit until Nov. 29.

The opening event consisted of endless engaging activities such as mask making, tarot card reading, and a costume contest with prizes for the top three winners.

For years, the Carlston Gallery has celebrated the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, by displaying local art pertaining to the holiday. The event was partially made to help people understand the holiday itself. Day of the Dead is a grand part of Mexican culture.

Cristina Montejano, president of LSA, said, "in Mexican culture we have this thing called Día de los Muertos. It's when family members set up an altar on November second to honor their past loved ones. So, people believe that at that time, their family members who passed away are coming to visit and that their memories are being held alive and their spirit is being held alive as we honor them and put them on our ofrenda."

An ofrenda is a collection of offerings

and gifts on the ritual display for the holiday.

Edgar Flores, vice-president of LSA informed, "some of the things you offer are food and water because when they come back, they eat it. If you do taste the food, it's tasteless because they came, and they took the flavor away... The flower that we usually use is called the cempasuchil, or marigold, and what we did here is replicate the path that people can walk on and walk up to their ofrenda."

Amy Cannestra, Carlsten Gallery manager and professor in the art and design program said, "it actually started several years ago; we had a painting instructor-Diana Bywaters. She has a couple of pieces in the show and as you can see, she's very into what the Day of the Dead is, what it came to be, and how it's celebrated. So, keeping up with the tradition of her work we decided to expand it out as the community and exhibit with us. We kind of expanded outside the walls of the community."

Celebrating this holiday through art helps make students from different cultures feel involved in the holiday. The Spanish Club and the Latino Student Association were both involved in setting up displays at the event.

Cannestra said, "a lot of community members are involved, and we have our

gallery staff which comes from all different departments on campus that are all involved in setting everything up, getting this to look how it looks and participating in the opening events."

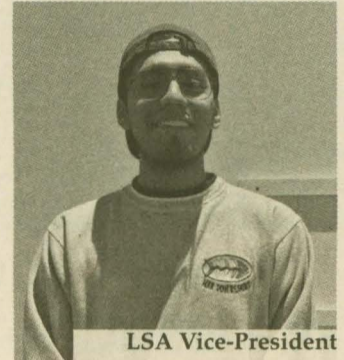
Montenajo said, "a lot of the people in this org are Mexican descent and even the people who are from different countries [have] the opportunity to learn about our culture or different cultures [from the event] ... In a lot of ways, it helps us to connect us to the people that we loved even those who aren't Mexican can have an ofrenda. It's very celebrated in Brazil as well, so in other countries, it's also something that special to them."

This exhibit engages the community and promotes the gallery.

Cannestra informed, "[events like these] give us many things. I think that it makes it more of an inviting place. I think sometimes art galleries can feel sterile and disconnected from the community if you're having conversations people aren't interested in. I think [it helps to] have a show that we all can relate to culturally. We all celebrate death in different ways, it just makes us a little bit more accessible to everyone. That's what I want for this gallery is for people to feel like they can come and explore and just be a part of what we're doing."



LSA President  
Christina Montejano



LSA Vice-President  
Edgar Flores



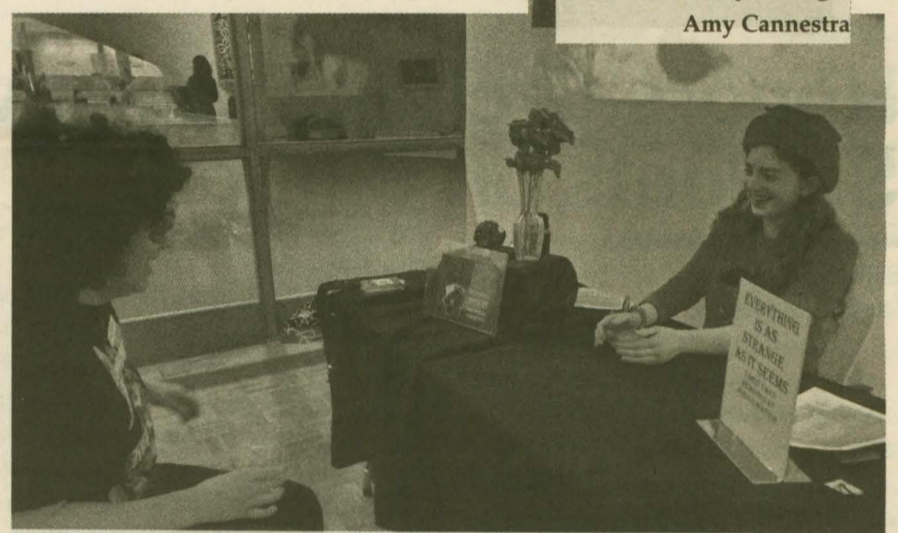
Carlsten Gallery Manager  
Amy Cannestra



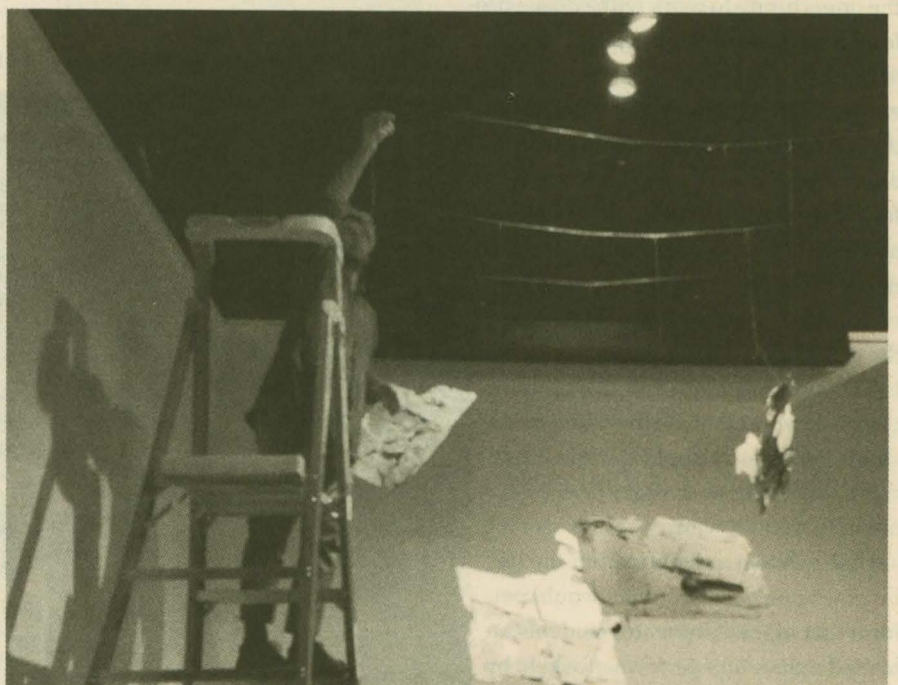
Latino Student Alliance prepares for opening event by setting up their intricate ofrenda consisting of pictures of loved ones, paintings by student artists, and a path of candles and marigolds.



90FM sets up their station beside a mask making interactive activity to narrate the event to listeners.



Tarot reading station inspires students and opens minds to what they might expect in their near futures.



Student Owen Moran sets up his piece Observations of a Burned Building before the opening event using plaster and wood insillation as a medium.



## Creative and differences characteristics emphasizes the production of 'Clown Bar'

The cast of Clown Bar during rehearsal. A play consisting of clown noir, revenge and quirkiness. Getting ready for their performances that run November 8-10 and 14-16. Tickets at DUC Info and Tickets or [uwsp.edu/tickets](http://uwsp.edu/tickets). Photo credited to Sarah Sartell.

**SARAH SARTELL**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
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The cast of Clown Bar during rehearsal. A play consisting of clown noir, revenge and quirkiness. Getting ready for their performances that run November 8-10 and 14-16. Tickets at DUC Info and Tickets or [uwsp.edu/tickets](http://uwsp.edu/tickets)

Quirkiness, spunkiness and some clowns entail the next production of the theatre department's 2019-2020 season, Clown Bar, premiering Nov. 8 -10 and 14-16 in Jenkins Theatre in the Noel Fine Arts Center.

Tickets are \$26 for adults, \$16 for youth and half priced discounted tickets for students on the day of performance, if not sold out. Tickets can be purchased at the DUC information and tickets booth or UWSP's website.

Happy, the main character and an ex-clown, comes back to the 'clown world' to get revenge after finding out his clown brother got murdered. A comedy about clowns, playfulness and creativeness brings out the soft side of them.

Written by Adam Szymkowicz, a new

famous playwright, only first premiering in 2011, the UW-Stevens Point theatre department will be showing this show's 39th production of this new piece of work.

Tyler Marchant, director and professor of acting, talked about what is so unique about this show.

"There's a bunch of clowns on stage," all the characters are clowns except for Happy. It's a different play the theatre department has done before because it deals with clown specifics such as behavior and physicality and a higher caliber of technicality of a character, with this production. Marchant emphasizes it's a "...stylistic departure but at the heart of it, it's still very much of a play."

There are so many choices that have been made with set, costumes, makeup and sounds. All of these elements are specifically chosen for a reason for the play and to serve it all. As these elements are typical in each theatre and dance performance. These aspects that are designed are done by many students in the department.

There are many reasons why Marchant

wanted to direct this play and that includes fundamentals of realism, choices the actors make but ultimately he wanted the actors to be "confronted with high styles, push themselves to be creative about other worlds," because this type of play is so different and so many qualities that the students can learn from.

In addition, a key thing to keep in mind that Marchant said is, "story is the most important thing, they just happen to be clowns."

Amanda Spencer, junior BFA musical theatre and playing Petunia, a prostitute clown in the cast, explained what a challenge was for her.

She said, "A challenge [for me] is keeping your clown physicality while doing choreography and while walking across stage. There's never a moment where we are not clowns."

Spencer said she can't wait to get into clown makeup and clown costume so she can channel her inner clown.

Even the costumes and makeup are different than what the students and department are used to. It's a first-time experience for many of them. At the time of

the performance, it will be one fascinating product.

There are a lot of aspects of the show to look forward to. A common myth people have about clowns is that they are scary or horrifying and with this play, the director and actors of the cast are trying to show not all of them are this type but more of human like.

"Give this show a chance, [because] you'll find that [in this production] they're very human and happen to be highly stylized, in terms of their behavior, their voices, the way they walk, look, but they're just living their lives and that's magical not scary for me." Marchant encourages the public to come see the show, despite one's initial thoughts.

Creativity and sense of play are key themes in this play. By the collaborative relationships between the director and actors, helps build this vision that provides the audience of fun and embracing all uniqueness.

Disclaimer: The show includes gunfire and violent situations with Clowns. Recommended for children over 13.



## Top 10 Albums

Oct. 17- Oct. 24

**KEEGAN WEST**  
90FM MUSIC DIRECTOR  
kwest591@uwsp.edu

1. Quiet Hounds- Everything Else Is Noise
2. FEET- What's Inside Is More Than Just Ham
3. Sylvia Black- Twilight Animals
4. Dearly Beloved- Times Square Discount
5. Common Holly- When I Say To You Black Lightning
6. Diiv- Deceiver
7. Hovvdy- Heavy Lifter
8. Ego Ella May- So Far
9. Charlie Parr- Self-titled
10. PHONY- Songs You'll Never Sing

## 90FM Music Director Album of The Week

**KEEGAN WEST**  
90FM MUSIC DIRECTOR  
kwest591@uwsp.edu

Jay Cobb Anderson- Everything Is Gonna Work Its Own Self Out

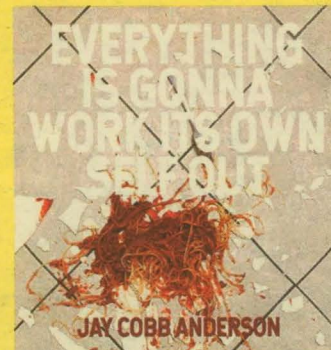
The irony of the rock genre is the blood, sweat, and tears poured into a project about not caring about anything. In order to strike an emotional chord in the garage rock scene, there needs to be some sort of outcry against society. Between fighting the machine from within or simply laying down and giving up with the intention of that itself being rebellion, Everything Is Gonna Work Its Own Self Out by Jay Cobb Anderson chooses the latter. With a rich and powerful home-recording garage

rock sound, Anderson preaches the sweet sound of letting life take you over. Life is full of misfortune so why do we let that bother us?

Oregon native Jay Cobb Anderson has been taking over the west coast country scene with his many groups. Starting in the americana folk group Fruiton, Anderson planted his roots in bluegrass. His solo career kicked off with his entrancing folk album I'm a Rambler, I'm a Fool. After years of playing guitar in Fruiton and the recent project, TK & The Holy Know-Nothings, Cobb is back on the microphone for this follow up solo project.

This is a pivot from his first album in the best ways possible. Despite his origins in folk, this is a hard-hitting but somber garage rock album that ranges from the aggressive tone of the album title track to the piano balladry of My Old Lover. His icy and condensed voice blends well with

the fuzz and fray of home-production. This is a shining example of the conveniences of self-production going into the right hands. He takes you on a journey of self-depreciation and the freedom that comes from giving up. You can hear Jay Cobb Anderson's music in heavy rotation on 90FM, Your Only Alternative.



"Everything Is Gonna Work Its Own Self Out," album cover. Photo credited to music.apple.com

## Poetry Events Inspire Campus, Students

**ERIN HENZE**  
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**GABRIELLE ARNOLD**  
NEWS EDITOR  
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Poetry events have been arising on the calendars at UWSP, featuring two in the first four days of November including an open Spoken Word night by Centertainment on Nov. 1 in the Encore and Words to Disturb by 350 Stevens Point on Nov. 4 in the Basement Brewhaus.

How does the student body feel about these many opportunities to share their poetry? Pete Koconis, senior and the sound and light producer for Centertainment events, had only positive things to say.

"We used to be very music-heavy here [at Centertainment], but I think that having some different events like this, where the students are able to express themselves, it just adds to the community of UWSP," said Koconis.

At the open Spoken Word night, students were able to learn a little bit more about their peers with a broad dynamic.

Kole Mallien, first-year acting student, had his mindset changed after hearing other's pieces.

"Before this, I was under the impression that...I didn't think that anyone honestly wanted to hear anything serious," said Mallien. "But as I slowly got into it, I was like, ok, maybe this is a place where I can publicly show more serious stuff, more poignant stuff."

The Spoken Word night was poignant indeed, with lost love, depression, and

bullying as the focus of many poems. However, there were some comedic poems that stuck out, particularly those of Mallien. With his variety of personal and satirical poems, Mallien was on stage for a large portion of the event.

"[Writing poetry] was something that I just found myself doing at night," said Mallien. "I have always wanted to, I was very inspired by [Irish musician] Dermot Kennedy, his kind of no verse and no chorus structure. It was very devolving of thought, and I've always loved it. I like real stuff, but I also like comedy for its escapism."

350 hosted their open mic night in the Basement Brewhaus with a more specific intent: to help people express their feelings about climate change.

Jessycah Andersen, vice-president of Stevens Point 350, came up with the idea for the event and got all the preparations for it to happen.

Andersen said, "it's kind of this more creative outlet event demonstration. We wanted to get together and do something in the Brewhaus that would kind of allow people to speak their mind about social issues going on, whether its opinions or facts about [the state of the environment]."

The event was an open dynamic; people took this chance to express themselves in unique ways. Many read poetry from their favorite authors, others read



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self-written poetry (some written right at the event), one man told a personal story, and two even expressed their feelings musically through country music and rap. The open dynamic allowed for the expression of everyone's different talents.

"I think it's an awesome way to get out your feelings, let maybe some nihilistic thoughts out because a lot of this brings out eco-anxiety and emotions about climate change or the end of the world you know thoughts of how complex our society is and how so many issues are going on. Everything can really bring you down, so getting a platform to release

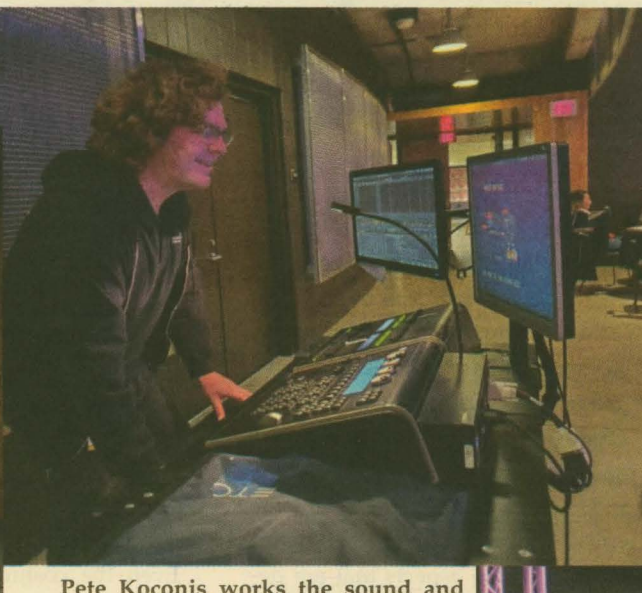
those thoughts and talk about it in a creative manner is an outlet for some people," said Andersen.

350 member Lilly Johnson chose to read a quote from one of her favorite authors, Edward Abbey. The poetry slam was a positive experience for her, and the inspiring intent got through to her when she listened to other pieces.

Johnson said, "I think as an individual it definitely helped me feel more hopeful and feel more inspired and empowered to do more when I see a bunch of people coming out and speaking about things they're passionate about like the environment making poetry that maybe only took them five minutes but is super impactful and everything, so individually I think it gives me a lot of courage, creativity, and drive to do more than I'm doing."



President Molly McGuire opens 350 Stevens Point's eco-friendly poetry slam, describes its intent, and encourages a vow of silence for the



Pete Koconis works the sound and light booth accordingly to set the mood for the open Spoken Word night by Centertainment.



Kole Mallien shares both serious and satirical poetry at Spoken Word night.

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