

# the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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## 2020 Presidential Candidates Take Stances on Climate Change

**NATHAN DORN**  
REPORTER  
ndorn376@uwsp.edu

Climate change is a global issue that has potential ramifications in every city, state, and region of the United States, as well as abroad. It is also an increasingly important issue for voters when considering which candidate to vote for: ranking first among liberal democrats and fifth for all registered voters, according to a survey from Yale and George Mason.



**Molly McGuire**, Natural Resource Planning major and the president of 350-Stevens Point: a climate change group on campus.

*Photo courtesy of Molly McGuire.*

Molly McGuire, Natural Resource Planning major and 350-Stevens Point President, believes that climate change is important for this election.

"Our window of opportunity to largely decrease the effects of climate change is quickly closing. Soon it's predicted that

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## The Dean of the College of Natural Resources Steps Down

Tree Canopy  
by Alexis Ott

**ALEXIS OTT**  
REPORTER  
aott897@uwsp.edu

Christine Thomas Dean of the College of Natural Resources at UWSP, has announced retirement from her role at the university.

She will be volunteering for the College and BOW in retirement and is hoping to do some writing. Thomas is looking forward to spending time with her family, and possibly keeping up with the weeds in her garden.

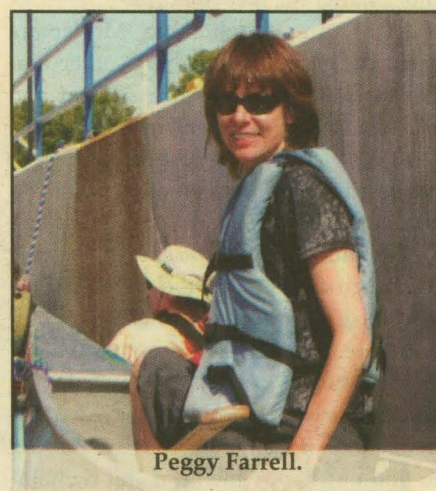
Peggy Farrell, Director of Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, is excited to have Thomas back to fundraise and work nationally for BOW.

Farrell said, "I became the director of BOW because of Christine Thomas. She's generous and incredibly kind person who has supported me every step of the way."

The Human Dimensions department will be sad to see Thomas go. Becca Franzen, Associate Professor of Environmental Education, said, "I'm impressed by her passion and commitment to the College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, and our students. She is a Pointer through and through, and I feel lucky to serve with her."

Thomas said, "Being the Dean of the College of Natural Resources has been a marvelous opportunity. I've spent the last sixteen years doing the best I could and now it's someone else's turn."

Thomas was born and raised in Michigan, where she earned her B.S. in biology from Central Michigan University, and came to Wisconsin with her husband in 1977. Thomas had an interest in water resources which is what first attracted her to UWSP. Thomas began her master's degree at UWSP in 1978 and graduated a year and a half later with her M.S. in Natural Resources with an emphasis in water.



**Peggy Farrell.**

In 1980, Thomas joined the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point staff as Assistant to the Dean to Dan Trainer. Thomas was encouraged by Trainer to further her education and he kept her hired on at UWSP as she worked towards her Ph.D. in Land Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Upon graduating, UWSP converted Thomas into a faculty role and she hap-

pily accepted. Thomas became the first female tenured full-time professor at UWSP and taught in the Human Dimensions discipline. Along the way she won an Excellence in teaching award and her favorite course was Integrated Resource Management.

In addition to her role as a university educator, Thomas has developed a program that teaches women outdoor skills known as Becoming an Outdoors-Woman. BOW became internationally renowned and enabled Thomas to rise in national circles.

Thomas is also proud of what BOW has accomplished. Not only did it change the lives of the participants, it also created many positive experiences for the instructors and improved the career trajectories of the workshop planners and coordinators.

Today there are 35 states and 6 provinces that currently offer Becoming an Outdoors-Woman programs.

Thomas became the Dean of the College of Natural Resources in 2005. Thomas stated, "I wanted to be Dean ever since I met Dan Trainer. He was my mentor and pushed me in my career."

Thomas has received numerous awards and was inducted into The Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame in 2017. Her induction honored her 40 years of involvement in the conservation field at the

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The Sports Hub - 1 p.m. on Mondays

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## The Dean... continued from page 1

state and national levels.

Thomas served as a member of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board for 11 years and chair for 3 years.

At the national level, she served on the board of directors of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the board of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.

She spent 8 years as the Vice-Chair of the U.S. Interior and U.S. Agriculture De-

partment's Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council, serves on the board of Ducks Unlimited, and is a member of the Boone and Crockett Club University Programs Committee.

Thomas is also the author of *Becoming an Outdoors-Woman: My Outdoor Adventure*.

The hunt for the new College of Natural Resources Dean is on.



**Christine Thomas.**

*Photo courtesy of UWSP College of Natural Resources.*



## DeBot Forum Allows Students to Voice Opinions

Rayvn Knipple, Collin McNamara, and Al Thompson speak at the open dining forum.

*Photo by Florence Anderson.*

### FLORENCE ANDERSON

REPORTER

fande807@uwsp.edu

Despite only opening a month and a half ago, many changes have taken place to the new DeBot Dining Center and more changes are currently in the works. Before dining services updated their policies, they held an open forum to hear students' concerns and suggestions. SGA helped host the forum that took place Monday 24.

Keynote speakers at the event included SGA dining board member Collin McNamara, SGA vice president Rayvn Knipple, vice chancellor for student affairs Al Thompson, and marketing specialist Sierra Kelly. Other members of the dining staff also attended, along with UWSP students and parents of students.

After an opening statement from Thompson, students were able to voice their concerns. The main issue students and parents have with DeBot is what can be purchased with Dawg Dollars. The original plan was that only campus-made food could be purchased, but a small grocery section has since been added to the plan.



**Current SGA Senator and Sophomore Collin McNamara.**

*Photo by Florence Anderson.*

Current SGA Senator and Sophomore Collin McNamara- Photo by Florence Anderson

The biggest complaint among the stu-

dents and parents was with the Dawg Dollar policy. One parent voiced his opinion, he felt the university was contradicting itself. Back in August, an email was sent to students saying all items could be purchased with Dawg Dollars but over winter break, the school announced only certain items would be available. The main point one parent made was that what was the point of purchasing a meal plan when his child couldn't make it to DeBot at times. One student talked about how she preferred cooking for herself but couldn't because she didn't have the money after the meal plan.

As a current sophomore, McNamara faces the same struggles as other students. However, as both a student and SGA senator, he has seen both sides of the struggle. He recognizes the importance of addressing the financial situation and making students satisfied.

He said, "It would be great to be able to buy groceries but at the same time we also have to look up to make \$1.3 million a year... We have to make the decision whether or not we are going to reach a financial bottom line or reach student success. That's where we are trying to find our happy medium and by holding events like this, I think we are getting closer to that happy medium."

One concern brought up by a UWSP student was why were certain food items chosen over others. Kelly explained that student input and interviews were a driving force when it came to choosing certain items such as ramen noodles and soup. Thompson expanded, stating that dining services were looking at adding granola bars and sandwich meat to the Dawg Dollar list due to popular demand.

A possible solution brought up by students and Thompson was the option of outsourcing dining. Thompson doesn't believe outsourcing is the best choice for students and UWSP's dietitian Becky Konkol weighed in as well. Konkol was a former UWSP student, attending school

here from 2005-2009 when dining was contracted and when dining was self-run. Her biggest point was that open forum and changes "would not be happening. Contractors are just going to come in and do what they want... [students] wouldn't have a voice and wouldn't get these job opportunities."

Current student employee at dining, Margaret Weiss, told her perspective. Weiss has been working for dining for four years, starting as a freshman and still working there as a senior. She did not have a car for her first two years of school so her only employment opportunities would have been with the nearby fast-food places. Even then, Weiss said, "[fast food restaurants] aren't going to care about you nearly as much as the university does."

The only pro of outsourcing that was mentioned at the event would be that the school wouldn't have to worry about making up the \$1.3 million a year.

Thompson also mentioned one of the major issues DeBot is having is the understaffing. In the past, over 400 students had been working for dining but that number dropped to approximately 263 student employees. Thompson followed by explaining the understaffing meant not all stations could be open all the time and they all couldn't work as quickly as they'd like.

McNamara explained that declining enrollment is the main issue. He said, "part of the reason we are understaffed is because we have a declining enrollment. We can't offer very high benefits... but we are trying our best."

Before the forum, two changes had already been made to the meal plan. The Dawg Dollar menu in the Lower Marketplace included more items and expanded the hours of Upper Debot. No changes have been made since the forum but they are currently being worked on. A full video of the forum can be found on SGA's Facebook page.

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## 2020 Presidential Candidates... continued from page 1

we will have positive feedback cycles and have minimal control over carbon released into the atmosphere. This is also the first election that climate change has been a key topic in debates and campaign efforts," says McGuire.

With the 2020 Presidential primary date of April 7 for Wisconsin approaching fast, knowing where top democratic candidates stand on climate change – compared to each other, and President Trump – will be vital for choosing a candidate.

One such issue is the Paris Agreement on climate. This 2016 agreement brought the efforts and ambitions of all nations together to combat climate change.

Among top Democratic candidates, all would have the U.S. rejoin the Paris Agreement, though with varying terms.

Joe Biden, former U.S. Vice President and Delaware Senator, was in office with then-President Obama when the U.S. joined the Paris Agreement. In addition to recommitting the U.S. to this landmark global agreement, his plan as president calls for a 100 percent clean energy economy. By 2050 at the latest, the U.S. would reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions: the driving force behind global climate change.

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders calls on the U.S. to rejoin the agreement and then meet its fair share of emission reductions, as determined by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This includes reducing U.S. carbon emissions by 71 percent, as well as providing support for less-industrialized countries with their emission reductions, by 2030.

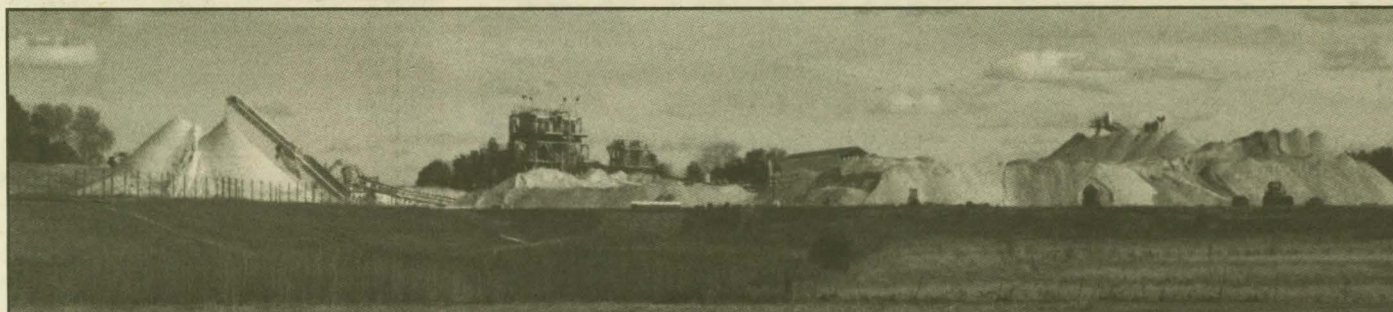
Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, who recently dropped out of the presidential race, had a similar stance to Biden. In addition to rejoining the agreement, Warren's plan included reducing carbon pollution, roughly in half, by 2030. Warren also aimed to have the U.S. at net-zero emissions by 2050.

Michael Bloomberg, businessman and former mayor of New York City, also recently ended his bid for president. However, Bloomberg's plan called on the U.S. to rejoin the agreement and cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030. He also stated that the country would be at 80 percent clean power by 2028.

Hydraulic fracturing, commonly known as "fracking," is a controversial extraction technique used for oil and natural gas. There is disagreement between some candidates about whether this practice should be allowed or not.

As opposed to banning it nationwide, Biden calls for limiting and regulating the practice. This regulation would include evaluating current fracking operations to determine potential dangers and impacts. Biden also opposes new fracking operations on public lands. Additionally, his plan would limit methane pollution, a major greenhouse gas, for both new and existing operations.

As president, Sanders would place a ban on all fracking in the U.S. Among many reasons for this position, Sanders states that the practice is dangerous



Hydraulic fracking site in Wisconsin. Fracking is controversial and remains an important environmental issue.

Photo Credits: carol mitchell, Flickr

to water and air, while contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.

Under Warren's climate change plans, fracking would have been banned nationwide. On day one as president, Warren planned to sign an executive order that, in addition to banning fracking, would have eliminated new fossil fuel leases for both offshore and public land drilling for fossil fuels.

Similarly to Biden, Bloomberg called to limit and regulate fracking. In areas with adequate health and environmental protections, strict guidelines, and responsiveness to stopping methane leaks, fracking could continue. However, Bloomberg supported phasing out all fossil fuels over time while increasing the production and use of renewable energy.

Federal subsidies for fossil fuels is another important aspect of climate change discussions.

These subsidies contribute to climate change by decreasing the price of fossil fuels, thus supporting and encouraging production and consumption. For example, an analysis published in Nature Energy found that continuing current U.S. fossil fuel subsidies, around \$20 billion a year in direct subsidies, could lead to an increase in oil production and carbon emissions over the coming decades.

On this issue, top candidates hold the same main stance.

As president, Biden proposes eliminating federal government fossil fuel subsidies. These billions of dollars of funds would then be reallocated into clean energy infrastructure investments.

Sanders calls for the elimination of direct fossil fuel subsidies, stating that these funds will save taxpayers billions over the years. Sanders states that the fossil fuel industry will pay over \$3 trillion for their pollution; part of this large sum in the form of federal subsidies.

Annalise Keaton, Senior Biology major at UWSP, says that she plans to vote for Bernie Sanders in the upcoming election. Part



Annalise Keaton, Senior Biology major at UWSP.

Photo courtesy of Annalise Keaton.

of the reason, says Keaton, is Sanders's views on the role of corporations in re-

gards to climate change.

"Amongst the Democratic candidates, Bernie seems the most willing to demand financial support from the large corporations responsible for climate change," says Keaton.

According to Sanders, funds from the fossil fuel industry would go towards funding the non-binding Green New Deal resolution. This resolution, introduced in Feb. of 2019, has drawn attention from politicians and citizens alike.

Keaton says that Sanders's strong support and proposed adoption of the Green New Deal is a main reason for her support.

"What I like most is that the Green New Deal has great potential to create many jobs for educated Americans passionate about the environment," says Keaton.

Warren supported eliminating these fossil fuel subsidies as well. In the past, Warren had co-sponsored bills like the American Energy Innovation Act and the Close Big Oil Loopholes Act, which would have gotten rid of federal subsidies for fossil fuels.

These subsidies would have been eliminated under Bloomberg. He stated that tax breaks for drilling new oil and gas wells and well production, as well as deductions for fossil fuel royalties paid in other countries, would have been eliminated.

Another important consideration with respect to climate change, as well as public health and energy, is nuclear power. This energy source has drawn opposing views from many, including those seeking how to transform the U.S. energy system.

On nuclear power, Biden's views are not entirely clear. His plan supports research that would consider the costs, safety, and waste disposal systems of nuclear power. As Biden's climate change plan seeks low- and zero-carbon technologies for energy production, nuclear power appears to be on the table.

Sanders's plan calls for phasing out nuclear power and no new construction of nuclear power plants. Additionally, he supports a temporary ban on renewal licenses for existing nuclear power plants in the U.S. Sanders seeks a solution to the issue of nuclear waste. He states that risks from the toxic waste byproducts that come from nuclear power generation are not worth the benefits. To that end, other renewable energies says Sanders, are proven and more cost-effective.

McGuire says that out of all the top candidates, Sanders's climate change plan is strongest.

"Personally, I think that Bernie Sand-

ers has the most impactful and diligent plan for tackling climate change. Senator Sanders has provided a detailed plan for tackling the crisis through transitioning to renewable options while providing job opportunities for previous fossil fuel workers," says McGuire.

Warren's climate change plan included phasing out nuclear power and no future construction of nuclear power plants. Warren said that nuclear power would have been phased out, and then replaced with renewable energy. She hoped to replace nuclear energy by 2035 or earlier.

Under Bloomberg, the U.S. would not have built any new nuclear plants. His plan called for moving away from fossil fuels as quickly as possible; and nuclear energy, which accounts for 20 percent of current U.S. electrical output, would have been included in that transition. Bloomberg also stated that the vast majority of energy investments would have been in wind and solar energy, as well as energy storage.

Climate change under the current administration has not been a priority. Under Trump, the U.S. has successfully undone or delayed many regulations and past executive actions related to climate change and emissions reductions. According to Columbia University's Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, the federal government under Trump has taken 131 actions towards climate deregulation.

One such action of opposition to climate change was U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement under Trump.

Another example is President Trump's support for nuclear power. The president's budget proposal for 2021 included \$1.2 billion for nuclear energy research, development, and programs.

And while the current administration has looked to dominate global energy supplies, including by means of fracking and continued Arctic fossil fuel exploration, environmental costs have largely been ignored.

The upcoming presidential election carries with it important consequences for how the U.S. will address climate change in 2020 and the years that follow. While voters consider a variety of issues to determine their desired candidate, climate change is a pressing issue that many already hold as a priority. Learning where the candidates stand and what their plans are will assist in that decision; and where they stand on climate change is important moving forward.

More information on each candidate's views and plans, climate change and otherwise, can be found on their websites, respectively.



# SGA

## Student Government Association Newsletter

### RILEY GARSKI

SGA COMMUNICATIONS  
& PR DIRECTOR

sga.comm.and.public.rel.director@uwsp.edu

The Student Government Association is involved in nearly every aspect of this campus, including, as should be expected, politics! Joe Lorenzi is the current Director and chair of the Legislative Affairs committee and he has done a lot, on the political side of things, to improve this campus. He has been the chair since January 2019 and will continue to serve through the rest of the current academic year.

One of the main jobs Joe has is to plan and organize lobbying trips. This often requires him to talk to staffers in the offices of elected officials down in Madison, or even the representatives themselves! Once he has lined up a bunch of meetings with legislators, students from all backgrounds travel to Madison and lobby on behalf of the university. This year, they lobbied to fund the tuition freeze, protect the tuition freeze from being lifted and advocated for the Albertson Hall restoration project.

Current initiatives in the Legislative Affairs committee include a "get out the vote" effort. This effort involves tabling in the DUC and registering students to vote. SGA believes that to get the change we want to see on this campus we must be involved in elections,

and getting students out and voting! Volunteers for this initiative will also help students identify the voting wards in the area that they are supposed to go to in order to vote. Lastly, this get out the vote effort also includes educating students on the stances of each candidate that is running in a non-biased way. So, for example, since we are in a primary season, these volunteers would educate the students on the stances of candidates such as Bernie Sanders and Joe Biden.

Future efforts of this committee also include helping people register to vote the day of the primary and even shuttling students to and from the voting areas.

Director Lorenzi says that it has been an honor serving in this position and he has enjoyed doing it. Helping students achieve their goals and helping students learn more about voting and candidates running has been very fulfilling for not only him, but everyone involved in the process on this campus. Hearing student stories and learning about their experiences keeps all of us fighting for the student voice and representation on this campus.

As always, if you have any questions or want to get involved, message us on social media or stop by the SGA office. The more students involved in this process, the louder our voice!

# Portage County Executive Newsletter

CHRIS HOLMAN  
PORTAGE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
homanco@co.portage.wi.us

There is tremendous change afoot in agriculture and food production, and consumer education is more important than ever. Companies are losing money in the old ways of doing business, and they need to tap into a demanding consumer base that is often under-informed and generally unaware of the corporate and agricultural worlds that they so effectively manipulate without seeming to realize it.

Consumers have had a dramatic impact on the market in recent years. One of the more dominant trends is that massive conglomerates involved in food processing and production are reaching back down through the value chain to harness concepts and ideas that their business model long ago abandoned in favor of producing large volumes of inexpensive foodstuffs. That was the key to success then, but now they've run out of ideas.

Now, volume is vanity and profitability is sanity.

It's frustrating for smaller scale food and farming operations who have always had to compete on price with those who monopolize their market to now find themselves having to compete in value chains that they have had a large part in helping to develop. Cultivating those values in order to try and survive in this food economy is hard work and occasionally soul-crushing. Of course, there's occasionally a big pay out too if one of those conglomerates decides to snatch up your good idea(s). The market value for values is quite high right now.

Some might call what these large corporations are up to "green washing" but we're entering a new era where that is too simplistic of a take. So, if you find yourself experiencing cognitive dissonance on this, embrace it. Push past it. Ask more questions. Learn.

The fact is, you now have huge companies creating space within their organizational culture and that of their peers to engage in serious, well-funded discussions about climate change, soil health, best management practices, water quality and quantity, and so on down the line. No, this isn't a panacea, but the programs they are participating in are often co-created with environmental groups who are—for all intents and purposes—telling them what they should do. This sort of strategic pivot in a mature industry is being done because they recognize the need to change their model to one that enables them to be more resilient in a rapidly changing economy.

What does that look like? Tyson and Cargill are investing in soil health and cover crops. Wrangler is working on making jeans that use cotton produced with a "softer" impact on the environment. Coca-Cola is working on water stewardship and sustainability. Unilever has adopted a sustainable living plan that aims to, "decouple our growth from our environmental footprint." Archer Daniels Midland or "ADM" is working with smaller scale wheat farmers on the west coast to help them create "values based" brands like Shepherd's Grain that better support farmer livelihoods.

On most days, ADM is the largest publicly traded farmland product company in the United States. Would it bother you if the ancient grain bagel you purchased at Powell's Books in downtown Portland, Oregon that was made by a local entrepreneur in their new bakery across from a "Keep Portland Weird" mural began its path to you in an ADM grain elevator dedicated to Shepherd's Grain farmers?

The list goes on and on, and yet much of this is happening in a way that makes it feel like background noise. Have these changes registered with you? Have you noticed which values are showing up in food and agricultural marketing? Have you realized that a particular message is being directed at you?



# Sports Schedule

Mar 12 – Mar 26

## Men's Wrestling

NCAA Championships  
at Cedar Rapids, Iowa on  
March 13, 14 @ 11 a.m.

## Track & Field

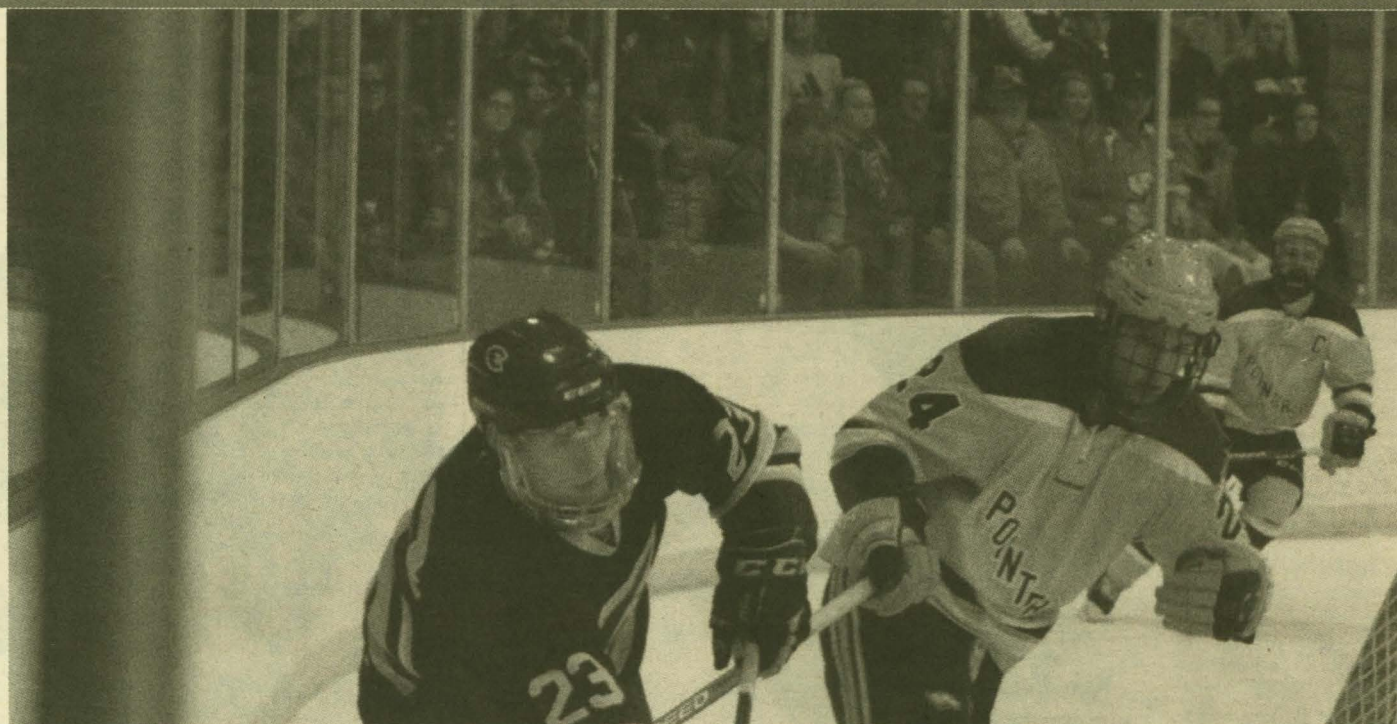
NCAA Indoor National Championships at Winston-Salem, NC on March 13, 14 @ TBD

## Swimming

NCAA Championships  
at Greensboro, N.C. on  
March 18, 19, 20, 21 @ TBD

## NOTICE:

Due to the University's preventative measures against COVID-19, all sports travel is canceled, except for NCAA Athletics, until April 15th.



## Pointer Hockey Falls to BlueGolds in WIAC Championship

Junior, Collin Raver fights to try and get a goal in.

Photo by Avianna Holmes.

AVIANNA HOLMES  
REPORTER  
aholm524@uwsp.edu

The Pointer hockey team lost a hard-fought game to the Eau Claire BlueGolds. They played Friday March 7 for the WIAC championship.

The Pointers started out the game strong with an early goal by junior Steven Quagliata. Quagliata scored less than four minutes into the first period. The Pointers continued with another goal by senior Brennan Miller 11 minutes into the game.

The BlueGolds scored their first game of the night 17 minutes into the first period to end the first period 2-1 in the Pointers favor.

The BlueGolds tied the game five min-

utes into the second period with their second goal. They went on to score two more goals before the end of the period to take the lead.

The Pointers fought hard in the third period but were unable to overcome the BlueGolds. The Pointers even took out their goalie, Eli Billings, to add a sixth skater in attempts to score. In the end, they were unable to come back from the deficit and the BlueGolds came out on top.

Despite the outcome of the game head coach, Tyler Krueger, is proud of the team's determination and work ethic.

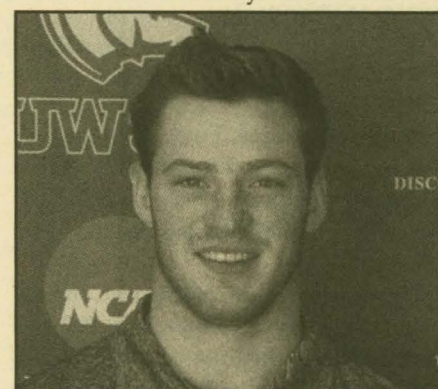
He said he was proud of "the fight that the group had and never gave up. It's the story of all season long we put ourselves in in December and battled our way back. We got up in the game and went down and never lost sight of who we are; and sticking together and wanted to do it together and never gave up until the final whistle blew."

The Pointers have had a fighting spirit all season. They started out 5-6-1 and unranked. Krueger is proud of how the boys fought their way back to the top.

Krueger said, "It's a resilient group. You know in December we were 5-6-1 and it could have gone a lot of different ways. Guys could have thrown in the towel. We stuck together and went through our lumps and came out of it stronger and as a tighter group."



Head coach Tyler Krueger  
Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics



Senior, Logan Fredricks  
Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics



Sophomore, Jordan Fader stretches out to try and make it to the goal.

Photo by Avianna Holmes.





## Women's Hockey Team Advances with Hard Fought Victory

Sophomore Dani Heitsman.

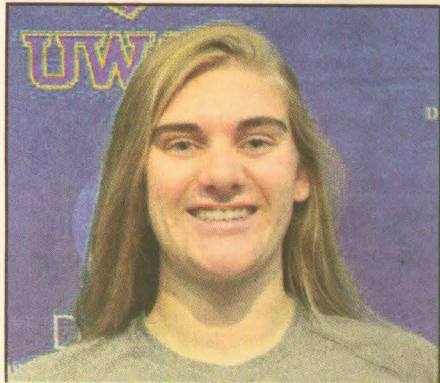
Photo courtesy of Madeline Schuldes.

JERRY MARKARIAN  
REPORTER  
jmark234@uwsp.edu

The UW-Stevens Point Pointers advanced to the second round of the WIAC Tournament with a 3-1 victory against the Northland Lumberjills on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The score was deadlocked at one for much of the contest before the Pointers pulled away in the third period with two goals in the final minutes of the game.

Sophomore forward Dani Heitsman was a standout for the Pointers in the contest. She scored two of the three Pointer goals on the night, including what turned out to be the game-winner with only four minutes left.



UWSP Sophomore Dani Heitsman.  
Photo courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

When asked what she saw when she sniped her game winning shot Heitsman said, "We were on the puck and I saw I had an open lane to jump through the

middle. Kiley [Hahner] made a great pass to me and the far side of the net was open, so I didn't have to think and just shot it."

Senior forward Alex Grubbs tacked on one more point to increase the Pointers lead to two with just over one-minute left in the game.

With 41 faceoff wins in the game, the Pointers nearly doubled the total of the Lumberjills, who had only 21.

The Pointers not only did a tremendous job of maintaining the puck throughout the game, they also played tremendous defense in the contest.

They finished with 46 shots-on-goal compared to just 19 for the Lumberjills. Sophomore goalie Olivia Schultz made 18 saves on the night.

Heitsman said, "Getting shots on goal is a big test every game, the more shots you take the better chance you have of scoring. It's going to be really important against the goalie this weekend because she might not give us many rebounds."

With the win, the team will now travel to Eau Claire for the next round of the tournament where they will take on the third-ranked Blugold squad who beat them twice (and tied once) during the regular season less than one month ago.

The teams will play a two-game series and the puck drop for the first game of the series will be at 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28. The second game will start at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 29.

With a series win against the Blugolds, the Pointers will clinch their spot in the WIAC Championship game.



## UWSP Baseball and Softball Season Preview

UWSP Baseball and Softball Teams.  
Photo Courtesy of Kylie Bridenhagen.

CALE JACOBY  
REPORTER  
cjaco190@uwsp.edu

With plenty of new faces for both teams, the UWSP Baseball and Softball teams look to have a promising 2020 season.

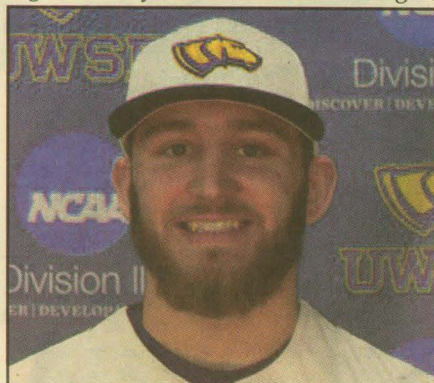
The Pointers' Baseball team has 13 freshmen coming in this season, while the Softball team has 11. The Baseball team is coached by Jeremy Jirschele, and the Softball team is led by Ryan Konitzer.

Last season the Baseball team went 14-24 and had a conference record of 6-18. They started last season hot with a record of 6-2 but went 8-22 in their final 30 games.

The Softball team had an about average season last year going 17-20-1. They had their issues in conference play going 3-10-1.

While both teams have many new faces this season, there are also a few familiar ones for both squads.

UWSP Baseball is returning six starting fielders this season including Aaron Simmons, Tommy Duddleston, Nate Jackson, Payton Nelson, Nolan Matson, and Bradley Comer. In addition, they have 4 returning pitching rotation players including Austin Syvertson, Matthew Morgan,



Aaron Simmons.  
Photo Courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

Zack Haupt, and Caleb Krommenakker.

UWSP Softball is returning five starting fielders this year including Lauren Luedtke, Sammy Buerger, Maddie Candre, Madi Greenaberg and Ashley Cohen who also pitches regularly. Other than Cohen, their pitching rotation is strictly freshmen.

Baseball outfielder Aaron Simmons talked about how his team's mindset has changed from last season to this year.

He said, "I feel like last year we kind of got away from who we are as a team... Last year we kind of had a lot of big heads on the team. We need to just humble ourselves as a team...I feel like this year our culture has definitely changed."

She went on to talk about the influx of freshman coming into the team this season.



Lauren Luedtke.  
Photo Courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

She said, "They're a big part of our starting lineup. Every single one of them is playing and contributing, so they're doing really well so far. It's really overwhelming at first, but they've taken a really good handle on it."

UWSP Baseball is currently 1-2 and will head to Florida March 14 to begin their spring trip, and UWSP Softball is 5-3 and will head to Florida March 13 for their spring games.



# Pointer Profiles

These profiles are to highlight student athletes competing for UWSP.

## Pointer Profile: Lauren Luedkte

JERRY MARKARIAN  
REPORTER  
jmark234@uwsp.edu



Lauren Luedkte.

Photo Courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

**Sport:** Softball  
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Hometown:** Lomira, WI  
**How long have you been playing soft-**

ball? I've been playing softball forever, probably since I can walk, so I've been playing for a long time.

**Have you played other sports before college?** I played volleyball and basketball.

**Did you consider playing either of those sports in college?** My mom played volleyball in college, so I wanted to play volleyball in college too, but then I decided to play softball.

**What are your goals and expectations for the team this season?** Our goals are just to get better every single game. We don't want to think big end goals, but we think about winning each game is our biggest thing, so as long as we play well, we're good.

**How do you think the freshmen on the team are adjusting to college softball?** They're a big part of our starting lineup. Every single one of them is playing and contributing, so they're doing really well so far. It's really overwhelming

at first, but they've taken a really good handle on it.

**You're 5-3 so far, how do you feel the team is playing so far this season?** We just came back from a really good weekend. We played some really good teams, and we battled hard with them, and we did good, so I'm excited to go to Florida and see what we can do.

**What are you interested in within the elementary education major?** I love kids. I love teaching. I love everything that has to do with it. Being in a classroom and helping kids, I love it.

**What is your favorite aspect of college softball?** I just love the atmosphere of it and the bonds that you make with all the people and the coaches and all the people you meet. It's just a really great experience, and it makes a big family.

**What is the biggest difference between high school softball and college ball?** You play a lot more games, and it's a lot faster paced, but a lot of it's the same.

You just have to slow it down in your head and go for it.

**What advice would you give an incoming college athlete?** I would just tell them to do their best. Don't think about the end result. Don't think about what's going to happen. Just go out there every day and do what you can.

**What is the place you'd most want to visit?** I really want to go to Greece. I just think it's so pretty, and one of my friends is getting married there. I just think it's so pretty, and I want to go there.

**What is your favorite movie or TV show?** I really like friends or full house and stuff like that, older stuff.

**Do you have an athlete that you look up to or model your game after?** I like Prince Fielder. He was my favorite when he was with the Brewers, but now it's more like Christian Yelich. I really like him. I like his values.

## Pointer Profile: Bailee Collins

CALE JACOBY  
REPORTER  
cjaco190@uwsp.edu



Bailee Collins.

Photo Courtesy of UWSP Athletics.

**Sport:** Basketball  
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Political Science  
**Hometown:** Milton, WI  
**How long have you been playing basketball?** I started in second grade. My

dad wanted to be a coach, and he played when he was younger all the way through college, so he wanted me to get into it and I did.

**Have you played other sports?** I played soccer for a long time. I thought it was way too much running, so I didn't like it very much. Then I got moved to goalie, and I still had to do the running even though I didn't get to do anything during games, so that was enough for me.

**What are you interested in within the political science major?** In high school, my sophomore year, I had this teacher who would later be my AP government teacher. He got me really interested in history and politics. I started watching the news. I had never done that. When I got to be a senior, I took his class, and we traveled to Washington D.C. We got to interview a bunch of politicians like Paul Ryan and Tammy Baldwin, and it was really cool. Then I got here, and I chose political science, and I'm double minoring in public administration policy analysis and environmental studies. Then I have my

certificate in international relations. What I would like to do is maybe work somewhere overseas in a different country just to grasp their environmental policy and maybe bring it back here if I can, or work in a national park or something like that.

**What has been your favorite aspect of playing college basketball?** The people, everyone from coaches, to administrators, to my teammates. Everybody in the athletic department here at Stevens Point is just so wonderful.

**What is the biggest difference between high school and college basketball?** My favorite way to answer this question is the way you play in a high school basketball game is the way you should practice in a college practice. You have to have high energy the entire time. It's two hours of work, locked in, ready to go at it. It's high pace, it's way higher paced.

**What advice would you give an incoming freshman college athlete?** Trust the process. If they were coming here, coach Egner has so many years under her

belt, and she's a great coach. She knows a lot about the game, and just put all your faith in that and believe in what she says.

**What is the place you would most want to visit?** I really want to go to the Swiss Alps.

**What is your favorite movie or TV show?** My favorite movie is "A Walk to Remember," and my favorite TV show is "Parks and Recreation."

**Do you have a favorite sports athlete that you look up to?** I do, and his name is Tyler Herro. He plays for the Miami Heat. I follow him on everything, all social media, and I just think he's the epitome of somebody who whatever they want to do, they're going to get it done, and I really respect that about him. The fact that he committed to Wisconsin and then realized "what I want to do is not what Wisconsin wants me to do, so I'm going to transfer and de-commit and go to Kentucky," and he's just been on the rise ever since.





## Coachella festival postponed as concerts grapple with virus

This April 13, 2012 file photo shows festivalgoers running toward the main stage at the 2012 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio, Calif. The Coachella music festival in Southern California has been postponed amid virus concerns. Photo courtesy of Chris Pizzello.

MESFIN FEKADU  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The uber-popular Coachella music festival has been postponed from its usual two-weekend-run in April to October due to concerns about the growing coronavirus.

The festival's producer Goldenvoice made the announcement Tuesday, also confirming that Stagecoach, a country music festival, will also be postponed. Coachella, held in Southern California, will now take place on Oct. 9-11 and Oct. 16-18, while Stagecoach will take place Oct. 23-25.

"At the direction of the County of Riverside and local health authorities, we must sadly confirm the rescheduling of Coachella and Stagecoach due to COVID-19 concerns. While this decision comes at a time of universal uncertainty, we take the safety and health of our guests, staff and community very seriously. We urge everyone to follow the guidelines and protocols put forth by public health officials," Goldenvoice said in a statement.

The company said all passes for origi-

nal dates will be honored for the rescheduled shows, and customers will be notified by Friday on how to obtain a refund if they cannot attend.

Rage Against the Machine, Travis Scott and Frank Ocean were originally announced as headliners of Coachella; Goldenvoice didn't say if the performance lineup would change or stay intact. Others announced to perform include Calvin Harris, Lana Del Rey, Thom Yorke, 21 Savage, Disclosure, Summer Walker, Lil Uzi Vert and FKA twigs.

Riverside County, which has six coronavirus cases, declared a public health emergency on Sunday.

"No doubt it will impact many people, but my top priority is to protect the health of the entire community," said Riverside County Public Health Officer Dr. Cameron Kaiser.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

The vast majority of people recover from the new virus. According to the

World Health Organization, people with mild illness recover in about two weeks, while those with more severe illness may take three to six weeks to recover. In mainland China, where the virus first exploded, more than 80,000 people have been diagnosed and more than 58,000 have so far recovered.

The move came the same day Carlos Santana, Zac Brown Band and Pentatonix canceled concerts because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Santana said he had canceled the European tour dates of his Miraculous 2020 World Tour and that refunds will be available through point of purchase. The tour was scheduled to start March 17 in Poland.

Pentatonix was also set to launch its world tour in Poland — a day before Santana's show — but posted a statement saying they would have to cancel the European leg of the tour.

"Despite our best efforts and intentions, it is, simply, no longer possible for us to execute this tour the way we want to: safely, confidently and completely," the Grammy-winning vocal group said in a statement.

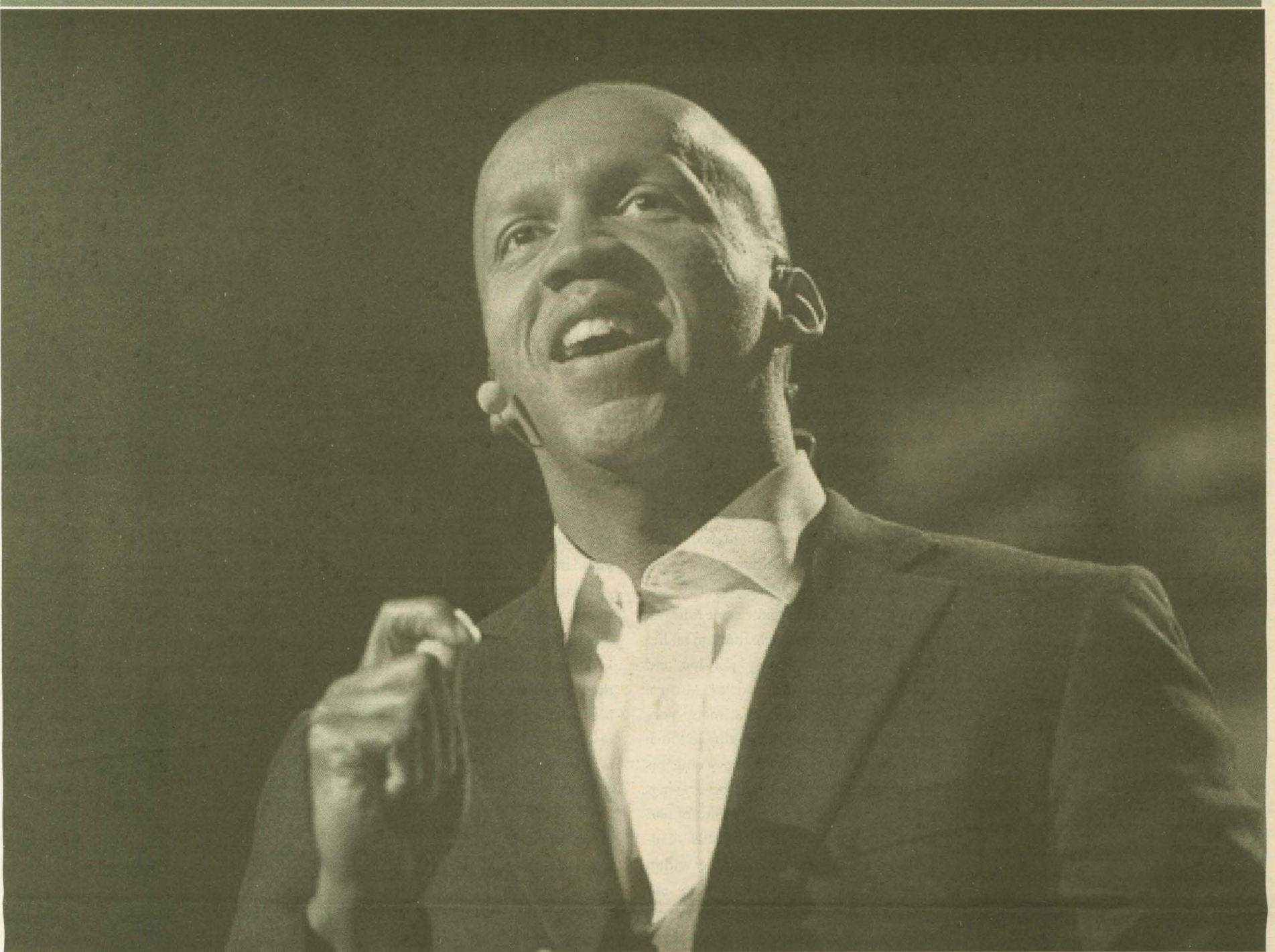
Zac Brown Band said it was postponing the spring leg of its The Owl Tour, which would have kicked off Thursday in St. Louis.

"This was an extremely difficult decision, but the well-being of our fans is always our top priority," the country group said in a statement. "We ask that our fans retain their tickets as they will be honored on the new dates. At this time, our 'Roar With The Lions' Summer 2020 tour dates (commencing in May) will be performed as planned."

Santana, Zac Brown Band and Pentatonix join a long list of singers who have canceled or postponed shows in the U.S. and outside of the region, including Pearl Jam, Madonna, Ciara, BTS, Khalid, Mariah Carey, Green Day and more. The South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas, has been canceled, and the Ultra electronic dance music festival in Miami has been postponed.

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## "Just Mercy" Moves Viewers

Bryan Stevenson at TED2012: Full Spectrum, February 27 - March 2, 2012. Long Beach, CA. Photo by James Duncan Davidson.

**ERIN HENZE**  
REPORTER  
ehenz556@uwsp.edu

The new movie "Just Mercy" was shown in the DUC Theater on March 5 and 7. Starring Michael B. Jordan, Jamie Foxx, and Brie Larson, "Just Mercy" follows the true story of young lawyer Bryan Stevenson fighting for prisoners that have been sentenced to the death penalty in Alabama in the 1990s.

This hard-hitting, emotional movie was very different from the movies that Centertainment normally puts on, but sophomore Jazz Studies student and Centertainment employee Kelsey Mehlberg thought it was a good idea.

"Not all the time someone wants to see a Marvel movie or a Disney movie or a horror movie," said Mehlberg. "This movie I thought would be appropriate, I thought we would get a lot of people talking."

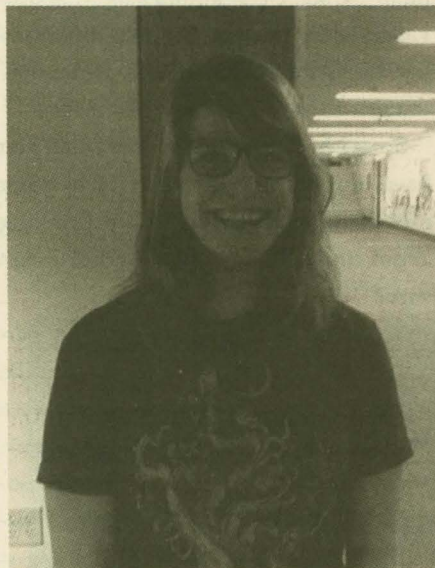
Talking indeed happened after the airing of "Just Mercy" on the UWSP campus. Many students left the cinema in shock at what they had seen.

"This movie is heart-wrenching and hit me like a train," said sophomore communications and studio art major Julia Kaufman, "but it made me feel hopeful for the future of the justice system as peo-

ple like Bryan exist."

Mehlberg could not even describe what she saw upon watching the movie.

"I believe that this movie, 'Just Mercy,' is a really deep movie," said Mehlberg. "It is very, I guess... I don't know. I am just so it so I'm a little shell-shocked

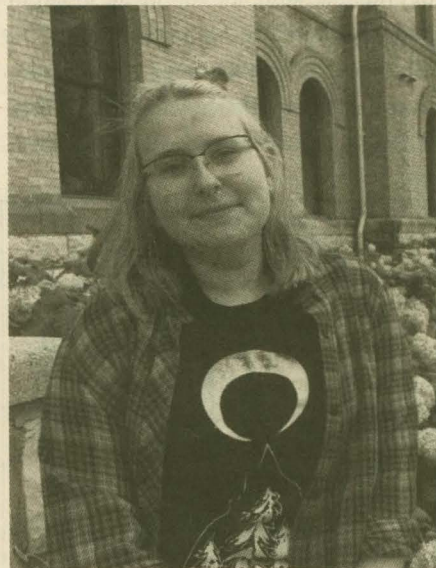


Sophomore Jazz Student, Centertainment employee Kelsey Mehlberg.  
Photo by Erin Henze.

about it. It was just very eye-opening and very moving. I think it's a very good thing for people to see."

"Just Mercy" sent a very strong message to viewers, highlighting the injustice in the justice system, especially for people of color.

"The message this movie sent," said Kaufman, "is that our justice system is more corrupt than most would think and



Sophomore Communications and Studio Art Major Julia Kaufman.  
Photo by Sam Baxter.

that people like Bryan are necessary to help those who can't help themselves. It showed that with only a few bad people

an entire stem can become untrustworthy. I think this message is really important, especially right now with the controversies brewing over the justice system and institutionalized racism."

As of July 1 in 2019, there were 2,656 people on death row in the United States, according to the Criminal Justice Project of the NAACP. The death penalty is legal in 29 of the 50 states, though Wisconsin is not one of them. The majority of the states where the death penalty is legal being in the south.

According to the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, for every 10 people that have been executed, one has been set free. Of the people on death row, over 50 percent are people of color, while in the U.S. people of color only account for less than 25 percent of the population, according to the Death Penalty Information Center and the U.S. Census Bureau respectively.

"I think the statistics show how unnecessary and corrupt the death penalty is as a sentence," said Kaufman. "It shows that the death penalty should be demolished in every state."

"Just Mercy" comes out on DVD and Blu-ray April 14. More information on the death penalty can be found at [deathpenaltyinfo.org](http://deathpenaltyinfo.org).



# An Interview with an Artist: Cullah

ERIN HENZE  
REPORTER  
ehenz556@uwsp.edu

Cullah is an artist that recently came to UWSP with his band Cullah and the Comrades. Based in Milwaukee, Cullah performs often with the Comrades, as well as with his other group, the Copperheads. As a full-time musician, Cullah keeps busy, creating a new album every year.

**I know that you produce a new album every year. How are you able to do this? I know it's a lot of work to even produce one album.**

Well, I don't have a choice at some point. I've got some sickness inside me. Logistically, the way that I can do it every year is that I'm self-produced. I have a background in computer engineering and come from a pretty musical family. I fell in love with making music at a pretty early age, and I was shown the tools to be able to produce and engineer, just the basics of recording and songwriting and stuff. I rarely outsource it, but these past couple albums I've been starting to with other mixing engineers or other recording engineers. You gotta rely on all these different people to make sure it can happen and then you gotta pay them all and all that stuff. So, the way I can do it every year is that I just do it all myself. I'd say 80 to 90 percent of all of the albums, every instrument, all the different things, are all me. So it's easier when you can just hunker in your own studio and just work by yourself when you don't have to rely on other people.



"Spectacullah," album art. Art by Bigshot Robot.

**With that, what can you tell us about your new album, "Cullahtivation"?**

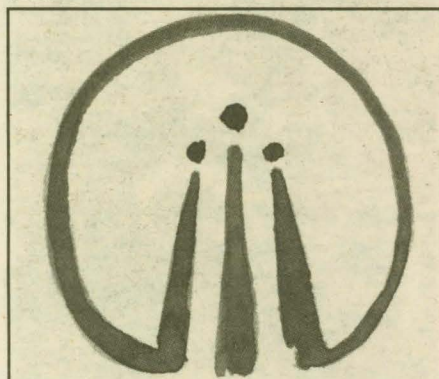
Well, it's the 14th album that I've made, and like a lot of the other albums, it's kind of all over the place. There's some bluegrass tunes - an ensemble I've got with these nice two-part harmonies and fiddle and stuff. There's some Irish folk music in it and then there's some hip-hop. I get into some trap music and then there's some electronic dance music and there's some spiritual and then some chamber music, so it's like a lot of the other albums where it's not really like a concept. There are some underlying themes, but usually, my albums become more autobiographical, so it's just kind of a reflection of where

my thoughts and feelings are. These albums, the more I've been making them, the more and more it becomes apparent that it's more autobiographical and more of a representation of how I'm doing emotionally, psychologically, and all those things. It's kind of my sonic therapy.

So, going back to something you had said before, about how you've grown up with music: I know that on your biography on your website, you talk about how your mom and her entire family were in a group. What type of influence did they have, what did they do that made you say, "Hey, I want to do this too?"

The understanding that I've been coming to is that it's more of a genetic inheritance and more of a psychological inheritance, that I have these things inside me and this is what the burning desire inside of me is, that it's kind of the same mindset that I share with my uncle that I'm taking lessons from and with my grandpa, and even some of my other uncles. Musical pursuit isn't something that many people look to as a career but getting in touch with my uncle this last year, seeing his story, it made me realize that this is genetics. It was always there but I kind of had to find it myself. That's why this "Cullahtivation" is kind of a looking within and facing those things inside of me and looking at my family and my history in a new way has allowed me to access some of those concepts and become okay with that and face it. Now I know more deeply that this is a more inherited thing, and it even goes further back.

I use this symbol on all my albums and in my music, it's called Awen and it's this ancient Irish symbol that poets and musicians would put on all their pieces of work. It's in all these old Irish folk tales and things. I was always drawn to these ancient things and these old, old ways of thinking and different. And so it goes even further back with an older tradition of understanding the role of the musician and what that is and it comes from a deep inherited thing that goes even further than just my mother's family. The storytelling goes way back in the Irish tradition.



Awen; an ancient Irish symbol used by Cullah.  
Artwork courtesy of Cullah.

**I know that all your music is royalty-free. That is really awesome for other creators out there. Why do you do that**

**and how is it possible to continue making music like that?**

The royalty-free, I don't want to say it's the only reason, but it's a primary reason, well, it's definitely one of the most important aspects of myself and my platform and how I release the music and why I've been able to become a full-time musician. Releasing it royalty-free has allowed other creators to use it and they can find value in it and then they can create.

There's so much music and there's so many people making great music everywhere, for me to restrict it by any means is doing myself a disservice. It's that and then the other aspect that I came to the idea of this open-source is my background in computer engineering and software, which, I mean you might have heard of open source technology or open-source thought. That's the shit that I want and that's the

shit that I believe in, so, cultivation is, you gotta break some eggs to make an omelet, that's part of the cultivation. There's tragedy and heartbreak in everything, and there are some tragic songs in "Cullahtivation" too, but the from death comes life, that's the nature of, one of the only things we know for sure.

**So with this success story that you have, do you have any advice to other musicians out there who are thinking about doing this as a career but aren't sure?**

My advice is that it's possible; 100 percent. If it's something inside of you that you know, then you have to do it. It's a moral responsibility. It's not just for yourself but for your family and for your society. It's not okay to not follow your passion, because what you end up doing is you end up hurting yourself and by doing that you end up hurting your family and hurting your community. And maybe that sounds a little harsh, but life is harsh. But it's hard, it's very hard and harsh, but you're equipped with tools, everyone is equipped with tools to be able to make it

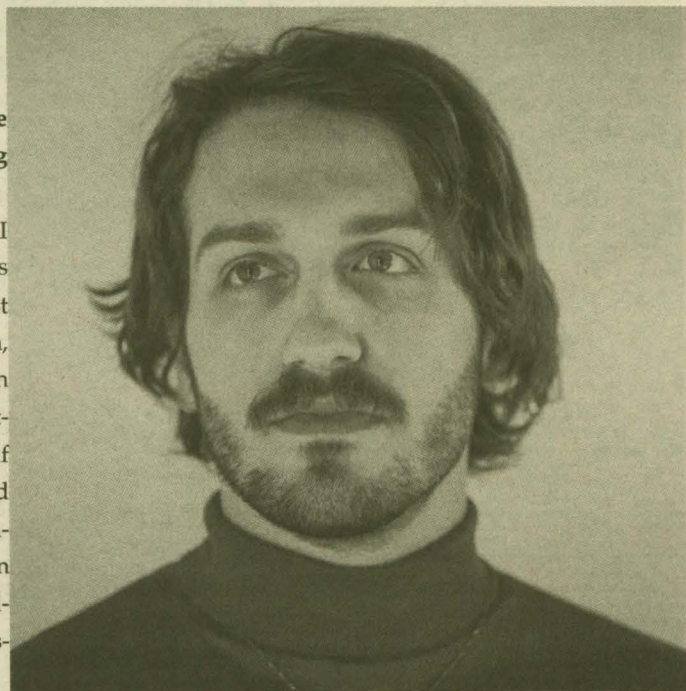


Photo by Samer Ghani.

happen.

So I'd say, one: it's absolutely possible. Two: you have a responsibility. And three: never give up. Things don't happen in a day. I mean, yeah, I'm able to survive as a full-time musician, but I have 14 albums.

I didn't just wake up one day and get a sweet deal from someone. The never give up is a very important part too, for sure. That's some of the best advice that I've gotten. I have 14 albums. I didn't just wake up one day and get a sweet deal from someone.

Is there

**anything else you'd like people to know about you or your work?**

Go to Cullah.com or go to Spotify/Cullah. Or if you're a filmmaker or a podcaster, or if you're any type of creator, even if you're a dancer or whatever, all my music is, I'd reiterate the royalty-free, open-source aspect of things, and tell people to make sure they know that they can use it for their own creation. They don't have to worry about someone coming down with a cease and desist or something, or Disney knocking down their door with Mickey Mouse with a subpoena. I don't know. I get messages from students all the time and I get very excited about that. I'm elated when people want to use my music, hands down. Especially if they're students and especially if they're starting to create their own stuff. I guess I would just reiterate that and tell them to feel free to listen to the music online and share it with your friends. We're coming up to Point again on July 4. I know that a lot of students will probably be back home, but for all the local Points, July 4.



Photo by Nick Pipitone.





## UWSP Foundation buys Newman Center

The Newman Center that UWSP Foundation purchased on Feb 28. Photo courtesy of University Communications and Marketing.

**SARAH SARTELL**

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
ssart621@uwsp.edu

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point recently purchased a new building to add to their campus, the Newman Center property. It is located at the corner of Reserve Street and Fourth Avenue.

The UW-Stevens Point Foundation received the money from generous donors over the years to acquire this property, according to a press release on Feb 28.

Despite having budget problems, the school bought the location that was originally called "The Newman Center." The goal is to use it for supporting university recruitment and retention efforts. Some students and peers might have heard it as "Welcome Center" but there stands no confirmation on an official new name.

The Newman Center has been around for over fifty years but during that time they have been fundraising money to build a new building that is now attached to the Holy Parish Church, now called "The Ministry Center."

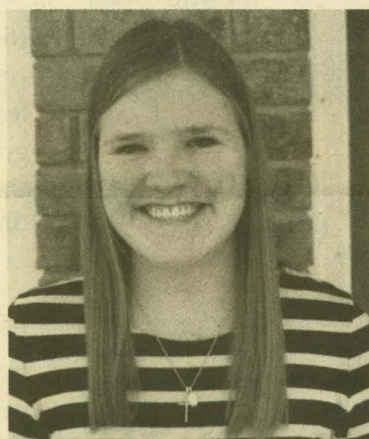
What the Newman Center offers, includes many activities for students and a space for students to hang out whenever they like.

Jessica Enstad, a recent graduate from UWSP, involved in the ministry since her freshman year, explained more of what the Newman Center has in store.

"It's a place for students, for student activities, and a place for students to build community and grow in their faith," said Enstad.

Enstad did mention that Point Catholic is a Christian organization that is in charge of these activities but "anyone is welcomed."

Enstad continued to express that they are very inclusive and stresses that there are spaces and activities for students to stop by and do homework or just enjoy themselves and the environment. Even



Campus minister and recent graduate of UWSP, Jessica Enstad. She has been involved with Newman Center for four years. Photo by Alexis Brauner.



Lizzy Novak, freshman, majoring in religious studies, social justice coordinator and VP of Point Catholic. Photo by Lizzy Novak.

though it may be attached to a church, there are still resources for any student to use.

Point Catholic is a Christian organization that is housed in the Holy Parish church. They host bible studies, game nights, and student suppers.

Lizzy Novak, freshman majoring in Religious Studies, Social Justice Coordinator for the church and Vice President of Point Catholic, said why she joined the organization.

"I felt extremely welcomed. Point Catholic is a great place to have that community support around you."

Novak's faith is a big part of her life and she loves to be a part of an organization that offers those kinds of opportunities but Novak and Enstad emphasize that they are an inclusive environment.

The Holy Parish Church is a big supporter of the community and provides funds for the Ministry Center and Point Catholic. Novak mentions she's excited to be at this new location and have a more "collaborative effort" and "new opportunities that it's going to bring."

Enstad shared why she liked being a part of the Newman Center and what she's excited for in the future. She said it's "a place to meet new people with the same values."

Enstad met some of her best friends through this opportunity and she knows that is can happen with others too. The old location will always be known and be missed but Enstad is excited for what this new collaboration between the center and church has in store.

A lot of new changes are happening but both ladies are excited for the now Ministry Center's future and hope to see a lot of new faces. Their doors are usually always open during normal business hours or close until the last event of the night depending on the weekday. Find them on SPIN at "Point Catholic."



"The Ministry Center," attached to the Holy Parish Catholic church.

Photo by Sarah Sartell.



