Alumna walks across America to celebrate life

After walking the more than 3,000 miles that make up two-thirds of their journey across the United States, Robin (Laatsch) Grapa, ’01, Oshkosh, and her mom, Patty Laatsch, took a few days off the road to share their experiences with people very close to their hearts.

Flying from Colorado, where they were literally walking across the Rocky Mountains, they went to Nashville, Tenn., from August 2 to 5 to attend the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation conference for patients and families.

The mother and daughter had much in common with those who attended. Grapa was diagnosed with aplastic anemia in 1998 while she was a 19-year-old student at UWSP. Now 27 and in remission, she was able to share with families at the conference the story of how she decided to hike cross country to raise funds and awareness for a disease that nearly took her life.

On Feb. 4 Grapa and Laatsch set out from Cape Henlopen, Del., on a 5,107-mile hike of the southern route of the American Discovery Trail (ADT). Traveling from 15-30 miles a day while carrying 35-pound packs, they walked through Maryland, Washington, D.C., West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas and most of Colorado. They hope to reach Point Reyes National Seashore, north of San Francisco, in late October or early November. When they succeed, they will be the second pair to hike the trail in one season and the first mother-daughter team.

“The journey is a celebration of my life,” said Grapa. Two years ago, when her doctor told her she was in complete remission, she began to think about doing something big with her “new lease on life.” Thinking of both her love of hiking and her wish to help others with blood disorders, she researched the ADT and began work to make the walk a reality.

Grapa took a leave of absence from her job as a graphic designer with 4imprint in Appleton and the company became one of her major sponsors.

Continued on page 11

Homecoming 2006: Point goes Hollywood

Join fellow alumni and friends at UWSP for a weekend of fun, food and festivities as the university celebrates Homecoming 2006 on October 20-21.

With a theme of “Hollywood gets an Education,” Homecoming activities will include student events, alumni reunions, an all-campus picnic, campus tour, open houses at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station, Nelson Hall and Smith Hall, a planetarium show, a student and alumni dance, the Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony, and of course the annual parade and football game in which the Pointers will face the UW-Oshkosh Titans.

“The Alumni Association is extremely excited about Homecoming 2006,” says Alumni Association president Shannon Loecher. “It is truly a collaborative effort.

Register online and you can win a hotel stay

By registering online for Homecoming, you will be entered for the chance to win one free night in one of four Stevens Point hotels on Saturday, October 21.

The names of four lucky alumni or friends will be drawn for the chance for a free night’s stay at the Holiday Inn Express (king size room), Country Inn and Suites (queen size room), Country Springs Hotel (king size tower room) or Comfort Suites (king size room with whirlpool and complimentary bottle of champagne).

The prizes will be drawn two weeks before Homecoming on Friday, October 6, and winners will be notified immediately via e-mail. To register, go to www.uwsp.edu/alumni/Homecoming2006WEB.htm and click on “Register for Homecoming.”

Special thanks to the Holiday Inn Express, Comfort Suites, Country Inn and Suites, and Country Springs hotels for their generous donations.

Continued on page 11
Greetings from the second floor of Old Main. I trust everyone had a fun and relaxing summer. As the weather starts to turn a bit brisk, it is time again for the students to arrive on campus from all over the state, country and world.

In so much as our students are from all over, it stands to reason that UWSP’s alumni presence reaches far beyond the campus boundaries as well. With the launch of our online community, The Connecting Point, we have heard from over 1,000 alumni from as close to campus as Stevens Point and as far away as New Zealand, France and Thailand. To add your information, go to www.uwsp.edu/alumni and click on The Connecting Point under the Features section.

As our office heard from Pointers across the globe, we also began to hear stories of “random Pointer sightings” across the nation. We are everywhere! One of my colleagues met a Pointer on a ski lift in Colorado. I’ve met Pointers in line at the grocery store (although, I’ll grant you, I live in Point), one alumni board member found herself seated next to a Pointer in a Minneapolis cocktail lounge after work and yet another board member doing research in Antarctica discovered that two of her colleagues also went to Point. From fine pubs in France and Thailand. To add your information, go to www.uwsp.edu/alumni and click on The Connecting Point under the Features section.

That brings me to the title of this letter. I would ask each of you reading this: Is your next door neighbor a Pointer? Have you asked? You might be surprised.

We encourage you to share your stories of meeting Pointers in unexpected places as we continue to share the small world experience created by the breadth and depth of Pointers making a difference across the world. The Connecting Point is quickly becoming a spring board for reconnections and wonderful shared memories. The Class Notes section allows alumni to share their experiences and milestones with fellow Pointers while the online directory helps classmates who have lost touch find each other in a secure setting.

Wherever you are and whatever you are doing, we hope you will keep UWSP in your hearts and minds as you make a difference in the world today. And we hope you will continue to stay in touch with your Pointer family!

Warmly,
Laura Gehman Rottier, ’02

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Is your next door neighbor a Pointer?

---

208 Old Main
2100 Main St.
Stevens Point WI 54481
phone: 715-346-3811
toll free: 877-764-6801
fax: 715-346-2561
alumni@uwsp.edu
www.uwsp.edu/alumni

The Alumni Affairs office staff includes, from left, Katie Carlson, assistant director; Terri Taylor, director of major events; Barb Grunwaldt, administrative assistant; Brianna Nelson, student office assistant; and Laura Gehman Rottier, director.

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Alumni Association
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Joanne Loefler, ’88, Seymour
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Tamura Butts Moore, ’92, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Mary Ann Nipher, ’87, Stevens Point
Patty Noel, ’70, Stevens Point
Jeff Prickette, ’81, Neenah
Elaine Schrader, ’77, Oxnard, Beach, Fla.
Scott Thomas, ’88, Jacksonville, Fla.
Giant Windo, ’89, Deforest
*indicates new board member
Dear UWSP Alumni,

We want to take this opportunity to tell you about our plans as the Student Government Association leaders for the 06-07 school year. First of all, we are excited about the year ahead and enthusiastic about the goals and initiatives we hope to achieve. It is our pleasure to serve the student body and help move this university in the right direction as it changes with the 21st century.

Our biggest mission is to push UWSP to become as socially and environmentally responsible as possible. We’ve taken a number of steps already, including students purchasing 10 percent renewable energy to power the campus, the purchase and implementation of solar hot water heaters for more residence halls and the indoor pool, the purchase and sale of Fair Trade and organic products throughout campus, and the establishment of a student-run and funded sustainable vegetable garden. UWSP has a reputation of being consciously minded, and as the leaders of the student body, we will be working hard to ensure that this university lives up to that image and beyond.

Our other focus is to inform the student body and campus as a whole about the elections this November and the importance of voting. We aim to educate students about the candidates and issues, how to register and where to vote. As UWSP alumni, we hope each of you take the time to look at the issues, analyze how they would affect our current institution, and VOTE! We believe it is every individual’s responsibility to consider the effects on higher education and the future of Wisconsin and our nation when voting. Future students of this state cannot afford a 6.8 percent tuition increase every year.

We have many ideas, but since we don’t have all the answers we have been encouraging students to inform us about issues they would like tackled or resolved. This invitation is extended to UWSP alumni as well, so please do not be afraid to contact us. Again, our main goal is to shape UWSP into a top notch institution that works directly to benefit its students, community and world.

Thank you for your time. We hope to hear from you. UWSP has the potential to become the leader in a number of different social and environmental initiatives and to be nationally recognized for its work and efforts. We hope to make this happen. If we can be of service, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Ross Cohen, ’07, and Rhea Owens, ’07
President & Vice President
UWSP Student Government Association
715-346-3722 or sgapers@uwsp.edu

Three recognized by Alumni Association

The Alumni Association and the Board of Visitors honored two alumni and a friend of UWSP in May at its annual award ceremony. The 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Andrew Naumann, ’92, Melrose Park, Ill.; the Alumni Service Award went to Brant Bergeron, ’85, Plover, and the William C. Hansen Distinguished Service Award was given to Roy Menzel, Stevens Point.

The owner of Schilke Music Products in Melrose Park, Naumann heads one of the most respected trumpet manufacturing companies in the world. He first began making trumpets in his apartment in 1993, then worked for the Getzen Company redesigning trumpets and establishing a custom line. Naumann was approached about buying the Schilke company after visiting its factory in 2002. Within the first year of his ownership, the company broke all sales records, increased production, remodeled the factory and reestablished the Schilke name.

Naumann and his wife, Julie, established the Andrew Naumann/Schilke Music Products full tuition Honorary Robert Kase Scholarship in honor of his friend and mentor, Music Department Chair Bob Kase. He’s also donated trumpets to the Department of Music and serves on the College of Fine Arts and Communication Great Artists and Speakers Fundraising Advisory Committee.

Bergeron, director of Alumni Affairs, was involved with many UWSP events and programs, including the Getting to Know UWSP, Wisconsin Alumni Road Show, UWSP Friday and UWSP Graduation Weekend. Bergeron was instrumental in UWSP’s recent success in the state legislature, helping the university secure a supplemental fund for UWSP’s athletic programs. He was instrumental in the Governor’s Commission on the Future of Wisconsin and our nation when voting.

Alumni happy with new programs

After the announcement of the services available to them in the last issue of The Alumnus, alumni are enjoying the many perks of graduating from UWSP.

More than 1,000 alumni have signed up for “The Connecting Point,” an online directory that makes it possible for alumni to update their information and register for events, and news items to an online digest and look up old friends, all through www.uwsp.edu/alumni.

“The Connecting Point is fantastic,” says Jon Stika, ’80. “I have found and contacted people I haven’t seen or heard from in 20 years! Keep up the good work!”

Jennifer Boehm Groszek, ’99, Chicago, signed up online for an event at the Lincoln Park Zoo. “It was very easy,” she said. “I have an account so it plugged in all my info for me.”

Other alumni benefit from being a positive response to offers are rewards just one of the many ways the UWSP Alumni Association keeps alumni connected to UWSP, says Alumnus Affairs Director Laura Gehman Rottier.

Alumni Award was presented to Andrew Naumann, Stevens Point, and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. He and his wife, Jill, have two daughters, one of which will attend UWSP in the fall.

Menzel was honored for his humanitarian and community service with the Hansen award, named for a 1911 alumnus who became the university’s president from 1940 to 1962 and served as a Wisconsin State Senator from 1964 to 1969.

A public relations professional, Menzel was one of the founders of the Green Circle Trail in Stevens Point, securing land and generating funding and support for the project as well as serving on its board of directors. He is an avid supporter of UWSP’s Schmeckel Reserve, was involved in creating the Operation Bootprint food pantry and was on Steven Point’s Centennial Committee. His “On the Back Porch” columns appeared in the Stevens Point Journal in the 40s and 50s and reappeared from 2003-2004.

He also has taught public relations classes at UWSP, served its chancellors and administrators as an unofficial liaison between the campus and community and served on the Board of Visitors, the Quarterback Club and Backcourt Club. He and his wife, Marge, have nine children, five of whom attended UWSP.

Make a Difference: The Annual Campaign for Point

Students are benefiting from more than $450,000 in donations from UWSP alumni and friends through last year’s Annual Campaign for Point. The annual campaign represents approximately 25 percent of all money donated to UWSP.

Looking ahead to the 2006-07 academic year, the foundation recently sent alumni, friends and parents a free gift along with information about this year’s campaign.

Each gift makes a difference in the lives of a student, says Deb Anstett, the foundation’s director of development. A donation of $50 to $100 could provide art supplies or subscriptions to an online journal. Gifts in the $100 to $250 range could provide lab chemicals and safety equipment or books for student research. Advanced software, athletic uniforms and stage costumes might be purchased with gifts over $300 and donations of $500 or more could provide bus transportation or field trips.

Making a gift is easy with the new online giving site found through www.uwsp.edu/foundation.

“Keep up the good work!” says Jon Stika, ’80. “I have found and contacted people I haven’t seen or heard from in 20 years! Keep up the good work!”

For more information on making a donation or planned gift, contact the UWSP Foundation at 715-346-3812 or 1-800-858-5267.

Why contribute to UWSP?

• Support specific programs, activities or events on campus
• Prepare young people to become productive and engaged citizens and community leaders
• Give today’s students the tools for success and the opportunities that a quality education provides
• Make a UWSP education accessible for students from all walks of life
• Maintain the quality of education and the value of a degree from UWSP

WHEN YOU GIVE TO UWSP:

Mailing Address:

Name:

Maiden name:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Return form to UWSP Foundation
2100 Main Street, 212 Old Main
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Credit Card

Visa

MasterCard

American Express

Discover

Exp. date

Card Number

Signature

Fall 2006
Martha Anderson

For just under 20 years, Martha "Martty" Anderson has shared her mathematical knowledge with UWSP students. As a senior lecturer in mathematics and computing, she has engaged students in statistics, applied calculus and computer applications. Anderson resides in Abbotsford, where she enjoys walking, dancing, church choir, knitting and competitive bridge.

Richard Behm

A professor of English and director of writing programs, Richard Behm joined UWSP’s faculty after 30 years at UWSP. During that time he was honored for excellence in teaching, directed the Tutoring-Learning Center and Central Wisconsin Writing Project, which he co-founded. He advised the University Writers and Barter Street publication and was acting dean of Academic Support Programs. He has been published extensively as a poet and outdoor writer, and with his wife, Mary, wrote a book on helping children learn to read. An Ohio native, he previously served in the Air Force as a special investigator.

Retired as associate vice chancellor for personnel and budget, Nancy Bayne worked at UWSP for 31 years as a professor of psychology and administrator. She also has served as the interim affirmative action director, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and the coordinator of women’s studies. She has won the Excellence in Teaching Award and is proud of being able to have touched students’ lives as well as developed faculty-oriented programs and mentored new faculty. She and her husband, Ron Allison, have moved to Lake Tomahawk in retirement, where she says, “I will explore my options for the next phase of my life.”

Nancy Bayne

Retired basketball coach Jack Bennett spent nine years of his 34 years in coaching at UWSP. He retired in August 2005 as the university’s winningest coach with 662 victories. Bennett spent nine years of his 34-year coaching career here at UWSP in 1971. An English professor and then in the mid-1980s obtained a master’s in computer science education and has since integrated the campus curriculum development in computer science-based coursework. His service in campus governance is well known including former chair of Faculty Senate and two semester abroad forays. In the community he is serving his ninth term on the Portage County Board. A proud resident of Plover, he and his wife, Barbara, plan to travel more and spend more time with their children.

Jack Bennett

David Chitharanjan

A professor of both chemistry and clinical laboratory science, David Chitharanjan came to UWSP in 1968. He chaired the Department of Medical Technology and held the rank of associate vice chancellor for curriculum/program support for three years. He won three Excellence in Teaching Awards and the Distinguished Achievement Award and was active as an American Chemical Society volunteer and member of the Rotary Club. A native of India, he previously taught in Detroit and Madras, India. He and his wife, Julie, plan to spend time with their children and grandchildren as well as travel.

A.J. Diekelman

A lecturer in mathematics for nine years at UWSP, A.J. Diekelman has over 40 years of teaching experience from sixth grade through the university level in Illinois and Wisconsin. She has taught at UW-River Falls and UW-Stout. An avid traveler, she has visited Prague, Russia, Spain, Italy, France, Holland and Great Britain. She even played the drums in the Great Lakes Naval Station Band before women were allowed as members. Her retirement plans include time with her grandchildren as well as church activities, reading, puzzles and needlepoint.

Dennis Eisenrath

Dennis Eisenrath began his career at UWSP in 1965 in the Division of Student Life. He has also served as deputy assistant chancellor for Student Affairs, executive director of Student Enrollment and Retention Services, director of counseling and staff psychologist at the UWSP Counseling Center, and most recently as chair of the Department of Psychology. A co-founder and member of the National Wellness Institute, Dennis has conducted numerous wellness presentations and workshops through the county. He is also a licensed psychologist and has maintained a limited private practice.

Jim Gifford

Jim Gifford is a prime example of lifelong learning as he was first hired in 1976 as an English professor. He then in the mid-1980s obtained a master’s in computer science education and has since integrated the campus curriculum development in computer science-based coursework. His service in campus governance is well known including former chair of Faculty Senate and two semester abroad forays. In the community he is serving his ninth term on the Portage County Board. A proud resident of Plover, he and his wife, Barbara, plan to travel more and spend more time with their children.

Spruce Ginnraso

Susan Ginnraso danced into UWSP’s dance program in 1974 and in 32 years has been instrumental in developing and shaping this program with new ideas. She helped the campus secure a $500,000 federal grant for the Faculty Alliance for Creating and Enhancing Teaching Strategies (FACEETS), giving UWSP and UW-Marathon County faculty ways to develop and improve their teaching techniques. Ginnraso was just selected to receive the National Dance Education Organization Dance Education Award this October in California, her native state. She is married to retired UWSP professor professor John Henderson. In retirement, she hopes to enjoy scuba diving in the Cayman Islands with her son, Carcheri.

Sandra Holmes

Sandra Holmes, professor of psychology, arrived on campus 32 years ago and jokes that her Southern accent was so thick then that some of the Yankees here thought she was from a foreign country. Holmes served as director of the Center for Personal and Professional Development and for 10 years as chair of the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects. She co-taught the first year seminar and first-year course at UWSP and is a past recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award. In retirement, Sandra plans to travel to do more, return to Europe and spend time with her grandchildren.

C. Marvin Lang

A professor of chemistry and Eugene Katz Distinguished Letters and Science faculty member Marvin Lang retired after 42 years of service. He has shared his love of chemistry through more than 600 public chemical demonstration programs and 500 invited lectures throughout the United States and Europe, often working with colleagues Don Showalter and Gary Palmer. A longtime member of the American Chemical Society, he has been honored by them several times. He’ll spend retirement with his wife, Louise, as well as working on genealogy projects, chemical stamp collecting, demonstrations, lectures, research and ten grandchildren.

Paul Mertz

A history faculty member for nearly 37 years, Paul Mertz served as chair of his department for six years. A member of the Southern Historical Association, he has done extensive research and writing on social issues of the southern United States, including civil rights. He published the book New Deal Policy and Southern Rural Poverty through Louisiana State University Press, and wrote several book reviews for historical journals. He also led two semesters abroad to Great Britain and led bike tours in Europe through UWSP’s Adventure Tours program. He and his wife, Lynn, reside in Stevens Point.

Meryl Lee Nelson

A 1972 alumna of UWSP, Meryl Lee Nelson has worked at UWSP since 1991 as coordinator for the English as a Second Language Summer Program and an education program specialist with the Foreign Student Office and Multicultural Affairs. A former high school teacher, she is an expert on ESL teaching certification and introduced Japanese scholarship to UWSP. An outdoors enthusiast, she enjoys bicycling, winter skiing, photography and sailing. She and her husband, Stu, reside in Stevens Point.

Jack Reed

Having served 18 years as the chair of the Chemistry Department, Jack Reed has taught and administered at UWSP for 39 years. A native of Lake Orion, Mich., during that time, he served on the Faculty Senate, assisted in the development of a polymer laboratory and taught high school students as part of a National Science Foundation education symposium.

C. Susan Riley

C. Susan Riley joined the staff at UWSP in 1978. A senior lecturer in mathematics and now chair of the department, her expertise lies in teaching beginning and intermediate algebra for learning disabled classes. She has also enjoyed teaching courses in practical mathematics as it relates to banking, insurance and other everyday uses of math. A native of Edgerton, Riley enjoys bicycling, scrapbooking and travel.
Hans Schabel

Hans Schabel, professor of forestry and director of the Natural Resource Management, retired after 33 years at UWSP. A native of Germany, Schabel has linked his research and classroom aspirations with international field work, having led 30 UWSP study abroad programs in Europe, Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Central America. He has visited over 50 countries and worked in Tanzania for three years. He has won honors from UWSP, the U.S. Peace Corps, Rotary Club, Altensteig Forest District in Germany’s Black Forest and Jagellonian University in Poland. Schabel will publish a book on forest entomology in East Africa later this year. He and his wife, Jill, plan to travel to visit their three children and grandchildren.

Don Showalter

Donald Showalter joined the faculty at UWSP in 1971, and after teaching in Iowa for three years, returned in 1976. He has received many awards for teaching from UWSP, the Board of Regents and many others. Between 1987 and 1989, Showalter was involved in the making of a 26-episode PBS series, “The World of Chemistry.” The series is still an integral part of chemistry curricula across the country and earned Showalter the moniker of “Doctor Wow!” for his frequent exclamations. His demonstrations with colleagues Marv Lang and Gary Schuller have “wowed” many across the country. Showalter and his wife, Charlotte, plan to garden, fish, camp, spend time with their children and grandchildren and travel.

Jan Seiler

During her 37 years at UWSP, German Professor Jan Seiler has been honored with many teaching awards from the state and UWSP. A native of Texas, she was a Ford Fellow at UW-Madison and served as chair of her department for 10 years. Seiler is certified as an oral proficiency tester in German and co-directed many summer immersion institutes for foreign language teachers. She created a minor in teaching English as a second language and coordinated an ESL certification program for teachers. She and her husband, retired German Professor Mark Seiler, worked together at UWSP for 35 years. The two recently traveled to China and plan other trips in the future as well as time with their two children.

Gingrasso selected for national educator award

Susan Hughes Gingrasso, retired professor of dance, received the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) Dance Educator Award this spring. She was nominated for the award by students, colleagues and alumna Stephanie Knupfer, ’05, of the Bozeman Symphony Society in Montana. The award is one of three that recognize excellence in higher education, K-12 and the private sector.

Librarian receives service award

Axel Schmetzke, professor in the university library, received the Francis Joseph Campbell Award, given by the Libraries Serving Special Populations Section of the American Library Association. The award recognizes Schmetzke’s efforts in creating a barrier-free online environment, a virtual learning space that is accessible to everyone including persons with disabilities.

Wilke reappointed Distinguished Professor

Richard Wilke, professor of environmental education, has been designated a Distinguished Professor in the College of Natural Resources. This is the third time that Wilke has received this honor from the UW System Board of Regents. As a Distinguished Professor, Wilke receives support for research assistants, equipment, supplies and a portion of Wilke’s salary. The appointment runs until March 2011.

Kathleen Taft

A 1963 graduate of UWSP, Kathleen Taft joined the academic staff in 1969 as a senior lecturer in chemistry. During her 37 years at UWSP, she has focused on helping students. She is also responsible for the creation of the iris Fountain located between the Dreyfus University Center and Old Main and the plantings in the courtyard of the Science Building.

Eugene Tubbs

A 1972 graduate of UWSP, Eugene Tubbs has been a faculty associate in the College of Natural Resources since 1976. During his 30 years at UWSP he has been involved with the Stevens Point Water Commission, soil judging events and the CNR Germany/Poland summer seminars. Tubbs served as editor of the first edition of Soil Science Simplified. A native of Texas, he and his wife, Gail, have four children. In retirement he may enjoy his hobbies of gardening, raising chickens, woodworking, fishing and hunting.

Additional faculty and academic staff retirees include Jean Di Cicco, Cheryl Hasenohrl, Thomas Karch, Roy Kuschel, Nancy LaMar, Judith Peterson, Joan Ross, Maia Stumbris, Darlene Wechsler and Fred Zivicki.

Sarah E. Armstrong

A 1972 graduate of UWSP, Sarah E. Armstrong retired as director of the Centers for Academic Support and Development in 2006. Armstrong received a $5,000 University Personnel Development Grant to help offset his travel expenses. A main goal of the project was to research a Shoshone woman named Porivo, whom Johnson hopes to determine more conclusively to be Sacajawea, the Shoshone woman named Porivo, whom Johnson hopes to determine more conclusively to be Sacajawea, the Native American woman famous by her involvement in the Louis and Clark Expedition. Some historians believe that Sacajawea died at Fort Manuel Lisa in 1812 while others believe that she returned to the Wind River Reservation where she lived at Portovio until 1883.

Kathleen Taft

A 1972 graduate of UWSP, Eugene Tubbs has been a faculty associate in the College of Natural Resources since 1976. During his 30 years at UWSP he has been involved with the Stevens Point Water Commission, soil judging events and the CNR Germany/Poland summer seminars. Tubbs served as editor of the first edition of Soil Science Simplified. A native of Texas, he and his wife, Gail, have four children. In retirement he may enjoy his hobbies of gardening, raising chickens, woodworking, fishing and hunting.

Additional faculty and academic staff retirees include Jean Di Cicco, Cheryl Hasenohrl, Thomas Karch, Roy Kuschel, Nancy LaMar, Judith Peterson, Joan Ross, Maia Stumbris, Darlene Wechsler and Fred Zivicki.

Freckman honored as conservation advocate

Robert Freckman, emeritus professor of botany, received the Distinguished Service Award from the North Conservancy Trust at Schmeckle Reserve in June. A founding member of the land trust’s property committee and its director from 1999 to 2002, he was instrumental in furthering the trust mission of land conservation in central Wisconsin. Founded in 1994, the trust provides assistance to owners concerning property easements and land monitoring.

Freckman retired in 2001 after 33 years in the biology department at UWSP, where he developed the herbarium into the second largest in the state. He continues to work at the herbarium, leads the Stevens Point Park Board, serves as vice president of the local Audubon Society and Friends of Powers Bluff and coordinates the Central Wisconsin Botanical Club. He and his wife, Sally, are also active with the Ice Age Trail.

Trainer inducted into Hall of Fame

Daniel Trainer, Stevens Point, dean emeritus of the College of Natural Resources (CNR), was among the 2006 inductees into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.

Trainer has held positions with the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board, theInstitute Recycling Corp. and the Plover River Alliance. A native of Poneto, he is a graduate of Ripon College. When he first came to UWSP, he was a professor of botany and founded the veterinary science program. The second phase of his career began when he headed the new College of Natural Resources, retiring in 1999. Trainer is most proud of the success of the CNR graduates and the many leadership positions they hold in the state. Trainer is enjoying his retirement by devoting more time to causes and the organizations like the Green Lake Trail, the Plover River Alliance and the North Central Conservancy Land Trust. He has also developed an interest in photography and continues to be an avid turkey hunter.
The Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility officially opened on June 2 in a ceremony that included College of Letters and Science Dean Lance Grahn, fifth from the left.

**UWSP aquaculture facility opens in Bayfield**

The Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) near Red Cliff, a partnership between UWSP, the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), UW-Extension and the Red Cliff Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa, opened officially June 2 with a ribbon cutting and open house.

Located seven miles north of Bayfield at 36445 State Highway 13, the NADF was begun in 1996 to “promote and advance the development of aquaculture in a northern climate.” The only facility of its kind in the Midwest, the NADF is dedicated to teaching people how to effectively raise, process and market freshwater fish for human consumption. Fish farmers, fisheries professionals and the public have the opportunity to see hands-on practices at a fully operating applied fisheries research and demonstration facility. Current projects include the incubation and rearing of walleye, yellow perch and brook trout. The NADF has received some welcome federal support for the past two fiscal years thanks to U.S. Congressman David Obey and U.S. Senator Herb Kohl.

LEAF’s College of Letters and Science has partnered with the NADF in 2005 to support their aquaculture enterprise with expertise in fisheries and fish biology. Christopher Hartleb, UWSP associate professor of biology and water resources and co-director of NADF, is leading UWSP’s work at the facility.

LEAF is excited to be part of this unique collaboration with partners including Dr. Lance Grahn, dean of the College of Letters and Science. “We look forward to adding our facility’s expertise in aquaculture to our partners’ strengths in outreach, economic development and business skills.”

To schedule a tour or for more information, contact Gregory Fischer, facility director, at 715-779-3461 or see www.uwsp.edu/cl/aquaculture.

**Biking and hiking adventure tours in 2007**

UWSP Bicycling and Hiking Adventure Tours. offering trips for cyclists and hikers of all levels since 1985 through the School of Health Promotion and Human Development, has announced six European trips for 2007. Itineraries of 30 to 70 miles per day for cyclists and five to ten miles for hikers are designed so participants can bike or hike as little or as much as they wish.

Accommodations are typically at comfortable, charming 3-star hotels that are often family-run and characteristic of the area. Local cuisine is featured as well as cultural and historic sites such as castles, vineyards, open markets, architectural gems and distinctive landscapes. On bike trips, a van is used to transport luggage. Buses or trains transport travelers from one locale to another on hiking trips. All ages are welcome. Past participants have ranged in age from 18 to 84.

The schedule is as follows:

- **Amalfi Coast, Italy, January 3 – 14 (bicycling)** – This cultural walking and low-impact hiking tour will feature Sorrento, Capri, Mount Vesuvius, Amalfi, Positano, Ravello and the temples of Paestum, as well as two nights in Rome.

- **Mallorca, March 15 – 25 (bicycling)** – Mild weather, excellent roads, spectacular scenery and outstanding accommodations are the highlights of this trip. This island in the Mediterranean is a cyclist’s paradise!

- **France, June 12 – 28 (bicycling)** – Enjoy the lavender and sunflowers of Provence! Features will include historic villages, Roman ruins, the Papal Palace in Avignon, the medieval fortress town of Les Baux, and an optional ride up Mount Ventoux. We’ll explore areas made famous through the paintings of Van Gogh and Cezanne: Arles, St. Remy, Aix-en-Provence and Mt. St. Victoire.

- **Germany, June 30 – July 15 (bicycling)** – The Mosel and Rhine valleys will offer cyclists magnificent views of meandering waterways with castles looming above. Villages of half-timbered houses like Tries-Karden and Bernkastel-Kues will take you back in time. Three days in the ancient Roman capital of Trier with its array of museums and churches will provide many cultural opportunities.

- **England and Scotland, June 30 – July 15 (hiking)** – A Celtic tour of three different areas of Britain will begin on the peaceful isle of Man where we’ll enjoy coastal walks, visit unique villages, and ancient Viking ruins and castles. The Lake District will be next, home to poets and galleries, with abundant hiking opportunities. Oban in Scotland, with hiking excursions to the Isles of Kerrara, Mull and Staffa, will also be featured.

- **Norway and Denmark, July 21 – August 12 (bicycling)** – Starting in Oslo, we’ll spend the first two days seeing historic and cultural sites. We’ll cycle down the coast of Norway, exploring harbors and forts. A ferry will take us across the North Sea to Denmark, where we’ll pedal westward to coastal resorts, finally spending two days in Copenhagen.

To learn more about the trips, visit the Web site, www.uwsp.edu/bikehike, e-mail bikehike@uwsp.edu, or call 715-346-4080.

**State wildlife used as a learning experience**

The Learning, Experiences and Activities in Forestry (LEAF) program at UWSP is using one of Wisconsin’s worst wildland fires as a learning experience for Wisconsin’s K-12 students.

In May 2005, more than 3,400 acres of land in Adams County burned, destroying 30 homes and other structures. As a result, the LEAF program worked with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create a supplement to the existing Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Education Lesson Guide that focuses on the economic, social and ecological implications of wildland fire in Wisconsin.

“We saw a public need and started an education initiative to help ensure that K-12 students understand the risks, the role that humans play in setting most of Wisconsin’s wildland fires and how we can safeguard life and property through proper planning and implementation,” said Sterling Strauf, LEAF’s program director.

LEAF piloted the program in May with the Adams Friendship school district, where some students lost their homes in the 2005 fire. After students completed lessons in their classrooms, they gathered at a burned site in nearby Big Flats where they were taught fire ecology, reforestation and fire “do’s and don’ts.” by UWSP students in Professor Dan Sivek’s Foundation of Environmental Education II class. The DNR also demonstrated their fire suppression equipment.

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**UWSP listed in The New York Times**

UWSP was listed in the April 23 edition of The New York Times as one of the top 109 colleges in the nation for the percentage of students completing degrees in six years, a common time period for measuring graduation rates.

The listing appeared in the Education Life section of the paper. According to the table, 58 percent of UWSP students graduate within six years, putting UWSP on par with the State University of New York, Stony Brook; University of Maine, Farmington; Pennsylvania State University, Berks; Mississippi State University and Oklahoma State University. Stillwater.

**Yonke new director of international Programs**

Eric Yonke, a UWSP professor of history and coordinator of peace studies, began half-time duties as the new director of International Programs on August 1, following the retirement of director Dave Stasizak.

Eric has the experience, expertise, personality and wisdom to insure that study abroad programming at UWSP will grow for the benefit of our students,” says Stasizak. “I am very pleased with his appointment.”

As the director of both semester and short term study abroad opportunities in more than 15 countries, Yonke says he plans to “maintain the programs that we have and the great tradition we have. I also want to branch out.”

He envisions an expansion of international internships and the creation of new programs related to human rights, poverty and development.

A specialist in modern European history, Yonke served as the coordinator of the International Studies degree program at UWSP last semester and two summer study programs in Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic that focused on Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, coordinated the Munich-Deg-Degree Program offered by UWSP and Magdeburg University in Germany and served as a member of the UWSP international affairs committee and sub-committee.

He is the current acting director of the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, a nonprofit organization whose members include state, private and public colleges and universities in the state. After a new director is elected, Yonke will continue as UWSP’s representative for the organization.

Yonke has also served as the faculty adviser for the History Club and Phi Alpha Theta history honor society and as the unofficial adviser to other student organizations on human rights and other related topics.

He holds a bachelor’s degree from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and a master’s and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.
Career Services announces new credential policies

Changes in the way school districts hire teachers have led to changes in the way Career Services Office at UWSP handles teacher credential files. School administrators are now accepting copies of credential files supplied by teaching candidates, so the UWSP Career Services Office has stopped creating credential files for UWSP alumni teaching candidates. Instead, says director Mary Mosier, the office is now helping students and alumni with “self credentialing,” the putting together of materials to effectively market oneself for a teaching position.

Mosier adds that the Career Services Office recently changed its policy regarding the length of time the university will keep teacher credential files. While the former policy had been to keep these for 35 years then shred them, the new policy states that these files will be kept until January 2013 then shredded. Even though 2013 is some time away, Career Services will regularly publish notices of this policy so alumni are informed of this change. Any alumni who want the non confidential contents of their teacher credential file can contact the Career Services Office with their request. Since many of these credential files contain outdated materials, alumni seeking teaching positions would be well served to obtain new letters of recommendation rather than relying on those residing in their university credential file. UWSP credential files typically contain a resume or data sheet and letters of recommendation. Transcripts have never been a part of credential files. The Records and Registration Office is responsible for all transcripts. The staff of Career Services would be happy to talk with alumni about the impact of this new policy or about any questions alumni have related to job seeking or career changing. The office is located in Room 134 Old Main Building, career@uwsp.edu, 715-346-3226.

Dreyfus University Center remodeling begins

Construction began on a $26 million Dreyfus University Center remodeling project May 30, and will continue through fall 2007. An official closing ceremony was held May 3, attended by Chancellor Linda Bunnell, students and center staff. By July, the center’s facade began in earnest, as the façade was removed to make room for an expanded entrance and two-story corridor. Students approved the project’s funding through student fees.
Outstanding Faculty and Staff

Excellence in Teaching Award
Richard Behm, professor of English, at UWSP since 1976
Michelle Brophy-Bairmann, associate professor of political science, at UWSP since 1997
Pat Kluetz, head of the Division of Interior Architecture, at UWSP since 1988
Jeanne Magyar-Moe, assistant professor of psychology, at UWSP since 2003
Guillermo Penafiel, professor of art and design, at UWSP since 1991

University Scholar Award
Valentina Peguero, professor of history, at UWSP since 1990
Alek Toumi, associate professor of foreign languages, at UWSP since 2000

University Service Award
Scott Frazier, professor of health, exercise science and athletics, at UWSP since 1988.

Academic Staff Excellence Award
Sue Kissinger, coordinator of advising and recruitment and director of the Student Success Center in the College of Natural Resources, at UWSP since 1995.

Academic Staff Spirit of the Community Service Award
Carol Schulz, executive assistant to the dean of the College of Natural Resources, at UWSP since 1992.

Alumna named to equity and affirmative action post

Mai Vang, ’03, master’s ’04, has been named UWSP’s new assistant to the chancellor for equity and affirmative action.

Vang began her duties on July 1, and is responsible for programs aimed at promoting equity in the workplace at UWSP. She will develop, implement and monitor equity and affirmative action policies that ensure all employees are treated fairly regardless of age, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or any one of a number of other factors. She will also serve as the institution’s spokesperson on diversity related issues.

Previously Vang served UWSP as a student service specialist in education and coordinator of Project Forward, a program that offers Hmong students the tools and guidance needed to become certified Southeast Asian refugee classroom teachers. Vang herself is a graduate of the program and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in education at UW-Madison.

“Mai’s familiarity with the campus and community will help her move quickly into her new position,” said Chancellor Linda Bunnell. “She brings a focused energy and sense of purpose.”

Bunnell also thanked Ron Strege, director of multicultural affairs, for serving as interim director of equity and affirmative action during the search for a permanent director.

Student news

Nine undergraduate students displayed their research at the State Capitol in Madison as part of the Third Annual Posters in the Round: A Celebration of Undergraduate Research on April 25, including Kyle Taylor of Stevens Point, Karen Chamberlin of Wisconsin Rapids, Veronica Van Gheem of Green Bay, Shane Heinrich of Wausau, Laura Kneebone of Oregon, Amanda Burg of Slinger, Rachel Koehler of Stevens Point, Nick Legler of Seymour and Kristianne Neeser of Grand Forks, N.D.

Five graduate students in the College of Natural Resources received Gaylord Nelson Earth Day Fellowship grants given by the Wilderness Society for significant contributions to promoting conservation ethics and environmental education as well as exhibiting leadership potential, including Courtney Schaefer of Grand Island, Neb.; Jennifer Dillard of Mission Viejo, Calif.; Brian Barch of Baraboo; Rainey Kreis of San Pedro, Calif.; and Jessica Huxman of Stevens Point.

Elizabeth Stangel of Beaver Dam, an education student and president of the UWSP chapter of the Student Wisconsin Education Association (SWWEA), has been named the SWWEA State Student Leader of the Year.

The National Student Education Association honored UWSP’s SWWEA chapter with its Local Excellence Award. The national association also named Amanda Froom, an education student and SWWEA president at the state level, as its Outstanding State Leader.

Three students, Amanda Lewin of Cadot, Kyle Bortkenhagen of Baraboo, and Ashley Erikson of Deerfield, received Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society Grants to study abroad. UWSP was among the few institutions to have three student winners.

Four students, Adam Rappel of Mishicot, Ben Pettre of Wausau, Wayne Salzmann of Neenah and Justin Schwartz of Antigo, performed in Carnegie Hall with the Ninth Annual National Wind Ensemble as part of a Memorial Day concert series. Schwartz was also recognized by Wisconsin Public Radio as finalists in the Noa-Silva Young Artists’ Competition, along with a UWSP Woodwind Quintet made up of Samantha Theuring of Racine, Schwartz, Angelina Lopez-Frank of Stevens Point, Cody Hunter of Sun Prairie and Molly Lindemann of Valders.

Two students, Kim Kriegel of Hatley and Kristin Madison of Valders, were recognized with awards at the 22nd Annual Brass Ring Awards Competition. Kriegel received an Award of Merit in poster design and Madison was honored with third place in 3-dimensional design.

UWSP’s student chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) has been selected as the Student Chapter of the Year for 2006 by the ASID National Professional Chapter.

Six students participated in the 2006 Eagle Walk in March. Jerry Stoecklein of Lakeville, Minn.; Stacy Feldman of Juneau; Nick Hyer of Allouez; Alissa Tervo of Hudson; Iain Perkins of Fall Creek, and Katie Adams of Germantown took the 200 mile walk on the rural roads of Wisconsin from UWSP to Glen Haven. Held annually during the week of spring break, the walk raises funds for the Wisconsin Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and the state of Wisconsin matches funds raised by the walkers before the event.

Stevens Point area Hmong students took part in a weeklong campus visit in June which focused on health career options at UWSP Over 20 area junior and senior high students participated in hands-on activities, including a visit to this clinical laboratory science classroom.

Pointer Alumnus
**September**

- **Fall semester begins**
  - Tues., Sept. 5

- **Music Department recitals and concerts**
  - Events are in Michelsen Hall, Noe Fine Arts Center, at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted
  - Faculty recital: Paul Doebler, flute, Thurs., Sept. 21
  - Guest recital: Jenni Yang, clarinet, Sun., Sept. 24, 3 p.m.
  - Faculty recital: Lawrence Levinson, cello, Sat., Sept. 30

- **Exhibit: Faculty work**
  - Closing reception, Mon., Sept. 11, 4-6 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Spud Bowl and picnic**
  - Sat., Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
  - Gortier Field, Stevens Point

- **Humble: 1900-1950**
  - Sept. 17-Oct. 15, a study of objects from the 20th century
  - Reception: Sat., Sept. 23, 4-6 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **15th Annual Festival of India**
  - Sat., Sept. 30, 3-9 p.m.
  - SPASH, Stevens Point

- **Class of 1956 50th Reunion**
  - Fri., Oct. 13, 6 p.m.
  - Noel Fine Arts Center

- **First Nighter’s dinner and show:**
  - “Anton in Show Business”
  - Oct. 13-15
  - Residence halls and campus
  - Jenkins Theatre, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Family Weekend**
  - Oct. 13-15
  - Reception: Sat., Oct. 22, 1-3 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Performing Arts Series: Los Hombres Caliente, jazz trio**
  - Sun., Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Theatre and Dance Dept.: “Anton in Show Business”**
  - Studio Theatre, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **2006 Homecoming Week**
  - Oct. 16-21
  - Camp and community events

- **Exhibit: PostSecret**
  - Oct. 22-Nov. 22, homemade postcards
  - Reception: Sun., Oct. 22, 2-4 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Performing Arts Series: Kathy Mattea, country western singer**
  - Sun., Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

**October**

- **Music Department recitals and concerts**
  - Faculty recital: Ryan Korh, percussion, Thurs., Oct. 5
  - Voice aura recital, Mon., Oct. 16
  - Symphony Orchestra, Wed., Oct. 18
  - Guest recital: Eletrophoto and Silent Film Metropolis, Wed., Oct. 19
  - Wind Ensemble, Fri., Oct. 20
  - Combined Choirs, Sat., Oct. 21, and Sun., Oct. 22, 3 p.m.
  - Faculty recital: Andrea Splittberger-Rosen, clarinet, Sun., Oct. 22
  - Jazz Ensemble, Mon., Oct. 23

- **Performing Arts Series: Las Hombres Caliente, jazz trio**
  - Sun., Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Theatre and Dance Dept.: “Anton in Show Business”**
  - Studio Theatre, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **2006 Homecoming Week**
  - Oct. 16-21
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- **Performing Arts Series: Kathy Mattea, country western singer**
  - Sun., Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

**November**

- **Music Department recitals and concerts**
  - Clarinet Studio Recital, Sat., Nov. 11
  - Composers Concert, Mon., Nov. 13
  - Voice Recital, Fri., Nov. 17
  - Mostly Percussion Ensemble, Mon., Nov. 20
  - Lab Jazz Ensemble, Tue., Nov. 21
  - Chamber Jazz Ensemble, Tue., Nov. 28
  - Concert Band, Thurs., Nov. 30

- **Performing Arts Series: Ethos Percussion, ethnic quartet**
  - Mon., Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Theatre and Dance Dept.: musical: “The Pirates of Penzance”**
  - Nov. 10-12 & 16-19
  - Jenkins Theatre, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Family Weekend**
  - Oct. 13-15
  - Reception: Sat., Oct. 22, 1-3 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Performing Arts Series: Eileen Ivers, Celtic fiddle**
  - Wed., Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Performing Arts Series: Ethos Percussion, ethnic quartet**
  - Mon., Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Theatre and Dance Dept.: “Aftermages”**
  - Dec. 7-9
  - Jenkins Theatre, Noe Fine Arts Center

- **Fall commencement**
  - Sat., Dec. 16, 1 & 4:30 p.m.
  - Quadrille Fieldhouse

- **January 2007**

- **Winterim classes**
  - Jan. 2-18

- **Spring semester begins**
  - Mon., Jan. 22

- **February 2007**

- **Performing Arts Series: Alonzo King’s LINES Ballet**
  - Contemporary dance
  - Tues., Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

- **Performing Arts Series: Kathy Mattea, country western singer**
  - Sun., Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sentry Theatre

**December**

- **Music Department recitals and concerts**
  - Campan Band, Sun., Dec. 3
  - Jazz Ensemble, Mon., Dec. 4
  - Concert Choir/Chamber Singers, Tues., Dec. 5
  - Symphony Orchestra, Wed., Dec. 6
  - Wind Ensemble, Fri., Dec. 8
  - Choral Union/Women’s Choir, Sun., Dec. 10, 3 p.m.

- **Exhibit: Poster Offensive**
  - Dec. 4-Jan. 28, poster works.
  - Reception: Sat., Dec. 3, 4-6 p.m.
  - Carlsten Gallery, Noe Fine Arts Center

**January 2007**

- **UWSP alumni chapter meetings**
  - Dates to be announced
  - Would you like to help organize a UWSP alumni chapter in your neck of the woods? If so, call Alumni Affairs at 715-346-3811 or alumni@uwsp.edu.

- **February 2007**

- **First Nighter’s dinner and show:**
  - To be announced
  - Fri., Feb. 9, 6 p.m.
  - Noel Fine Arts Center

- **March 2007**

- **First Nighter’s dinner and show:**
  - “Romeo and Juliet”
  - Fri., March 2, 6 p.m.
  - Noel Fine Arts Center

- **Washington D.C. Pointer Reunion**
  - Tues., March 27, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Wilson's passion for kites is not limited to those with cameras. His collection has grown to include more than 200 kites from all corners of the world. He has explored a wide variety of kite designs and recently began working with Guild Works, a group of indoor kiting enthusiasts and performers, to build kites that require no wind to fly. With ultra lightweight designs, indoor or zero-wind kites are powered by body movements like a gentle flick of the wrist and slow ballet-like strides across an open floor. The group even choreographs performances set to music, a far cry from the usual 50 meter get-this-kite-in-the-air dash. The kites designed, built and used by Guild Works are made from paper thin cloth and microcarbon or wrapped graphite spars that give them unique shapes. Many have multiple strings that control their graceful movements through the still spaces of a room.

Wilson performed with the group at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia as part of a celebration for Benjamin Franklin's birthday. Guild Works also performs at private events including parties and corporate gatherings. After leaving school in 1978, Wilson spent his time working and experimenting with letters pursuits, literally. His credits, meanwhile, sat collecting a bit of dust. It wasn’t until his children, Casey and Madeleine, reached their teen years that he saw good reason to return to his studies. "I was giving the 'stick with it' and 'got to finish what you start' speeches and I realized...hmm...I guess I've got some unfinished business myself," says Wilson.

Wilson took courses at UW-Madison and transferred the credits back to UWSP. He also took online courses and received several experiential learning credits for his work in photography. In 2000, these credits, combined with his work in the 70s, earned him a degree in general science with a minor in biology.

Now, of course, his "finish-what-you-started" speech has more validity, he says, even if his "stay focused" speech leaves a little bit to be desired. Still, it seems unlikely that Wilson would have found the view less ordinary had he remained on the beaten path.

For more information about Guild Works, go to www.guildworks.com.
Walk across America
continued from page one
along with Celgene, a pharmaceutical company in New Jersey. Over the course of the hike, Grapa and Laatsch hope to raise $1 million for the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation. So far they have raised more than $95,000 with more fundraisers planned along the way.

Their other goal is to raise awareness through media coverage of their walk as well as by talking to people they meet.

"The more people that know someone who has been affected either directly or indirectly by Aplastic Anemia or MDS (myelodysplastic syndromes) and are aware of such are more likely to support research for them," says Grapa on her Web site. "And in the end, that saves lives, and makes the experience of dealing with the illness a little smoother."

Grapa did not know she was sick in her freshman year at UWSP. During a routine visit to University Health Service, one of the doctors noticed her low blood cell count and sent her to a specialist in Marshfield. He diagnosed aplastic anemia, a disease that occurs when bone marrow stops making enough healthy blood cells.

A bone marrow transplant was one treatment option, but her brother was not a match. Instead, the Laatsch’s opted for a four-day immunosuppressive treatment at St. Joseph’s in Marshfield, which was effective. However, Grapa had a severe reaction to her medications and suffered from seizures that nearly took her life. She ended up in the intensive care unit (ICU) at St. Joseph’s.

Laatsch recalled that when her daughter got sick, she thought she’d be able to be there at her side no matter what. But when the worst of it came while Grapa was in the ICU, Laatsch had to leave the room. Her husband held their daughter’s hand while a priest came in to perform last rites.

"I was out in the waiting room, praying," Laatsch said. "I told God I’d do anything He asked as long as our daughter could stay with us." After Grapa recovered from her ordeal, Laatsch waited for the moment in which she knew God would tell her what that “anything” would be, she said.

Seven years later the moment came when Grapa explained her idea of walking the ADT to raise funds and awareness for aplastic anemia.

“When Robin asked if I’d walk with her, I immediately said yes,” explains Laatsch. “Now I’m keeping my promise. I’m going to be there to help her reach her goal and celebrate her life. Knowing what we went through, I’m also doing this to get the word out about this serious disease. It’s just as fatal as cancer and leukemia, but no one knows it’s out there.”

Grapa’s father, Keith, is also doing his part by keeping their story alive.

Homecoming 2006
continued from page one
between several campus departments, the Stevens Point community and alumni and friends volunteering their time. It wouldn’t be what it is without everyone’s help.

“We welcomed over 500 alumni and friends back to campus last year,” said Alumni Affairs Director Laura Gehrman Rottier, “and we’re looking forward to even more participation this year.”

Registering for Homecoming events is easy with a new online form available at web. The first 100 registerants under www.uwsp.edu/alumni/Homecoming2006WEB.htm. The first 100 registrants under will receive a free UWSP lanyard, and all who register will be entered into a drawing to win a free hotel stay. As space is limited for some activities, pre registration ensures being included in the fun.

“By offering online registration,” says Gehman Rottier, “we hope to encourage alumni to let us and each other know that they are returning to our alma mater so we can greet them and welcome them to campus with a personal touch – and maybe a free hotel stay!”

In addition to Homecoming events, the University Store will be open during the weekend at 200 Division Street, its new temporary location during renovations at the Dreyfus University Center. Schmeeckle Reserve’s Visitor Center, Conservation Hall of Fame and five miles of natural and lakeside trails will also be open, as will UWSP’s Museum of Natural History and UWSP Archives in the University Library.

The Alumni Affairs office welcomes all UWSP alumni groups who are planning a reunion to contact them for help in organizing and publicizing the event. For more information, contact the office at 715-346-3811 or 877-764-6801 toll free. See the back page of the Pointer Alumni for a complete list of events and times or go to www.uwsp.edu/alumni/ Homecoming2006WEB.htm. A list of area hotels may be found at http://uwsp.collegehotelsguide.com.

CWES offering homecoming open house
The Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES) will dedicate its newly remodeled Sunset Lodge and hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 21, as part of UWSP’s Homecoming festivities.

Following the 11 a.m. Homecoming picnic on the lawn of Old Main, shuttle buses will begin taking visitors out to CWES in Amherst Junction and will continue overnight and school programs. Alumni have also suggested the addition of family weekends that offer programs and activities for experienced campers.

“We are excited to be able to reconnect alumni with UWSP as well as help them teach their kids about the great outdoors,” says Johnson.
2000S

Amanda Flunker, ’06, Appleton, had two design projects accepted for publication in the fall issue of Creative Quarterly Magazine, a national student art magazine geared toward college students and art departments.

James Duquette, ’05, Saint Paul, Minn., is a law student at the University of St. Thomas in the Twin Cities and is engaged to Lynsayd Learman, whom he met at UWSP. They are planning a summer 2007 wedding.

Maureen (Nevin) Alley, ’04, and Michael Alley, ’05, Madison, were married June 18, 2005, in Oshkosh, then honeymooned in Key West, Fla.

Katherine Lueck, ’04, Cordova, Ala., will marry Bruce Dunagan on March 10, 2007, in Alabama, with a reception in Wisconsin in March. Katherine is an overseas study academic advisor for the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa.

Brenda Luckstagter, ’04, Tuscaloosa, Ala., completed a master’s degree and is serving a horn internship at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. In July she spent two weeks in Spain at a chamber music festival and on October 21, she’ll be a featured guest soloist with the UW-Madison Lakeshore Wind Ensemble.

Sherry McManus, ’04, Plover, is a unit director for the Boys and Girls Club in Plover.

Naomu Morris, ’04, and Cory Foucault, ’04, both of Oak Creek, will be married in Holmen on May 19, 2007. Morris works in advertising for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

Jennifer Beranek, ’03, Madison, is public relations manager for Great Wolf Resorts, Inc., Madison.

Brian Iorocrari, ’03, toman, was selected to attend the third annual Summer Institute at West Liberty State College in West Liberty, W.V., in June, as part of the college foundation’s Emerging Minority Business Leaders Program. He works for the Ho-Chunk Nation in tribal development and is currently pursuing an M.B.A. at UW-Eau Claire.

Sara Schillingter, ’03, Greenlade, is a fitness coordinator for UW-Madison. Previously she worked at the Wisconsin Athletic Club. She began graduate studies in kinesiology this summer.

Tony Galaska, ’03, Lafayette, Ind., is a visiting instructor of lighting design at Purdue University, where he earned a master’s degree in May. During the summer he designed shows for the Texas Shakespeare Festival and The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey’s outdoor stage.

Jonathan Schiller, ’02, Pewaukee, received a doctor of medicine degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in May. He will serve his residency in emergency medicine at the State University of New York Upstate Medical University Program in Syracuse.

Molly Mann, ’01, Milwaukee, has an animated short film, Old Night, in the Tomorrowland exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, which runs through August 13. She made the film while earning a master’s degree in animation and film at the California Institute of the Arts in 2003. She is currently the creative manager for Matanda Enterprises in Mequon and a part-time professor of animation at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design.

Bruning plays for national figures, traditions

From the funerals of military veterans and late President Ronald Reagan to the dedication of the World War II Memorial and the nation’s Fourth of July celebrations, Gunnar Bruning, ’99, Crofton, Md., has played his trumpet for some of the nation’s most honored public figures and traditions.

As a member of the 90-member U.S. Navy Band, Bruning performs in numerous concerts and official ceremonies in the Washington, D.C., area and on tour. The Marathon nativity also teaches at the Washington Conservatory of Music and is a freelance musician in the area.

The band’s ceremonial duties include playing at the White House, Capitol and Pentagon and for presidential inaugurations, military retirements and changes of command as well as many funerals at Arlington Cemetery. They also perform in one U.S. tour each spring and give regular summer concerts at the Capitool and U.S. Navy Memorial.

“I like being a part of the ceremonial aspects of the band,” he says. “To become one of these big occasions is humbling, and a real honor and a privilege. These events are bigger than I am.”

Bruning credits Music Department Chair Bob Kase for his foundation in trumpet skills as he studied with him for three years in high school and four years in college. All of UWSP’s music faculty were supportive, he adds, and he enjoyed all he learned while playing in several ensembles.

After graduating from UWSP, Bruning went to the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where he eventually earned a master’s degree in trumpet performance and met his wife, Stephanie, a professional pianist. He’d often thought about having a career in a military band or orchestra, so when a rare opening came up in the Navy Band while he was still at the conservatory, he auditioned and earned the spot. The couple moved to the D.C. area in June 2001 after Bruning finished his degree.

After they audition as civilians, members of the band join the U.S. Navy while under contract, Bruning says, and serve in the band throughout their enlistment.

Bruning says he can see himself making a 20- to 30-year career out of playing in the band. He and his wife will evaluate that decision when his enlistment is up in two more years, he says.

The biggest adjustment in moving from Wisconsin to D.C. was the amount of traffic, he says, but he has grown to love Maryland.

“I like the people I work with—they are fabulous musicians from across the country,” he added. “I’ve made some great friends.”

On May 29, Gunnar Bruning (lower right) had the honor of playing Taps at the Memorial Day ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington Cemetery.

President George W. Bush, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and other guests attended.

Andrew Halverson, ’03, Stevens Point, presented the May 21 commencement address in two ceremonies held at the Specht Memorial Forum/Sundial at UWSP. Andrew was Wisconsin’s 2005 Young Entrepreneur of the Year and Portage County’s 2005 Entrepreneur of the Year. He owns and operates Andrew’s Ltd. Distinctive Men’s Clothing with two Stevens Point locations. He and his wife, Shana (Chase) Halverson, ’02, have one son.

Rick Cornette, ’00, Los Angeles, Calif., appeared in his first prime-time featured role April 26 on an episode of CSI:NY. Rick played Nick Russo, the limo driver of guest star Kid Rock.

Ann-Marie Rintelmann, ’00, Orlando, Fla., lived in Seattle for three years prior to moving to Florida. A speech-language pathologist with EBS Healthcare, she would love to hear from fellow swimming alumni at annrintelmann@msn.com.
Heather Kind-Keppel, ’99, and her husband, Robert Groszek, also an attorney. She is married to Robert Groszek, also an attorney. Jennifer (Boehm) Groszek, ’99, Chicago, Ill., is an attorney with Gunty and McCarthy in Chicago, practicing civil defense litigation and environmental toxic tort litiga-
tion. She is married to Robert Groszek, also an attorney.

Cassandra (Janowski) Barnhart, ’99, Chapel Hill, N.C., married John Barnhart June 15 in Chapel Hill where they are building a home.

Stephanie Sprangers, ’97, Milwaukee, married John Graham in August.

Melissa (Orlowski) Phipps, ’97, Farmington, Mo., and her husband, Mike, welcomed a son, Mason Michael, in December.

Cathy Kozlowski, ’97, Elkhorn, coordinates the Basic Skills and Family Literacy Program for the Literacy Council of Greater Waukesha and also writes for four newspapers. She also will present at the next WE LEARN conference at Yale University. Previously she was executive director of a YWCA in Eugene, Ore. Cathy is training for a three-day 60-mile walk for breast cancer awareness. For more infor-
mation, call (262) 470-5099, e-mail ckozlowski1778@yahoo.com or see www.thefr.org.

Laurau Routh, ’97, Lawrence, Kan., inspects factories, plants and land-
fills as a hazardous waste/solid waste inspector for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment office in Lawrence. In 2005 she earned certification as a hazardous materials manager and is now in a public health certification program through the University of Kansas Public Management Center.

Aaron Haase, ’96, Colorado Springs, a captain in the U.S. Air Force, ran into Terry Porter, ’93, Mequon, a former UWSP football player and coach, at the Masters Gulf Tournament in Augusta, Ga., in April. Aaron is the base attorney at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and his wife, Hope (Klingler) Haase, ’99, is a math teacher. The couple was married in the UWSP University Center Laird Room in 1999 then earned a law degree and master’s degree respectively at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Mark Radtke, ’88, assigned to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff GS, met in Heidelberg for a Point reunion this spring. All three of the officers were commissioned through the UWSP ROTC program and all are on active duty in Germany.

Class of 1997, Let’s celebrate!

Plans are being made for your 10th reunion next June, but we need YOUR help to make this celebration what YOU want it to be.

The UWSP Alumni Association is forming a planning committee to organize fun events for the 10th reunion, to be held June 22-23, 2007.

If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please contact the Alumni Affairs Office by Sept. 30 to sign up. We will be having a planning meeting the weekend following Homecoming, Oct. 22, to kick off your own special year. More details will follow once you sign on for the fun!

Eric Johnston, ’96, Maumee, Ark., is a forestry sales manager for Riggs Tractor Co. in Little Rock, Ark. Previously he was a machine representative for Caterpillar in three southern states. He holds a master’s degree from Western Illinois University and is married to Susan.

Brian Versery, ’96, Sheboygan, is vice president and manager of the U.S. Bank Sheboygan Private Client Group. He recently won a trip to Mexico for achieving U.S. Bank’s 2005 Pacesetter Award, given to the top one percent of employees for outstanding sales, service and retention.

Brendan (Hahne) Martin, ’97, Milwaukee, married his wife, Holly, in July 2005. The couple was married in the UWSP University Center Laird Room in 1999 then earned a law degree and master’s degree respectively at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Nicole (Man) Einbeck, ’95, Monroe, writes “Hello! I would love to hear from fellow UWSP graduates of ’95. Contact me at nicole.einbeck@monroeclinic.org.”

Michael and Amy (Rounscher) McGowan, both ’95, Miami, Fla., were featured with their son and daughter on the cover of the April issue of Florida Trend magazine for a story on those who relocate to Florida. The couple has lived in Miami for more than eight years. Michael received an MBA from the University of Miami and works for DHL Worldwide Express. Amy works for Home for KI of Green Bay.

Michael’s parents, Judy (Kolstra) McGowan, ’70, and Lewis McGowan now reside in The Villages, Fla. His grandmother, the late Ida Kolstra, graduated from UWSP in 1961.

Peter Windingstad, ’94, Minneapolis, Minn., is design director for VIE Corporation in Minneapolis. Previously he worked for ACME Corp. Production Services in Milwaukee and Scenic View Inc. in Chicago and operated his own live event production firm. He holds a master’s degree from the University of Arizona. He and his wife, Holly, have two daughters.

Jimmy Husain, ’93, Gahanna, Ohio, has been promoted to business intelligence consultant at Nationwide Insurance in Columbus, where he relocated from Des Moines, Iowa.

From Sundial to wedding aisle

Brian Kortendick, ’97, and Susan (Weidt) Kortendick, ’96, Oak Creek, were married on Feb. 25, with many fellow UWSP grads in attendance. Pictured, left to right, are Callie (Lowther) Steward, ’97, and Jeff Steward, ’96, Shoreline, Wash.; Laura Wolterstorff, ’96, San Francisco, Calif.; Adam Theisen, ’97, Chicago, Ill.; Heather (Kovina) Baur, ’96, Saukville; Dan Leemon, ’99, Jackson, Wyo.; Derek Baur, ’97, Saukville; Renee (Hahne) Martin, ’96, Columbia, Mo.; Chris Donohue, ’97, St. Paul, Minn.; Brian and Susan. Friends who could not attend included Josh Meisler, ’98, Girlwood, Alaska, and Erin (Daugs) Pasaloopua, ’97, O’Fallon, Mo. Brian proposed to Susan at the Specht Memorial Forum (Sundial) on the UWSP campus on May 5, 2005. Even though their paths crossed over the years, having gone to elementary and high school together in Racine and to UWSP, they didn’t start dating until meeting again in 2002 when Susan returned to Racine to find a job and plan her high school reunion. The couple, who honeymooned in Costa Rica, expect their first child in November.

Tonya Ross

Tonya (Beckman) Ross, ’93, Washington, D.C., is an actor who has appeared in Chicago. She also worked on the upcoming Nicole Kidman film, The Visiting. Next April she will appear as Sonia in Crime and Punishment at the Round House Theatre in Maryland.

Keep in touch

A e-mail form is available on our Web site for friends and family members who could not attend included Josh Meisler, ’98, Girlwood, Alaska, and Erin (Daugs) Pasaloopua, ’97, O’Fallon, Mo. Brian proposed to Susan at the Specht Memorial Forum (Sundial) on the UWSP campus on May 5, 2005. Even though their paths crossed over the years, having gone to elementary and high school together in Racine and to UWSP, they didn’t start dating until meeting again in 2002 when Susan returned to Racine to find a job and plan her high school reunion. The couple, who honeymooned in Costa Rica, expect their first child in November.

Keep in touch

Mail information to:
UWSP Alumni Affairs
258 Old Main, 2100 Main St., Stevens Point, WI 54481
Call toll free 877-764-6801
Fax 715-346-2561
An e-mail form is available on our Web site at www.uwsp.edu/alumni

Tonya Ross

Love and Chance at the Polger Theatre in D.C. and in Lady Windermere’s Fan with actress Dixie Carter in Baltimore. She also worked on the upcoming Nicole Kidman film, The Visiting. Next April she will appear as Sonia in Crime and Punishment at the Round House Theatre in Maryland.

Keep in touch

From Sundial to wedding aisle

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Read more:...
Fred Hellebrechts, ’91, returned to Stevens Point where he is director of resource development for United Way of Portage County. He was director of marketing for Cupps food stores and a United Way volunteer in Stevens Point then moved to Milwaukee to work for Roundy’s and Aldi Foods. He and his wife, Lori, have two children.

Janel Bahr, ’90, Appleton, married Jerry Joochman in Appleton in June.

Nancy Turyk, ’90, master’s ’00, Amherst, a water scientist at UWSP, has campus activities at UWSP, has assistant director of Stevens Point, masters ’94, masters ‘94, Volunteer Stream Monitoring Award UW Extension’s 2006 Wisconsin Volunteer Stream Monitoring Award in the employee category.

Class of 1982, Let’s celebrate!

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If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please contact the Alumni Affairs Office by Sept. 30 to sign up. We will be having a planning meeting on the Sunday after Homecoming, Oct. 22, to kick off your own special year. More details will follow once you sign on for the fun!

Roleanne Duis-Floyd, ’80, Stevens Point.

Jared O’Brien, ’90, Green Bay, is principal of Dickinson Elementary School in De Pere. He earned a doctor of education degree from Cardinal Stritch University in May 2004 and recently became a licensed district administrator. She and her husband, John, have one daughter.

Jill (Vandehy) Kleistad, ’80, Boyceville, was recently promoted to assistant professor at UW-Stout. Jill earned a Ph.D. in critical pedagogy from the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis.

Nancy Lind, ’80, Normal, Ill., is a professor, public service internship coordinator and associate director chair of the Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State University in Normal. Recently recognized as a Professor of the Year finalist by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement and Support of Education, she has won more than 25 more teaching awards than any other teacher at ISU and has written two books. Nancy earned her master’s and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis. Though she lives in Illinois, she still bleeds green and gold. “Go Pack!” she says.

Class of 1984’s: Alumni honored for teaching

Four UWSP alumni were honored by the Portage County Business Council Foundation’s 2005-06 Partners in Education teacher recognition program.

Diana Bolman, master’s ’96, Amherst, won a Golden Apple Award. She has taught family and consumer education for 40 years, currently at Amherst Middle School.

Michelle Kemp, master’s ’86, Stevens Point, won a Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction Award. She teaches math at Ben Franklin Junior High in Stevens Point.

Tammy Tautges, ’90, Plover, won a Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction Award. She teaches third grade at Riverview Elementary School in Wausau.

David Woyak, ’80, Hancock, won a Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction Award. He teaches fourth grade at Pioneer Elementary School in Waupaca.

A group of Sigma Phi Epsilon alumni got together for a fishing trip in Ontario this summer. Pictured are, back row from left to right, Dan Leider, ’79, Ringle; Mike Schillman, ’69, La Crosse; Jim Tipple, ’79, Wausau; Rob McGraw, ’68, Green Bay; and Jim Richardson, ’69, Rockford, Ill. In the front row, left to right, are, Jack Fingar, ’69, Ellison Bay; Bob Dover, ’69, Port Washington; Bob Divette, ’79, Bayview Beach, Fla.; Barry Noreen, ’68, Madison; and Jim Martin, ’70, Mosinee.
John Barnes

John Barnes, Stevens Point, a professor of biology and UWSP’s first entomologist, died June 6 at age 87.

A native of Lancaster, Ohio, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II then earned degrees at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, and the University of Minnesota. He and his wife, Benjamin, came to Stevens Point in 1955 and he retired from UWSP in 1986. He was active in his church, civic and conservation groups and the Masonic Lodge. His wife and three children survive.

Alan Lehman

Alan Lehman, Green Valley, Ariz., a professor emeritus of English, died December 18, 2005, in Tuscon, Ariz., at age 85. He spent 23 years at UWSP between 1963 and 1986, introducing students to Shakespeare and leading UWSP’s first semester abroad program to London in 1969. He was one of 25 UW System professors chosen for a summer program in Japan in 1972. He also founded and directed the UWSP Lecture Forum for 20 years.

A native of Coldsping, N.Y., Lehman earned a bachelor’s degree at the City College of New York then served four years in the U.S. Army. He earned a master’s degree and Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh and taught at Wayne State Teachers College in Nebraska and UW-Extension and the Air Force Reserve. He was preceded in death by his wife, Katheryn, and is survived by two children and his second wife, Florence Meagher.

Karen Brownell

Karen Brownell, 76, Pittsville, a mathematics teacher at Pittsville High School, Lawrence University’s Outstanding Educator of the Year in 1999, died June 6 at age 87. She has taught every mathematics course and served as coach of the math team, a consistent top finisher in UWSP’s Central Wisconsin Math League. She has also served as the girls’ volleyball coach for 28 years and track coach for 17 years.

Kathryn Gorichan

Kathryn Gorichan, ’75, Antigo, retired in April 2005, after 30 years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service. Gorichan says she was the first woman district conservationist in Wisconsin, leading the way for other women in an all-male agency.

Karen Brownell

Teaching in Wisconsin Award in June. She has spent her entire 30-year teaching career at PHS, where she has taught every mathematics course and served as coach of the math team, a consistent top finisher in UWSP’s Central Wisconsin Math League. She has also served as the girls’ volleyball coach for 28 years and track coach for 17 years.

Steve Schmidt, ’73, Sherborne, Dornet, United Kingdom, works as a horticulturist.

Charles Kilin, ’72, Carson City, Nev., received an associate of applied science-automotive degree from Western Nevada Community College in May. He also has an associate of arts degree in general studies from Milwaukee Area Technical College and a master of arts degree in public administration from Central Michigan University.

Gary Vander Wyst, ’72, Park Falls, chairs the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters through 2007. Vander Wyst has worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources since 1998, currently as the Upper Chippewa Area forestry specialist and is part of the Incident Command Overhead team for forest fires. Previously he was in the U.S. Army, was a research forester in Morocco with the U.S. State Department and was a civilian forester for the Department of the Army.

Mary McGrath, ’69, Burnsville, Minn., a speaker, author and educator with 31 years of teaching experience, presents workshops and in-services for teachers, parents and organizations through Reflections Resources, Ltd. Her books include Teachers in Transition: Growing Forward Through Retirement and Teachers Today: A Guide to Surviving Creatively. She also wrote two books and is a member of the National Speakers Association and Toastmasters International and holds a master’s degree from the University of Minnesota. Find out more at http://www.marymegrath.com/.

Ellen Specht

Ellen Specht, an English lecturer, publicity director, librarian and editor at UWSP between 1951 and 1976, died Feb. 19 at age 88.

Previously she taught in Oconto Falls and Wisconsin Rapids. She later worked as a correspondent and feature writer for the Appleton Post Crescent, a freelance writer and an associate at a public relations firm. She co-authored books on the railroad with her husband, Ray Specht, a UWSP geography professor and first campus planner, and contributed to the book Women of Vision of Portage County.

She and Ray, who preceded her in death in 2006, operated the Antiquarian Shop in Stevens Point for many years. A member of the Stevens Point Art League and League of Women Voters, she earned a bachelor’s degree at the Oshkosh State Teachers College.

John Weiler

John Weiler, Stevens Point, a mathematics professor instrumental in developing the mathematics education program at UWSP, died on May 14 at his home at age 83.

He held degrees from St. Norbert College and UW-Madison and did additional graduate study at Cornell University, Western Michigan University and the University of Georgia. He taught at high schools in the Green Bay area, Crivitz, Elroy, Kiel and Union Grove before coming to UWSP. Retiring after 40 years of teaching, he was active at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church and in the community.

Class Notes

November 2006
2000s

Julie Larsen-Stroik, ’91, Columbus, was born April 25 at 4:00. She worked at Sentry Insurance then earned her degree and was working as a women’s outreach advocate for the Women’s Community Center in Wausau when she died. Larsen-Stroik, survived, as do two children and a stepdaughter. A daughter preceded her in death.

2010s

Mary (Crane) Arkens, ’67, mother of Bryan, died June 7 at age 85. She taught in the town of Maite and Riverview schools in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, with others, during her 21 years of teaching. She was a member of the UW-Madison Wisconsin Alumni Association and was an active member of the Iowa City chapter of the American Association of Arson Investigators, serving as president of the Wisconsin chapter in 1990. She received the Smokey Award for his work on forest fire prevention programs, and during the 1990s, Arkens was a consultant for insurance companies on the origins of fires. He was a member of AMVETs, establishing a post in Madison. He is survived by his daughter, two sons and three stepchildren.

Allan Johnson, ’60, Sparta, died Jan. 1 at age 72. A U.S. Navy veteran, he served in the Naval Reserve until 1959. He taught high school biology in Stevens Point and ecology and botany at UWSP then served as a horticulturalist at the University of Montana in Missoula. His wife, Donna, preceded him in death.

Robert Briscoe, ’59, Ladysmith, died Dec. 24, 2005, at age 74 after a 12-year battle with cancer. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and taught in LaDymsmith schools. After earning a master’s degree at UW-Stout, he was principal of Ladysmith Middle School until his retirement in 1992. He was active in his community, serving on the county board, and was survived by his wife, Nancy, and seven children. One son preceded him in death.

Allan Cobb, ’59, Stevens Point, died April 25 at age 70. After completing cytotechnology training in Madison, he was employed at the Wisconsin State Parks System. He was a graduate of the UW-Madison School of Education. He attended Stevens Point in 1960 and worked for St. Michael’s Hospital in the 1960s. He was a member of the Wisconsin Society of Cytology, the Wisconsin Society of Clinical Pathologists and the Wisconsin Valley Flies Association. His wife, Roseliney, and four children survive.
Chet Polka, ’52, Berlin, died July 8 at age 78. He was inducted into the UWSP Athletic Hall of Fame in 1982 and was a member of the UWSP Alumni Board of Directors from 1984-2003. He also was one of the first winners of the Alumni Service Award in 1997. Chet enjoyed playing in the annual alumni basketball games at UWSP, even into his 70s. “He was always a big fan of UWSP,” says friend Steve Menzel, ’78. “He was a career educator and coach who touched a lot of people and loved sports and life.”

While at UWSP, Chet played four sports and was named to the All-Conference basketball team. He served in the U.S. Army and earned a master’s degree at UW-Madison. His 41-year career at Berlin High School included teaching social studies, coaching four sports and serving as athletic director, audio-visual director and WIAA basketball official. In retirement he was active in historical, community and professional organizations and was an avid golfer.

A volunteer at Berlin Memorial Hospital, he won the Community Health Network Human Service Award in 2000. His wife, Carol (Collins) Polka, ’50, and three children survive.

Chet Polka
Eight inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame

The UWSP Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet was held Friday evening, November 9, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Stevens Point. Earlier in the day, inductees will enjoy the Pointer football game from the chancellor’s box at Goerke Field and be introduced on the field.

The individuals selected for Hall of Fame induction include Ken Brumbaugh, ’89, West Sacramento, Calif., swimming; Nancy Page, ’80, Pleasant Valley, N.Y., swimming; Perry Miller, ’89, Milwaukee, basketball; Jennifer Mitcheff, ’80, Stevens Point, UWSP coach; Kelli Harms, ’98, Little Chute, softball; and Bret Witt, ’95, Bronx, N.Y., swimming.

Kelli Harms

Kelli Harms was the team’s player of the year between 1994 and 1997 as well as on the WIAC Hall of Fame, was an All Conference and All Region Honorable Mention All-Americans. After graduation he married to Barbara and is a sales and production representative.

Ken Brumbaugh

Ken Brumbaugh was a conference champion swimmer in the 100-yard butterfly and 100-yard backstroke and also swam on two winning relays to help the Pointers to their first straight title. He also was a member of the All-American 200-yard medley relay that placed seventh at nationals. Newport, who has a 3.94 grade point in economics and business administration, won 14-page conference individual conference and six relay titles.

Bret Witt

Bret Witt was named WIAC’s position player of the year and an Academic All-American.

Brett Witt
Pointers shine in spring sports

The Pointer baseball team celebrates their win over Ripon College in Wisconsin Rapids, which advanced them to the Division III College World Series.

Baseball
Playing nearly the entire month of May with its backs to the wall, the UWSP baseball team won one dramatic game after another to stave off elimination and reach the NCAA Division III College World Series at Fox Cities Stadium in Appleton for the first time since 1995.

The Pointers, who finished 35-18 overall, lost their opening game in the conference and regional tournaments, but battled back to win titles in each. UWSP also lost its first game at the World Series 2-1 to the eventual national champion, Marietta College (Ohio). They beat Aurora University (Ill.) 12-3 in the first elimination game, but then had their run end in a 5-4 loss to eventual runner-up Wheaton College (Mass.). Overall, the Pointers went 10 straight games when facing elimination.

Perhaps the most extraordinary day during the run came May 14 when the team won three nine-inning games in a single day capped with a 12-2 win over UW-Whitewater to claim the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament title at Witter Field in Wisconsin Rapids.

The Pointers were granted the opportunity to host the NCAA Division III regional tournament for the first time in school history and beat Ripon College twice on the final day at Witter Field. Chuck Brehm, Spence, hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to give the team a 6-4 win in the title game, while Jordan Zimmermann, Auburnville, struck out a single-game school record 15 batters to earn regional MVP. Zimmermann was also named to the all-tournament team at the World Series and was a second-team All-American. Jake Frombach, Stratford, finished as the school’s all-time hits leader with 243 for his career.

Softball
Hot bats carried the UWSP softball team to a 24-16-1 record as the Pointers posted a scorching .326 batting average and averaged more than five runs per game during the 2006 season.

The Pointers went 8-2 on their trip to Florida, then battled injuries to several of their top players and still managed to post their 13th straight 20-win season. Mandy Jellish, Kaukauna, led the Pointers’ offense with a conference-leading .442 average and 61 hits. Rebekah Bauer, Stevens Point, completed her career as the school’s all-time leader in doubles and extra-base hits.

Track and Field
The men’s 1600-meter relay team posted fourth place national finishes during both the indoor and outdoor seasons to lead the track and field teams during the 2006 season. The squad had an outdoor time of 3:13.01 and an indoor mark of 3:18.93. Adam Baumann, Marathon, and Nick VerDuijn, Howard’s Grove, were members of both relay teams. Kyley Shand, Neenah, won the heptathlon at the conference indoor meet and was named the field athlete of the meet. Mitch Ellis, Three Lakes, was the conference indoor and outdoor high jump champion while placing sixth in the event at indoor nationals.

Jenna Mitchler, Kaukauna, led the women’s team with a third place performance in the mile at indoor nationals and an eighth place effort in the 800-meter run at the outdoor championships.

The Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame inducted two Pointer football coaches into its Hall of Fame in the last two years, honoring 1975 alumnus and current coach John Meich in 2005 and his former coach, the late Monte Charles, in 2006.

As part of the honor, their names are on display in the front atrium of Lambeau Field during their induction year.

“Monte was one of the most innovative coaches who ever coached in this league,” says Miech. “He made his players succeed by doing things in an unorthodox way and that got us excited. He did what he believed and it rubbed off on me.”

As an offensive lineman for the Pointer team from 1972-1974, Miech came back to UWSP from 1975-77 as an assistant coach at Charles’ request.

“I know that I wouldn’t be coaching today if Monte had not called me in and asked me to be his assistant coach. I had just graduated and had a good job and coaching was the furthest thing from my mind. But he persuaded me and I’m grateful.”

Then he coached at Stephen F. Austin State University, where he earned a master’s degree, and at Whitnall and Jefferson high schools before again returning to UWSP as defensive coordinator in 1985 and becoming head coach in 1989.

Miech has had twice as many victories as any other coach in UWSP history during his 23 years at UWSP. He has won three WIAC championships in the past seven years, earned the WIAC Coach of the Year Award in 1998 and 2001 and was named WPCA-Wisconsin College Coach of the Year in 2001.

Miech has coached professional football players Clint Kriewaldt, last attended ‘98, and Barry Rose, last attended ‘92, and professional draft picks Kirk Baumgartner, ‘89, and Pete Lucas, ‘95.

He and his wife, Sheila, head of UWSP’s women’s soccer program, have two sons. Charles, dubbed by fans and players as “Ringmaster of the Aerial Circus” for his passing games, was the head football coach at UWSP from 1972 to 1976.

“Back in his days, 20 passes per game was a lot,” says Miech. “He threw 50.”

The only person in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (formerly Wisconsin State University Conference) to be a head coach at three schools, Charles coached at UW-Platteville and UW-Superior in addition to UWSP. He was the WSUC Coach of the Year in 1968.

He also coached for the Canadian Football League, Northern Illinois University and Southfield Michigan High School. Prior to his coaching career, he played for Vicksburg High School, Hillsdale College and was drafted by the Green Bay Packers but released prior to the 1951 season. He played on the semipro Detroit Tars team for three years.

Charles returned to UWSP as a volunteer assistant, intramural director and offensive coordinator from 1988 until 1991. He also assisted the executive director of Student Life and was coordinator of recruitment for a National Football League training camp at UWSP from 1991 to 1992. He died in 1992.

UWSP pitcher returns to the mound after serving in Iraq

Josh Perkins served in the US Army in Iraq

After a 34-month absence from the game while serving active duty in Iraq, this spring UWSP senior and first-team all-conference Pointer baseball pitcher Josh Perkins, ‘06, Two Rivers, returned to the mound to help lead the team to the Division III World Series.

Recently his story was told on two nationally televised sports programs, “CBS Sports Presents Championships of the NCAA” in July and “NCAA on Campus” on Fox Sports Net in April. Perkins was joined on both shows by his wife, Christine, ‘06, originally from Manitowoc and a fellow Iraq War veteran, and in the CBS taping by his parents, Bo and Char.

A first-team all-conference pitcher in 2003, the U.S. Army reservist was called up to active duty in October 2003 and served in the Middle East during what would have been his senior year at UWSP and 2004 baseball season. He returned to Fort McCoy in February 2005, but was too late to enroll at UWSP so could not play that spring either.

Finally in 2006, he successfully petitioned the NCAA for an extra year of athletic eligibility and after a 34-month hiatus, returned to the field.

During the last season, Perkins again earned first-team honors while posting a 7-2 record and 3.20 Earned Run Average (ERA). He ranked second in the conference with 81 strikeouts and tied a school record of 15 strikeouts in a game in a 3-0 shutout of UW-Oshkosh during the conference tournament.

Pointer football coaches named to Hall of Fame

The Pointer football team

John Miech

The Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame inducted two Pointer football coaches into its Hall of Fame in the last two years, honoring 1975 alumnus and current coach John Meich in 2005 and his former coach, the late Monte Charles, in 2006.

As part of the honor, their names are on display in the front atrium of Lambeau Field during their induction year.

“Monte was one of the most innovative coaches who ever coached in this league,” says Miech. “He made his players succeed by doing things in an unorthodox way and that got us excited. He did what he believed and it rubbed off on me.”

Then he coached at Stephen F. Austin State University, where he earned a master’s degree, and at Whitnall and Jefferson high schools before again returning to UWSP as defensive coordinator in 1985 and becoming head coach in 1989.

Miech has had twice as many victories as any other coach in UWSP history during his 23 years at UWSP. He has won three WIAC championships in the past seven years, earned the WIAC Coach of the Year Award in 1998 and 2001 and was named WPCA-Wisconsin College Coach of the Year in 2001.

Miech has coached professional football players Clint Kriewaldt, last attended ‘98, and Barry Rose, last attended ‘92, and professional draft picks Kirk Baumgartner, ‘89, and Pete Lucas, ‘95.

He and his wife, Sheila, head of UWSP’s women’s soccer program, have two sons. Charles, dubbed by fans and players as “Ringmaster of the Aerial Circus” for his passing games, was the head football coach at UWSP from 1972 to 1976.

“Back in his days, 20 passes per game was a lot,” says Miech. “He threw 50.”

The only person in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (formerly Wisconsin State University Conference) to be a head coach at three schools, Charles coached at UW-Platteville and UW-Superior in addition to UWSP. He was the WSUC Coach of the Year in 1968.

He also coached for the Canadian Football League, Northern Illinois University and Southfield Michigan High School. Prior to his coaching career, he played for Vicksburg High School, Hillsdale College and was drafted by the Green Bay Packers but released prior to the 1951 season. He played on the semipro Detroit Tars team for three years.

Charles returned to UWSP as a volunteer assistant, intramural director and offensive coordinator from 1988 until 1991. He also assisted the executive director of Student Life and was coordinator of recruitment for a National Football League training camp at UWSP from 1991 to 1992. He died in 1992.
Homecoming 2006

Check regularly for event updates at www.uwsp.edu/alumni/Homecoming2006WEB.htm

Friday, Oct. 20

Registration Packet Pickup
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Founders Room, 102 Old Main
Alumni Board of Directors meeting
CWES noon

Phi Sig 75th Anniversary Reunion
Country Springs Hotel, Stevens Point, 6 p.m.
Contact Jeff Zabel, jzabel@charter.net, to register

The Taste of Wisconsin
Location TBA, 7 p.m.
Sample some of Wisconsin’s finest, from cheese and beer to potatoes and wine.
For tickets call 800-838-3378

Tau Kappa Epsilon Reunion
Archie’s Bar, Stevens Point, 9 p.m.

Alumni/Student Homecoming dance
Berg Gym, 9 p.m.
Formal crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen and a student dance contest. Sponsored by the Residence Hall Association and Alumni Association.

Saturday, Oct. 21

Registration Packet Pickup
8-10 a.m.
Founders Room, 102 Old Main

Justice Works Run — 5k and 10k
8 a.m.
Contact the Stevens Point Convention and Visitors Bureau for more information, 715-344-2536 or 1-800-236-4636

Coffee with alumni and friends
Berg Lobby, 9 a.m.

Homecoming Parade
Campus Streets, 10 a.m.
Judging Area - Steps of Berg Gym

Nelson Hall Open House
10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Tau Kappa Epsilon Apollo Alumni Association meeting
Middletown Grill and Tavern, Stevens Point, 11 a.m.

All Campus Picnic
Front lawn of Old Main, 11 a.m.
$3 for adults, free for children under 12.
The official reunion area on campus, with inflatables, the Herpetology Society and family activities. Meet your friends under the tent. Several organizations and the academic colleges will have tables.

All Campus Tour
12 noon
Meet by the flagpoles on the front lawn of Old Main to take a guided tour through campus to see what has changed since your last visit.

Alumni Association Burger and Brat Bash
Front lawn of Old Main, 11 a.m.

Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES) Open House
Bus departs from Fremont Street at 12:30 p.m.
Preregistration required.
For details see page 11

Homcoming Football Game
Goerke Field, 1 p.m.
Come cheer on the Pointers as they host the UW-Oshkosh Titans. The Class of 2007, Athletic Hall of Fame inductees will be announced during halftime.

Roach Hall Freshman 20-year Reunion
Join other “Roachies” from the mid-80s to celebrate 20 years of life at UWSP. Contact Lisa (Hackman) Messer, messer@icon.net or 608-834-7709

Allen F. Blocher Planetarium Show
2nd floor of Science Building, 1:30 p.m.
“Interplanetary Explorer,” appropriate for grades 2-5

Smith Hall Tour/Reunion
2 p.m.
Did you live in Smith Hall? Meet others who did as well. Enjoy a peek at your old stomping grounds while meeting others who shared your residence hall experience.

Student Homecoming Activities

Thursday, Oct. 12

King and Queen Pageant
The Faux Core, Communications Arts Center, 7 p.m.
The top five king and queen candidates will compete in a variety of contests to be crowned Homecoming King & Queen 2006.

Friday, Oct. 13-Sunday, Oct. 15

“Shanty Town” Hurricane Relief Fundraiser
DeBot Center Fields, starting at 4:30 p.m. Friday through noon Sunday
Competing organizations will build and occupy shanties on a continual basis during the competition.

Monday, Oct. 16

Food Drive
The Specht Forum/Sundial, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Teams will be awarded points for the most nonperishable food items donated. Operation Bootstrap of Portage County will receive the donations.

“The Red Carpet Film Festival”
The Faux Core, CAC, 7 p.m.
Screening of short films to be created, directed and acted out by participating teams.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

“Celebrity” Tug-O-War Competition
Front lawn of Old Main, 3 p.m.
Rain or shine!

General Information

University Store Hours
Fri. Oct. 20: 8 a.m.–3 p.m.
**The University Center Store is located at 200 Division Street**

Archives - 5th Floor LRC
Look at yearbooks and peruse old Pointers!
Fri. Oct. 20: 7:45 a.m.-12 p.m., 1:430 p.m.

Schmeeckle Nature Reserve
Visitors Center open, self guided tours
Fri. Oct. 20: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 21: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Natural History Museum and Gift Store Hours
Fri. Oct. 20: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 21: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Win a free hotel room for homecoming
By reserving a hotel room for the night of one of four Stevens Point weekend events, you will be entered for a free hotel room. Find information and make reservations online.

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Tuesday, Oct. 17

“Celebrity” Tug-O-War Competition
Front lawn of Old Main, 3 p.m.
Rain or shine!

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Hollywood Hunt
The Specht Forum/Sundial, 5 p.m.
Classic treasure hunt competition

Thursday, Oct. 19

UWSP Star Search
The Faux Core, CAC, 7 p.m.
Annual talent competition - karaoke style