

the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

January 30th, 2020

thepointeruwsp.com

Volume 64 | Issue 8

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Martin Luther King Day Celebration Honors UWSP Professor

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A Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration was held at Stevens Point Area High School on January 20th.

In an effort to honor the memory and legacy of MLK, the non-profit justice organization, JusticeWorks, annually awards a member of the Portage County community for their work towards making the world a just place. This award, the John Klismet JusticeWorks Award, was posthumously given to the late Professor John Morser, a political science professor at UWSP. His ex-wife Karen Erickson was there to accept the award in his honor.

Hon. Frederic Fleishauer presented this award, reminding all in attendance of the many reasons Morser won the John Klismet JusticeWorks Award.

"[John Morser] worked for the Portage County Legal Aid Society from the time of its inception to the time of his death... he took it as his responsibility the burden of grant writing to make sure the financial support necessary to provide attorneys for people who couldn't afford them," said Fleishauer. "He also cofounded the Student Legal Society at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and insisted that it included a legal services office providing free legal assistance to students with

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Diocese Of La Crosse Releases Names of Accused Clergy

Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Stevens Point.
Photo by Nathan Dorn

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Another Catholic Diocese in Wisconsin has released the names of clergy facing substantiated allegations of child sexual abuse.

The list includes 25 clergy, nine of which at one point served at a parish in Stevens Point. However, if a parish is listed it does not necessarily mean the act of abuse occurred at that parish.

The Diocese of La Crosse, which serves nearly 200,000 Catholics and includes Portage County, released the public list on January 18.

The Diocese of La Crosse states that an allegation is deemed to be substantiated "if it has been sufficiently confirmed so as to believe that abuse occurred." Meaning, allegations on the list are not derived through a legal process.

An independent review of clergy files was responsible for the list, which dates back to 1868. None of the clergy listed currently serve at any parish and many are deceased. The public list will remain up-to-date on the Protect and Heal page on the Diocese of La Crosse website.

According to an announcement made for Holy Spirit Catholic Parish, here in Stevens Point:

"The Dioceses is disclosing these names as part of its long-standing commitment

to providing a safe environment for children in the Church. It will also help survivors of abuse find healing and it is a necessary step to regaining the trust and confidence of people within and without the church."

Along with the Diocese of La Crosse, four other dioceses in Wisconsin have thus far released lists of the names of clergy facing allegations, including: Green Bay, Madison, Superior, and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Since the 1970s, more than 11,000 childhood sexual abuse accusations have been made against Catholic priests and brothers in the United States. In Wisconsin, as of December 2019, roughly 170 priests have been credibly accused.

Father Steve Brice, Priest at Holy Spirit Church, has been a priest for 37 years. He states that the Church has been addressing this issue since the 90s and early 2000s.

Father Brice says, "This all broke in the media back in 2001 or 2002. In 2002, the national Catholic Church put in a set of policies called Safe Environment."

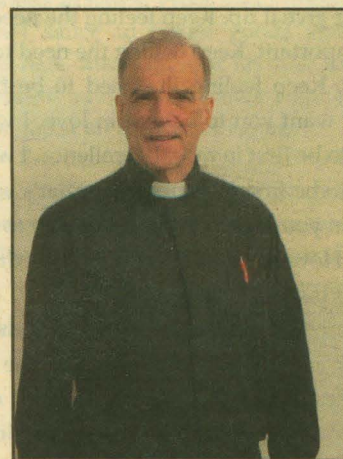
Since that time, Catholic Churches in the U.S. have implemented various practices and policies in order to tighten the entrance process of priests, monitor in-church activities, and review allegations. This has included criminal background checks, psychological testing, audits through the Safe Environment program

as well as the Diocesan Independent Review Board, which reviews safe environment policies and sexual abuse allegations.

Recently, a video was shown in every church in the Diocese of La Crosse. It featured Willaim Patrick Callahan, Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse, discussing the disclosure of names as an important step for the victims and the church.

Alex Egbert, recent UWSP graduate and Holy Spirit parish member, agrees with the releasing of names.

"It's not the faith, it's not what we believe and we have to make up for it and fix the



Father Steve Brice has been a priest for 37 years and is currently the priest for Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Stevens Point.

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SPTV News - 4 p.m. on Thursdays
The Sports Hub - 1 p.m. on Mondays

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Martin Luther King Day... continued from page 1

From left to right, 2 members of JusticeWorks, WI Rep. LaKeshia Myers, Hon. Frederic Fleishauer, Rev. Jim Coakley. 72.0 on the 2018-2019 Report Card.

Photo by [NEED PHOTO CREDIT]

legal issues. That office still provides that service through a part-time attorney. He created a course of study designed for students pursuing entry into law school. John continued his work in support of JusticeWorks for many years, serving on the Board of Directors and using his substantial skills as a photographic artist to record most of the public events of the corporation, as he did also for many other charitable organizations."

This work of Morser mirrors the goals that MLK set many years ago.

Wisconsin Representative LaKeshia Myers spoke of these goals, as well as the encouragement MLK himself gave to all who fought for equality in the world.

"In February 1968, Dr. King delivered a sermon entitled 'The Drum Major', and it was given about two and a half months before his murder... Dr. King said, 'There is, deep down within all of us, an instinct. It's a kind of drum major instinct, a desire to be out front. A desire to lead the parade. A desire to be first. And it is something that runs the whole gamut of life... don't give up on this instinct. It's a good instinct if you use it right. It's a good instinct if you don't distort it or pervert it. Don't give it up. Keep feeling the need to be important. Keep feeling the need to be right. Keep feeling the need to be first. But I want you to be first in love. I want you to be first in moral excellence. I want you to be first in generosity. That's what I want you to do.' And I come here to ask you: How are you doing with your drum major instinct?"

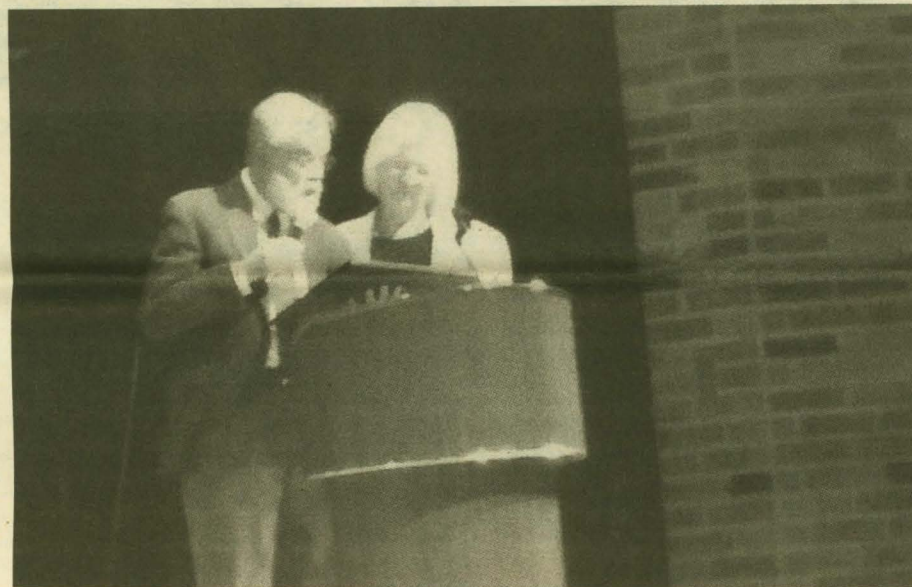
Professor John Morser had this drum major instinct, as did some of the attendees of the event. Stevens Point citizen Mildred Neville had strong feelings about equality.

"What brought me here? A lifetime. I'm from Georgia, actually from about 14 miles from MLK and I've had really strong feelings my whole life about inequality," said Neville. "I grew up in a family that said, yeah, what we see around us isn't right. I've been caring about it my whole life and not doing. I mean doing, but not doing. Wanting things to change... it's difficult."

Neville has seen this inequality since childhood, growing up Georgia. The

hardships many have gone through are often on her mind.

"I think about it a lot. And that is, we've come a long way from since I was a kid, but when I look at where we are,



Hon. Frederic Fleishauer and Karen Erickson reading the John Klismet JusticeWorks Award in honor of recipient John Morser.

and how far we have to go, it breaks my heart," said Neville. "But it makes me want to keep at it.... If you grew up seeing what I saw, and I didn't see anything horrible, and I thought what I saw was wrong. I mean I didn't see terribly, horribly things that happened. I mean, in fact I saw something recently, a picture, that just shocked me, from enslaved times, but yeah I didn't see any of that stuff but I saw day in, day out inequality, and it was wrong. So much has changed, yet so much hasn't changed, and we just gotta keep on keeping on."

So what more can be done here in Stevens Point? Representative Myers had some ideas.

"Across our state I think we have to be more intentional. Diversity and inclusion is an intentional process. It comes through at every level, whether it be at hiring, whether it be who we select as applicants for a job, you have to go maybe outside of the norm," said Myers. "Broaden your horizons, maybe do a national search if you're looking for a superintendent, or if you are looking for professors at the university, that's something that we all can be intentional about doing. And I think

having exchange programs with students to do a semester at Stevens Point, or do a semester at UW, or anything with one of our colleges or universities in our state, you know, to give other areas the oppor-

tunity to come here and see what it's like and vice versa."

While Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day may be past, citizens of today's world can still look up to people like him and John Morser as mirrors.

"A mirror can show you all the good things about yourself but it always has that pesky habit of showing you the blemishes, the things that you don't want to see," said Myers. "I think those are the things that count, when we can point out those things that we dislike and try to correct those."



Stevens Point citizen and Georgia native Mildred Neville.

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The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 3,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year. Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes property of The Pointer.

Diocese Of La Crosse continued from page 1

problem."

Egbert also speaks to how this issue has hurt the representation of the church and of the faith.

"People did make mistakes, people did do bad things and it doesn't represent the church, but the church has to deal with it."

And in large numbers, it has been dealing with it. In Pennsylvania dioceses alone, \$84 million was paid out to 564 victims, with that number likely to grow. The widely-publicized sexual abuse scandal in Pennsylvania resulted in a grand

jury report that found 300 priests accused of abusing more than 1000 victims, with the vast majority of accusations dating from before 2002.

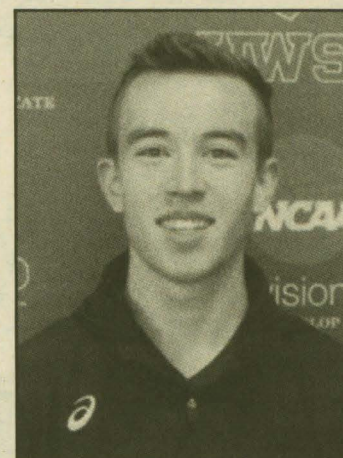
The Pennsylvania scandal, as well as this issue more broadly, has likely made many Catholics and non-Catholics alike question possible causes. According to Father Brice, this problem exists similarly among all professions; meaning that it is not unique to the Catholic Church.

According to Father Brice, "Although a small percentage of those convicted of abuse have the psychological disorder of

pedophilia, the vast majority of offenders are people whose lives have gotten so out-of-balance that they begin to seek pleasure and satisfaction in unhealthy ways instead of healthy ways."

Additionally, he believes that "the sexual abuse issue is really about abuse of power, misuse of power."

But whatever the root cause or causes are, Father Brice believes that previous steps the church has taken, including releasing these lists, supporting victims, and employing transparency in the Church, will largely alleviate this issue



Alex Egbert is a recent UWSP graduate, athlete and member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church.



Reduce Food Waste in 2020

The bulk food section at the Stevens Point Area Co-op on 2nd Street.

Photos by Nathan Dorn

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Living sustainably involves numerous realms of our lives: from the vehicles we drive to the food we eat. It can be daunting to think about all the ways we can act to live in a more eco-friendly manner.

However, there are many changes that each of us can make. So with the new year upon us, here are some practices that you can implement to live more sustainably in 2020.

Food is a pervasive and entangled part of our everyday lives. From your personal life to the culture you belong to, you'll likely not find a celebration or event absent of food or drink.

We are constantly faced with so many options, whether at the grocery store, online or through the bombardment of advertisements telling us what food or drink products we should purchase next. And with options comes the fact that some are more environmentally-friendly than others.

From the initial growing of food to its final product, a lot of energy, water, fertilizer and land was used during this lengthy life cycle. Unfortunately, a substantial amount of this food is never consumed.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, between 30 and 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is wasted, totaling about \$160 billion lost each year. Thankfully, there are many ways for

each of us to do our part in reducing this amount of waste.

The first way to reduce food waste is to only buy what you need; this is especially pertinent for produce and other perishable goods. One way to accomplish this task is by planning your meals for the week. This can prevent you from wasting money on food you won't end up eating, as well as saving you money and meal planning time during the week.



Dave Barbier, UWSP Sustainability Coordinator

If you end up purchasing more fresh food than you can use, or if you have plenty of leftovers, do not despair. Often, leftovers can be saved for multiple days in reusable containers in the refrigerator, and can be saved for weeks or even months in the freezer.

Through meal planning and storage,

you not only save precious food from ending up in a landfill, but also money you spent on that food in the first place. And besides, leftovers are an easy and convenient meal that you can eat another day of the week.

Another source of waste, included with many food and drink purchases, is the packaging.

Together, food, food packaging and containers account for close to 45 percent of all materials found in U.S. landfills. Trash in landfills produces a host of problems, including taking up a lot of space and producing methane, a potent greenhouse gas. But as with food waste, measures exist for us to address the ever-increasing issue of trash in our landfills.

One solution is through purchasing food that has little or no packaging. Fruits and vegetables can usually be purchased without packaging in grocery stores.

What about other common foods, including pasta, beans, and rice? Look no further than bulk food sections!

In Stevens Point, Triggs and the Stevens Point Area Co-op have extensive bulk food sections where you can find many different foods, as well as candies, chocolates and much more. But most importantly, remember to bring your own reusable jars, containers, and bags.

According to Dave Barbier, UWSP Sustainability Coordinator, this "allows you to avoid the packaging." He advocates for using durable, reusable containers to purchase these types of foods and snacks

in bulk.

Another place to find local foods with less packaging is the Stevens Point Farmers Market. From May to October, find fresh produce and bread, jam, eggs and much more. Even during the cold winter months you can still find bread, jams, meat and other local delights.

You can also make some of your own foods at home. From salad dressings and hot sauce to baked goods and granola bars, many of your favorite foods and condiments can be made right at home, without all the extra baggage.

But before you even head to the store to get all your package-free goodies, be sure to bring your reusable grocery bags. These reusable bags are a great way to re-



Allie Ott, Chair of the Environmental and Sustainability Issues Committee

continued on page 4

SGA

Student Government Association Newsletter

RILEY GARSKI

SGA COMMUNICATIONS
& PR DIRECTOR
sga.comm.and.public.rel.director@uwsp.edu

On January 22, the Student Government Association (SGA) was informed of concerns regarding the DeBot Dining Center and its operational capacity. In an attempt to address the concerns raised, members of SGA have been in regular communication with the Director of Dining and Summer Conference and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

As a result, Dining and Summer Conferences will begin to implement a "Green-on-the-Go" hour, which allows students to access the Upper Dining facility prior to its regular operating hours. The "Green-on-the-Go" Hour will stay in effect until February 14, when the continuance of the program will be deter-

mined. Dining and Summer Conferences will be expanding its seating capacity to include 40 more seats. Furthermore, the Lower Marketplace will be expanding its use of Dawg Dollars and will have an expanded amount vegetarian and gluten free options.

As the operations of the facility continue to be altered for maximum capacity, students are asked for patience and understanding as viable solutions are implemented. Meeting the needs of the student body is vital, however, the implementation of such policies will take time to perfect. Students are asked to reach out with their concerns or questions to Collin McNamara, Chair of the Dining Ad-hoc Committee, at cmcna889@uwsp.edu or Morgan Jeidy, Student Body President, at SGA.president@uwsp.edu.



Reduce Food Waste

continued from page 1

place the flimsy plastic and fickle paper bags found at the store, and can be used for more than just groceries.

Now what to do with spoiled food or scraps? Try composting!

"Being an advocate for composting is one of the biggest things that people can do," says Barbier.

He also points to the fact that, currently, compost bins can be found in every residence hall and university building. In the future, he is hopeful that the accessibility and number of compost bins on campus will increase through "a Green Fund proposal that will purchase an additional 100 composting bins for the campus."

Now let's talk briefly about drinks and beverages. Every second in the U.S., 1500 plastic bottles are used, while every day, half a billion plastic straws, most of which aren't recyclable, are used once before being tossed out. Additionally, single-use utensils are another source of waste.

Allie Ott, Chair of the Environmental and Sustainability Issues Committee, utilizes a reusable set of bamboo utensils for establishments with single-use items.

"Utensils is a big thing because you can't recycle plastic utensils," says Ott.

She also points out those conspicuous boxed water beverages that can be found on campus. Unfortunately, says Ott, boxed water bottles are not recyclable in Portage County.

In terms of beverages, the best thing

you can do is drink tap water. While bottled water is convenient, the recycling rates for plastics is sub-par. By purchasing a reusable water bottle you'll never look back.

Not a huge fan of regular water? Flavor it yourself! You can add fruit juice or other ingredients to spice up your water. It'll taste great, save waste and save you money usually spent on expensive bottled beverages.

Finally, and most importantly for those early-morning risers, is the hot beverage: tea and coffee.

Worldwide, 16 billion paper cups are used for coffee every single year. This leads to 6.5 million trees being cut down and 4 billion gallons of water being used.

Whether you drink your beverage at home, on-the-road, or at your favorite coffee shop, use a mug or thermos. This is super easy to do, will save both cups and straws, and even gets you a discount at many coffee shops.

Reducing food waste, packaging waste, and single-use food and drink items is easy and affordable to do. By engaging in some of these practices, you'll be making a huge positive impact for various environmental issues. So grab those reusable bags, containers, and coffee mugs and start the year sustainably.

Sports Schedule

JAN 30 – FEB 12

MEN'S BASKETBALL

At UW-Whitewater, Feb. 5 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Eau Claire, Feb. 8 @ 5 p.m.
At UW-Oshkosh, Feb. 12 @ 5 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

At UW-Whitewater, Feb. 5 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Eau Claire, Feb. 8 @ 3 p.m.
At UW-Oshkosh, Feb. 12 @ 7 p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY

At UW-Superior, Jan. 30 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Superior, Feb. 1 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Stout, Feb. 7 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Stout, Feb. 8 @ 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

At UW-Eau Claire, Jan. 31 @ 7 p.m.
At UW-Eau Claire, Feb. 1 @ 2 p.m.
At Northland College, Feb. 8 @ 3 p.m.
At Northland College, Feb. 9 @ 2 p.m.

MEN'S WRESTLING

At Pete Willson Invitational, Jan. 31 to Feb. 1 @ 11 a.m.
At UW-Lacrosse, Feb. 7 @ 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S WRESTLING

At Bearcat Invitational, Feb. 8 @ 9 a.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING

At Milwaukee, Feb. 1 @ 1 p.m.

The Pointer is on the Look-Out For Sports Reporters

The Pointer needs reporters to fill this space!

Interested in boosting your resume?

Working in sports journalism?

Getting paid to watch home games?

Joining a fantastic team of journalists?

Sports Reporters write 1 story and 1 Pointer Profile per week, earning \$45-75 per week!

Interested applicants:

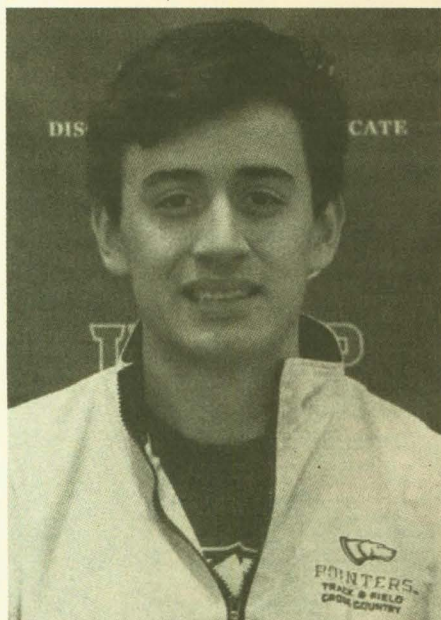
Email a resume and writing sample to Cameron Cieszki (ccies594@uwsp.edu) or Jeremy Wolfe (jwolf963@uwsp.edu)

Pointer Profile

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

Pointer Profile- Anthony Klein

JERRY MARKARIAN
CONTRIBUTOR
jmark234@uwsp.edu



Photos courtesy of UWSP Athletics

Sport: Track

Year: Senior

Major: Computer Information Systems

Hometown: Trevor, WI

How long have you been running track? I started running track in sixth grade, I was always one of the fastest people in my grade and everyone always said it would be a good fit for me. It just kind of stuck and here I am today.

Have you played any other sports? Once I got into High School, I played football, wrestling, and track. By the time I was through I received 10 varsity letters throughout my high school career. I took a year off from track my freshman year and I felt like I had to do something, so I was on the rugby team that year.

You mentioned taking a year off, why was that? I was just pretty unsure of what I wanted to do, I didn't know if I wanted to do track anymore in college but I just couldn't stay away for too long so when I transferred to Point after my freshman year I decided to pick it back up.

What would you consider a successful season? Well right now I think getting a personal record at any of my events

would be a success for me. Making it to conference and being able to place when I'm there would definitely be a big success in my eyes.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years? Hopefully working with computers in some way, programming things. I really would like to go into the medical field where I would be making programs or software that hospitals could use.

What is your favorite aspect of track? Competitions are always a lot of fun, but I'd have to say my absolute favorite part is being a part of the team. Everyone is supportive and has each other's backs.

Do you have a favorite memory over the span of your track career? After we made it to state during my senior year of high school, we were all really excited, so we ran across the football field to celebrate with each other. We had just been trying to get there for so long and it was a lot of fun.

What is your favorite subject? Defi-

nately math. I just really like problem solving.

What is your favorite movie? Oh, tough one, it changes up a lot but for right now I'll say I really like the Joker that came out this year.

If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go? I'd like to visit Japan, I think it would be really cool to see Tokyo. It would be a really interesting culture to attempt to explore and I really like their food.

If you had one piece of advice for an incoming student athlete what would it be? You just have to stick with it. It might get hard, but you can always get through it. I've dealt with a lot of injuries and there have been times where I thought it might be over, but I can't see myself ever quitting a sport. I always want to fight through it and get back to where I was.

What Does a Graphic Design Student Do?

AMY HEMKEN

LAYOUT EDITOR

ahemk505@uwsp.edu

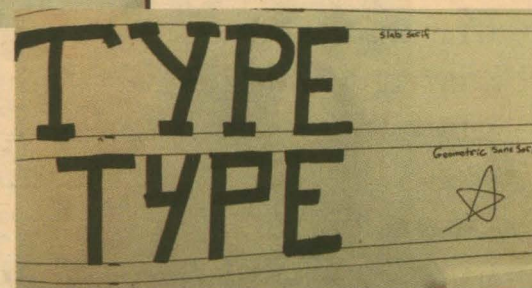
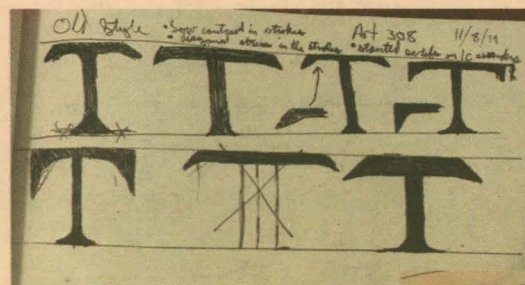
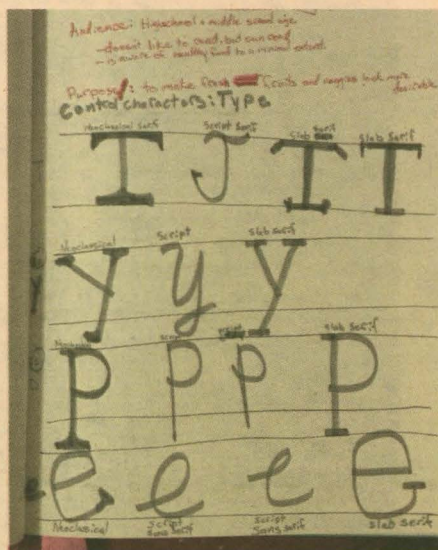
The design process for a junior level typography 2 class offered here at UWSP. Designing a typeface (the characteristics of a font) and then using the font as the title for a magazine. All created and designed by Amy Hemken.

Sketching ideas

There is a lot of thought going on in this stage like:

- What characteristics will the typeface have?
- Will the typeface be sans serif or serif?
- How should this typeface be described when critiqued?
- Will I ever be done sketching?
- What will the ascenders and descenders look like?

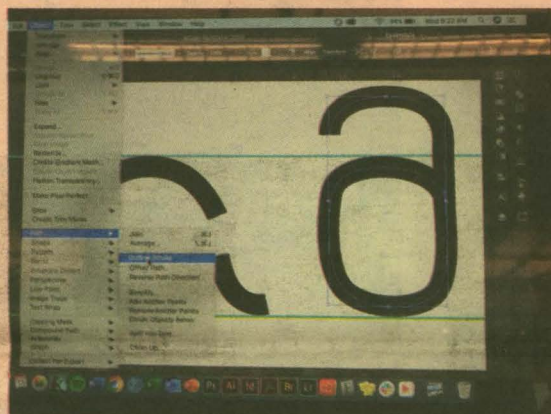
And SO many more questions.



Designing

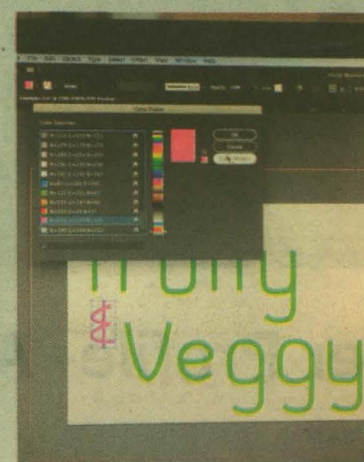
Yeah :)

This part is where the typeface becomes a reality on the screen.



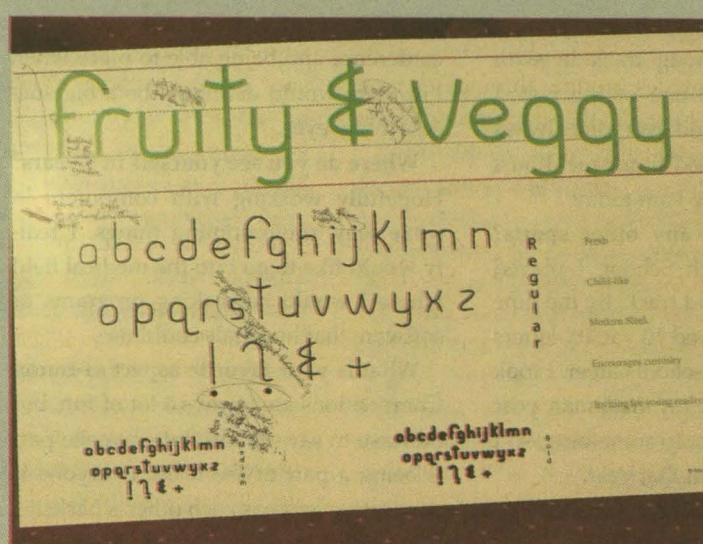
More Editing!

How many more times do I need to edit this? ... Till its perfect!

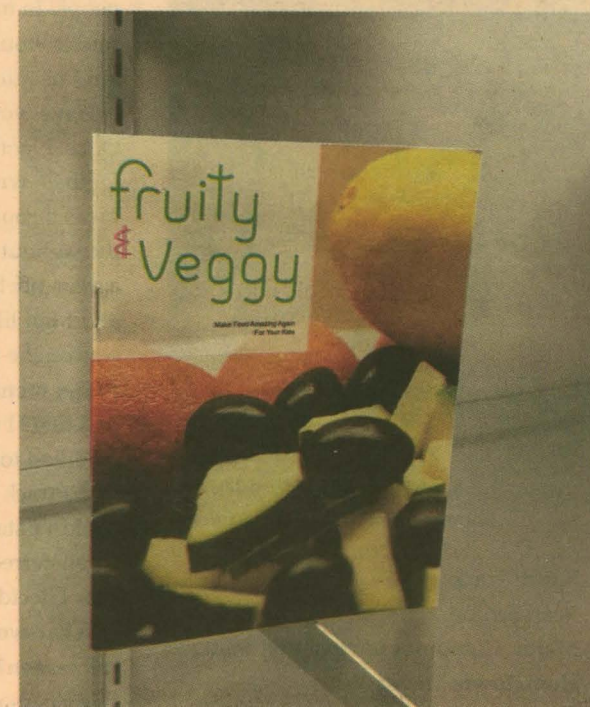


Even MORE Editing!

Its almost there, just a few more tweaks and then it will be good!



All Photos by Amy Hemken



IT'S FINISHED!

In just enough time to start the next project.

...

And that's how life as a graphic design student goes.



Counseling Budget Cuts Limit Student Resources

Photos by Jeremy Wolfe

FLORENCE ANDERSON
REPORTER
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Functioning mental health is a very important thing for college students to have. Most colleges are fortunate enough to have free counseling services available to these students on campus. UWSP Students are able to receive hour-long therapy sessions with trained psychologists within a walking distance from their dorm. Multiple types of sessions are available as well, from one-on-one time to group therapy with other students. Offering services like these can be a great help to students as they struggle with their anxiety or depression.

However, much like everything else on campus, counseling takes money. There are people who need to get paid, maintenance costs, etc. The counseling services on campus receive funding from

two different sources; the state government provides funding through General Purpose Revenue that is used to operate and maintain the services and through student fees, which primarily are used to pay salaries.

The funding counseling receives from General Purpose Revenue has been trending downward over the past decade, as is the case with all services that receive money from General Purpose Revenue. Unfortunately, this has led to a major drop in funding, which means students may not be able to get the help they need. Less funding means fewer counselors can be hired and fewer students can be helped in a day, which leads to waitlists that can sometimes last up to two weeks. Thankfully, the Student Government Association has stepped up to provide most of the money to Counseling with still very limited funding.

Stacy Gerken, current director of counseling services, and her team work hard and use every dollar wisely to help as

many students as possible with their issues. Gerken explains "[Getting students in] is a persistent effort... We are always taking people off the waiting list and making sure they can come in again."

The UWSP Counseling Center has truly tried to serve as many students as possible per week, only scheduling up to a week in advance. Another thing Gerken wants to stress is canceling appointments.

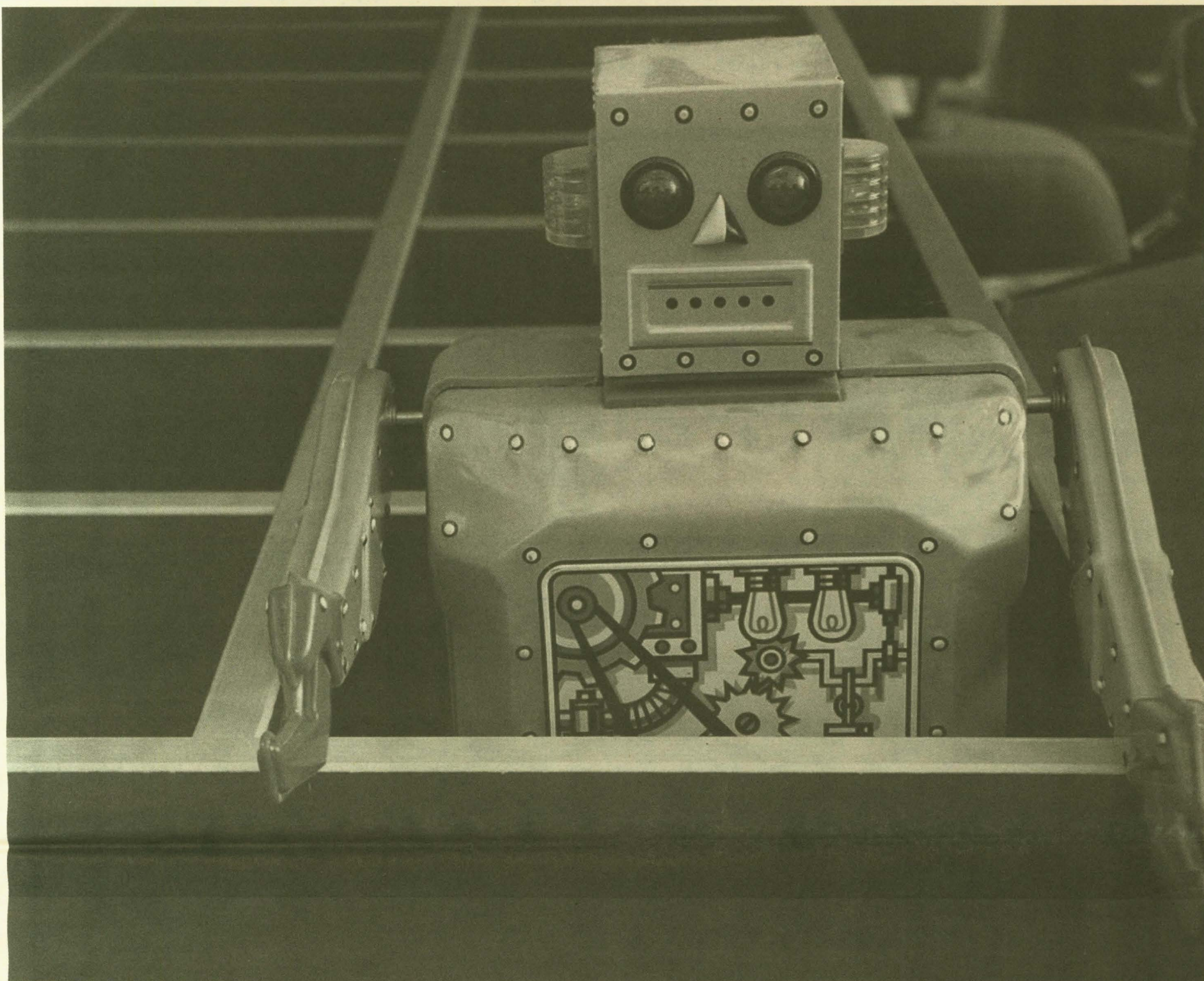
Green says, "cancellations are always filled...we understand people get sick and you may have a paper due and that takes priority...but it makes everyone's life a little easier if you call to cancel rather than not show up."

While Gerken has faced budget cuts over her eight years at UWSP, she still understands where these budget cuts are coming from. She spoke in defense of the budget team, explaining that they "work very hard to minimize the impact of budget issues of the counseling center...there just isn't enough money to go around." Gerken and the counseling center hold no

resentment to budget cuts as they understand it is a campus-wide issue.

Despite low budgets, the Counseling Center is still able to offer the best service possible to students. Brett Miller, a sophomore at UWSP, utilized the service offered on campus through September and October. Miller expanded on his experience and complimenting their approach. He said, "[his psychologist] was very good at listening first then figuring out where to go from there...while they are not necessarily great for specialization like if you have a major mental illness, they are definitely a good place for minor issues or just a check-in." Miller also agreed that the counseling center should be funded well so they are able to provide quality service to more students, as they had for him.

The Counseling Center is located on the third floor of Delzell Hall. They can be contacted to set up an appointment Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by calling 715-346-3553.



Robots Are Coming to Replace Us

Photo courtesy of Flickr user Reader of the Pack.

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So, Starship Technologies is now providing food delivery robots to UW-Madison. And with the constantly impending (and constantly postponed) march of flying Amazon delivery drones, the automation of our country's infrastructure may soon change dramatically.

Each day, mass automation is becoming less and less "can we?" but more and more "should we?" With machine learning, the human hand has begun to disappear from even the algorithms of these robots.

The possibilities of machine production are growing at an exceptional rate, bringing another form of technology revolution that we won't be prepared for.

Should we really seek to replace human activity in so many ways? Should the infrastructure of our cities rely on black-box computers?

Like your uncle or grandpa, I'm here to spit unprompted, random opinions without any formal education on the matter. Here we go.

Replacing people with robots probably won't change much for the recipients of these to-be-automated fields of labor. We

— or, at least, most of us — live with the benefits of most aspects of our infrastructure as a complete mystery.

We often have, at best, vague uneducated notions on the workings behind international business, electricity, internet, plumbing, emergency services, or mass delivery.

What logistical programs help operate the massive system of deliveries from Amazon? I dunno: Some guys drive trucks, and the next day I get a cutting board in the shape of Pennywise's face. It's nice.

Replace 'guys' with 'robots', and not much will change for us ignorant beneficiaries.

Replacing human delivery would have an added benefit for us at Stevens Point, too. We'll need companions to replace our constantly-shrinking student body: another six percent drop occurred for the 2019-2020 year, with little hope of improvement.

But these robots will also replace a different shrinking population: menial and physical labor is quickly becoming outdated.

Frequently disrespected and underpaid, menial labor under late-stage capitalism is a curse — a thankless, moneyless

curse. To dissolve this field of labor under robots is to essentially free people of this curse — yet, it might also condemn them to a further inescapable poverty in unemployment.

Relinquishing menial labor under late-stage capitalism does little to alleviate the exploitation of the working class: the profits that these machines allow may likely fall back into corporate investment.

Corporations have little incentive to donate automated profits. And the state, now inclining towards exclusively corporate welfare, may see no incentive to help these replaced peoples either.

If there is no state-driven initiative to support this class of people raised exclusively to enter a shrinking workforce, what hope will they have? Even if the state could help, should it create laws protecting jobs from machines? Or should it support a universal basic income?

Beyond replacing humans, further reliance on machines holds its own dangers. Is it safe to pursue automation if we cannot see, nor even fully understand, the things that will support our society?

But clumsy, obscure mistakes behind a curtain are nothing new to consumers — the logistics and algorithms of today already run through many inefficient and

self-interested hands.

Relying almost entirely on autonomous machines sounds inexplicably worse, though. Mystery-machines, that even their creators won't fully understand?

It's scary, to trust human life in an unfeeling, non-human thing. To see a brick of silent, blinking metal and only pretend that it could state back at you.

To trust your life in the not-hands of a brick that does not smile or even frown. It's scary.

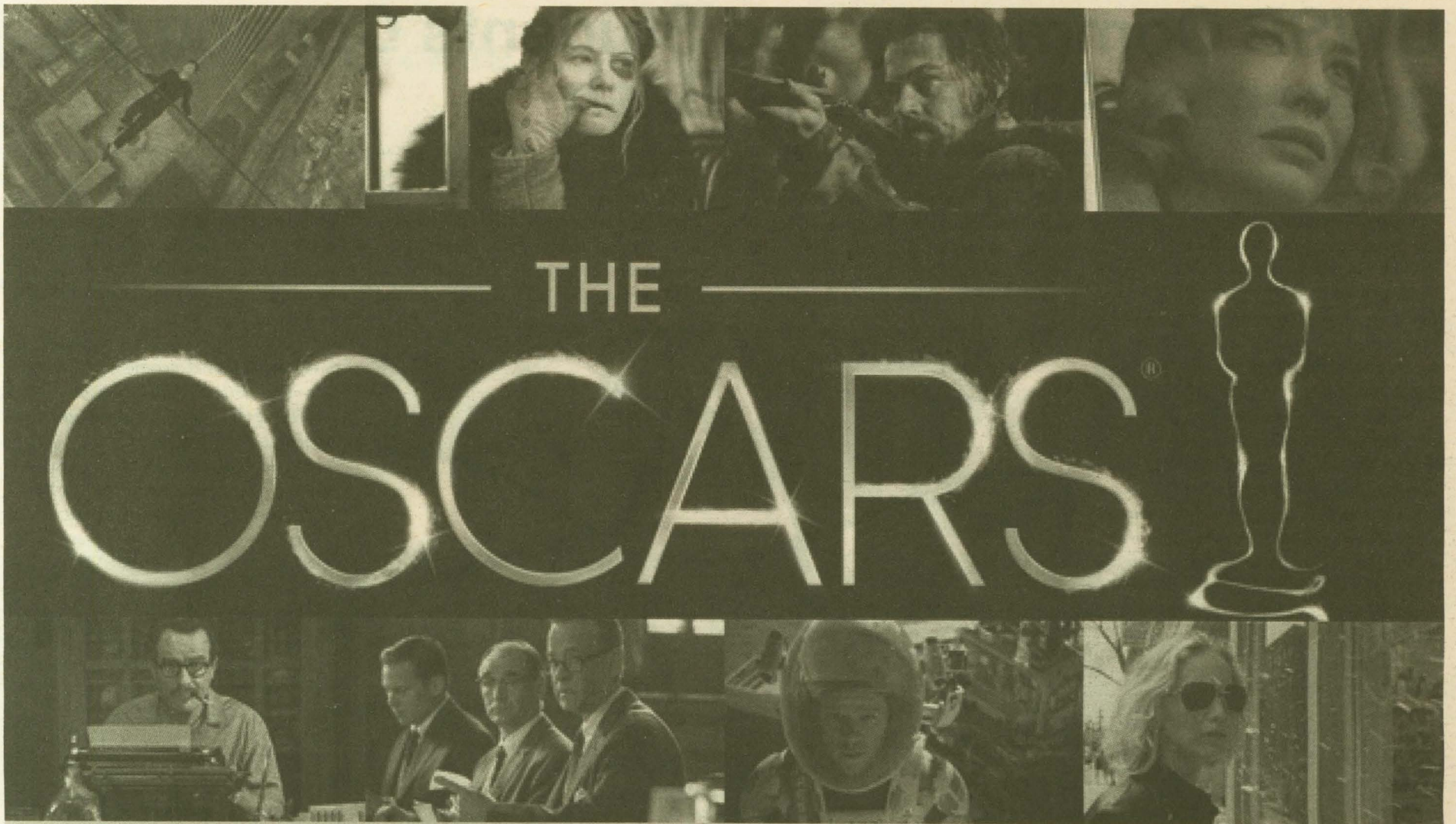
And when an autonomous pharmacist supplies the wrong dose of a drug, killing the patient, will there be any remaining form of satisfying 'justice' for the grieving family?

Will our own infrastructure be a source of tragic, inexplicable and (most importantly) faultless accidents — just as nature has been to us through history?

We can be certain that these growing developments in machine learning will be profitable — though, hardly palatable.

But, our base emotions have always been apprehensive in the face of progress.

Each technology is a little compromise with our instinct, a tiny surrender to mystery.



Oscar Bias, Bait, and Best Picture

Photo edit courtesy of Usman Pirzada.

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This year, the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences is celebrating its 92nd anniversary of honoring the best films of the year.

Though as the nominations are released, people voice criticism when they see that their favorite movie was not nominated. When this happens, we are often left thinking: What makes a movie Oscar-worthy?

There are rules for what qualifies for an Oscar nomination.

Most categories require the feature to open the previous calendar year in Los Angeles, California, and run at least seven days. Films must be featured length, defined as 40 minutes or longer, or they will only qualify for the short film category. Foreign films must contain English subtitles and each country can only enter one movie. Best Documentary rules are slightly different, as mini-series, limited run, and different submission times qualify for this category.

Although any type of movie that meets these qualifications could, in theory, receive a nomination, there is an incredible bias in the Academy towards certain genres of movies. From the 2010 Oscars to 2019 Oscars, a total of 88 films were nominated for Best Picture. Of those movies, nearly all of them have primarily realistic styles, with stories that could, or did, happen.

A few fantasy, science fiction, and horror films have found themselves in the mix but the amount of dramas, biopics, and historical pieces far outweighs any other genre.

According to a study done by The Collider, less than 10 percent of nominations are not dramatic or historic. The same study found that over 85 percent of nomi-

nations are dramas, and have won 89 percent of Best Picture awards.

Once movie makers started to notice the Academy's bias, movies made specifically to win Oscars began production. This trend of "Oscar-baiting" started with 1978's "The Deer Hunter," a film centering around the Vietnam war, with graphic and depressing depictions of war and violence.

When negative results came from the test screening, the film sought to use the Oscar's as a marketing strategy so people would see it, according to producer Allen Car and then Universal President Thom Mount. The strategy seemingly worked as after the nominations of 1978 were released, the film received a nationwide release and walked away with five wins out of their nine nominations.

Films took note of "The Deer Hunter's" strategy and more Oscar-baiting movies came into cinema. Critic Ty Burr wrote in a New York Times article that "everyone does it... [it's] the equivalent of a triumphant slam dunk in the final seconds, and it often wins the game."

Oscar bait movies can range from extravagant period dramas hoping to grab the design based awards or modern dramas that center social issues that use big-name Oscar winners aspiring to win a few more.

Movies that specifically focus on race often receive special attention from the Academy. Historic dramas use this tactic the most as a large theme of popular historic movies is racial oppression, such as "BlackKlansmen" and "Green Book." Even a few modern-day films use race relations to drive their films, much like "Get Out."

Writer and Director of Netflix's "Dear White People" Justin Simien brought this idea to attention during an interview with The Hollywood Reporter when he said "There is an obsession with Black

tragedy. If you see a Black movie, it's typically historical, and it tends to deal with our pain."

Black-centric movies rarely get attention otherwise. A strong example comes from Jordan Peele's horror movies: "Get Out" used race relations as a plot point while "Us" did not. Despite similarly high review rates, box office gross, and talented casting and crew "Get Out" received multiple nominations and "Us" received no attention from the Academy.

The Academy's bias not only affects the Best Picture category but Best Actor and Actress as well. Looking at the history of these two awards, a majority of winners and nominations were for white actors and actresses.

Only four Black men have won Best Leading Actor and Halle Berry is the only Black woman to win Best Actress. Two of those wins were for stereotypical racial characters while the other three were biopics.

Although actors and actresses of color have more luck winning with supporting, they face much lower win rates than white actors. In a Thought Co. study, over half of Oscar nominations for people of color were stereotypes, a quarter were real people of the same race, and the remainder were original, non-stereotypical characters.

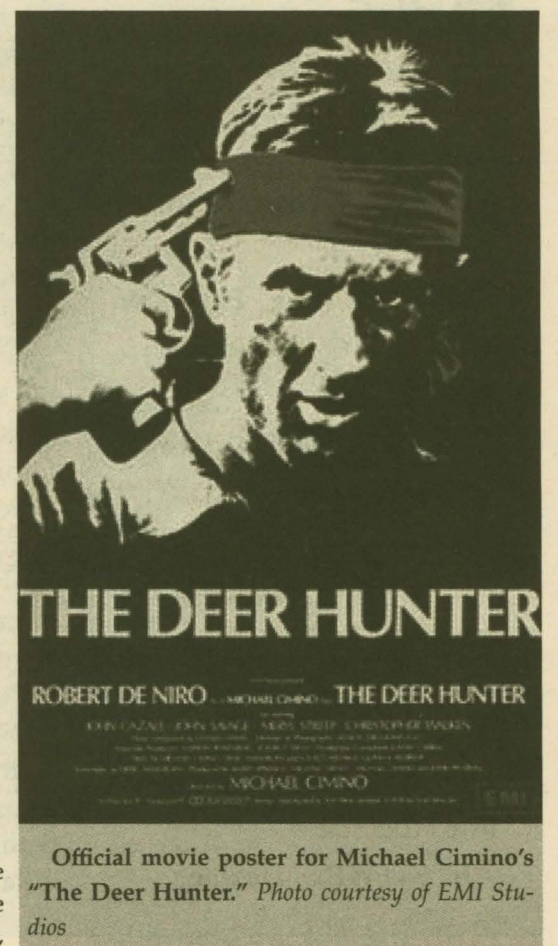
Asian and Hispanic actors and actresses have even smaller nomination numbers. Asian actors have been nominated for their roles 12 times, though won three times. Only 15 Hispanic people have ever been nominated for their acting, and only five won, two belonging to the same person.

Though it's nearly impossible to figure out exactly where these unconscious biases come from,

there's no doubt that the lack of diversity amongst the judges. Almost 95 percent of the Academy judges are caucasian, 76 percent are male, have an average age of 63, and are mostly high-class liberals.

These accused biases could come from a number of other things as well or could simply be years worth of coincidences. As it is hard to get into the Hollywood judging game, there is no way to tell if the biases are consciously true or not.

Perhaps more answers will come from the future years of more diverse and inclusive movies.



Official movie poster for Michael Cimino's "The Deer Hunter." Photo courtesy of EMI Studios

UWSP Community and Students Coming Together for Annual Arts Bash

SARAH SARTELL

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For the 17th year of this annual event, The Department of Theatre and Dance and the Department of Art and Design are seeing clearer in 2020 than ever as they prepare for their biggest fundraising event of the year, Arts Bash: Spectacle, on Feb. 1, from 7-10 p.m. in the Noel Fine Arts Center.

Tickets are \$20 for students with their I.D., \$35 for the public and \$40 at the door, as well as \$120 for a bundle of four. One hundred percent of the profits goes towards supporting student scholarships.

Nick Reising, Director of Development at the Fox Cities Performing Arts and UWSP Theatre and Dance Alumni, will be the featured guest artist this year. Reising will join Jeannie Hill, associate dance professor as MCs.

The night features dances, musical performances, and fashion shows that students present and perform for the audience. There is also a teaser from the cast of their upcoming production of "Mamma Mia!"

The university is teaming up with the community to put on this event. With community artists donating their work for patrons to purchase and people presenting their creative talents in a fashion show, the community is a tremendous help to the College of Fine Arts and Communication in making this event come together.

The Wearable Art fashion show is back and bringing old favorites and new designs to the runway.

CeCe Hill, assistant shop manager for the Department of Theatre and Dance, a coordinator for the fashion show, and Event Manager, explained what the fashion show is and what to expect.

"[The fashion show features] community members and students creating artwork they can wear," Nine designers from the campus and community are presenting their creative minds for an audience, mentioned Hill.

With a wide variety of looks and each

designer has their own creative mind, Hill said to come out to the event to see the final product.

Hill also mentioned why she loves being a part of this specific event: "[The event is an] opportunity for students to think outside 1-D art or sculpture and

add the body movement and give life on the runway."

Not only does the price of your ticket go towards supporting the students, but it will let attendees the opportunity to try over 15 food and drink vendors through the night and a new spectacle this year, the Giving Tree.

"The Giving Tree is a sculpture that have reasons what people can donate to help students for," Department of Theatre and Dance Chair and Arts Bash Co-Director, Joan Karlen, explained.

From a registration fee for a dance conference, a semester worth of textbooks or a pair of dance shoes, the patrons can choose a price and what they want to donate to help the student in any way. The goal is to fill up the Giving Tree by the end of the night.

There's a chance throughout the whole night to keep supporting students. But even if someone can't make the event, there's still a way to donate at any time. If one wishes to donate, visit <https://give.uwsp.edu/artsbash-give-now> or artsbash.com.

Karlen also expressed why this is her highlight event of the year. "I love seeing our students' performances, I love seeing our patrons being so energized by our students, I love the new work in the gallery, community artists donating their work."

Karlen adds there is so much going on but nothing less than "expressing yourselves and having a good time - just like a big party," and a surprise not to miss out on.

Hill and Karlen both encourage all patrons to wear expressive attire that shows off who you are, adheres to the theme of spectacle, and have a fun-filled night that won't disappoint.



**Arts Bash 2020
SPECTACLE**

7-10 p.m. Saturday, February 1

**UW-Stevens Point Noel Fine Arts Center,
1800 Portage Street, Stevens Point, Wis.**

- Art Sales from UWSP Student and Community Artists
- Musical Theatre and Dance Performances
- Wearable Sculpture Runway Fashion Show
- Scholarship Giving Tree
- Signature Food and Beverages
- Dance Party
- Self-Expressive Attire Encouraged!

**Special Guest
Nick Reising**
Director of Development
Fox Cities Performing Arts Center
UWSP Theatre and Dance Alum

TICKETS \$35
\$40 at the door
\$120 Bundle of 4
\$20 UW-Stevens Point students with proper I.D. (limit one per I.D.)

artsbash.com
tickets.uwsp.edu | 715-346-4100

Event proceeds support student scholarships and the Arts Bash endowment at UWSP Foundation.

Arts Bash 2020: Spectacle will be on February 1 in the courtyard of the Noel Fine Arts Center. Photo courtesy of College of Fine Arts and Communication.



Top 10 Albums

Jan. 23 - 30

1. Dreaming Of Ghosts - Self Titled
2. Manic Focus - Lost In A Digital World
3. Marcus King - El Dorado
4. A Girl Called Eddy - Been Around
5. String Machine - Death Of The Neon
6. Rema - Bad Commando
7. Bonnie "Prince" Billy - I Made A Place
8. Alexandra Savior - The Archer
9. Legal Vertigo - Tragic Future Film Star
10. NO WIN - Downey

90FM Music Director Album of The Week

KEEGAN WEST

90FM MUSIC DIRECTOR
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"El Dorado" - Marcus King

"An old scratchy record plays in the background of our lives. We're still here dancing after all this time." This is the opening line to "Wildflowers and Wine" by Marcus King from his debut solo album "El Dorado." It reinforces the album's passionate message of the beauty of personal growth and the bliss of accomplishment. At only 23 years old, Marcus King's sound is growing beyond his years by embracing the life music has given him. Said to be the second coming of Gregg Allman, Marcus King has curated a gospel blues sound appealing to both young and old.

Raised in Greenville, South Car-

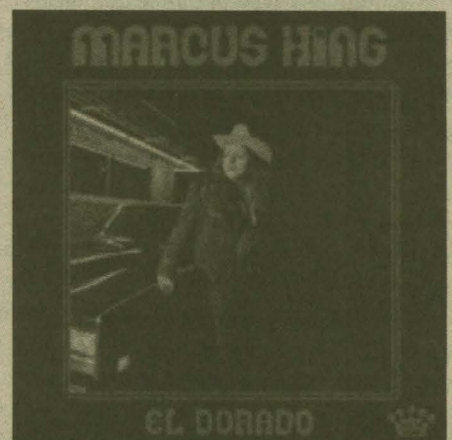
olina, King had a guitar in his hands before he could walk. He is the product of three generations of blues musicians. King claims he can feel their presence every time he performs. With professional training in blues, funk, and jazz, he is well on his way to becoming a household name of rock fans. His primary influences include early Allman Brothers and Lynyrd Skynyrd.

He moved to Nashville at 17 years old. The world of creativity and success he found in Nashville inspired the name of his debut solo album. "El Dorado" means land of many riches. Nashville became his El Dorado. After the wild success of The Marcus King Band, he teamed up with The Black Keys' Dan Auerbach to produce this album. Auerbach brought in the best studio musicians he could find in Nashville and the result is incredible. The recordings are raw, authentic, and blissful. They're so raw, in fact,

that you can hear people cheering King on in the background of his solos.

Marcus King is inspiring a new generation of rock stars with captivating lyrics, inspiring messages, and explosive southern rock solos.

You can hear Marcus King's "El Dorado" in heavy rotation on 90FM, Your Only Alternative.



"El Dorado," album cover. Photo courtesy of www.MarcusKingBand.com



Scorched Waves Performs in Encore

Band members from Scorched Waves during their live concert.

Photo taken by Gabrielle Arnold.

GABRIELLE ARNOLD
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The local band Scorched Waves performed to a crowd of about 100 people after the opening band, What We Once Had, in the Encore on Thursday Jan. 23, and for a good cause, too. The proceeds from their merch sales went directly to charity for the Australia fires.

Mostly members originating from SPASH high school, the band consists of vocalist Tiernan Brinkman, guitarist Tyler Armstrong, bassist Alice Vourinen, drummer Damian Kessler, and keyboarder Jaren Wojcik.

Although Scorched Waves has been an active band for roughly four years, this performance was one of their biggest accomplishments.

Vocalist Tiernan Brinkman said, "This is definitely our greatest [and] first headlining show. It was our first show that we could call ours. We even had to find someone that could open for us instead of being asked to open for someone else."

Events like these are a great source of publicity for bands looking to expand their influence, and it will be a big kickstart to Scorched Waves locally because honestly, not even a lot of people from our high school even know about us," said Brinkman.

Performing is an experience that filled each member with adrenaline. Armstrong said, "That's the best part. That's full on, undoubtably the best part." Brinkman added, "Just watching the crowd and watching people get so into it and all our

family, friends, and people we don't even know being there was just insane. I'm still kind of mind blown. Once the crowd gets into it, you're unstoppable. There's nothing you can't do."

This situation was similar for the opening band as well. With three members as opposed to five, 'What We Once Had' is from Lake Mills. They have had roughly two years of experience with lead singer and guitarist Silas Jenness, drummer and backing vocalist Jasper Stevens, and bassist Gray Frandy. They have been an

actively performing band, but this show was one of their largest.

Stevens said, "It's been a privilege; it's really been one of those rare opportunities where we finally expose ourselves to a greater amount of people because concerts we've done previously in a smaller setting. This has been by far the biggest concert we have done, and it may have been the best performance we've done because of all the people."

He added that preparing for the concert was thrilling, "All of us were psyched

- I was nervous, personally. Silas makes most of the music but we both add in our stuff and we play our hardest. I mean my glasses fell off and I didn't even care because I wanted to make an impression. That's all this stuff is about, impressions. You're trying to become better."

This concert not only bettered the experiences and skills of members from both bands, it also improved lives being impacted by the current wildfires disrupting lives in Australia.

Brinkman said, "All the merch sales that we've made are going to the bush fires in Australia to help combat that. Tyler really wanted to do it. It's something that meant a lot to him because the guy that inspired him to play guitar is from Australia and he loves Koalas."

Armstrong replied, "I mean, who doesn't love Koalas? Plus, it's nice knowing that every penny counts. It makes you feel like you can turn it into something that can change the world, or at least that part of the world. It just makes you feel like you're doing something meaningful."

"We're going to pour all the money we've gained, which is over \$1,000 easily, into those charities. I have even donated all of my lawnmowing money toward helping the cause," said Stevens.

Although it may have been a simple concert to some, this event impacted the bands that played and hopefully the charity they are funding.

Brinkman said, "This was an awesome experience, and I feel like this will definitely be a show to remember."



Opening band What We Once Had members celebrating after the concert. Members from left to right: Gray Frandy, Silas Jenness, and Jasper Stevens. *Photo taken by Gabrielle Arnold.*

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(by JAN 31st)

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or by Calling 715-341-9696!**

