Kohrt receives Distinguished Alumnus Award

Clarke-Girolamo, Hanes and Trailer also honored

An international expert on geriatric physiology known for her efforts to make life better for the older generation has received the UWSP 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Wendy Kohrt, ’77, Denver, Colo., received the honor on May 19, joined by her former UWSP volleyball and basketball teammates and coaches. Also honored were Alumni Service Award winner Kathy Clarke-Girolamo, ’84, Miami, and two winners of the William C. Hansen Distinguished Service Award, Robert Hanes, ’59, Baraboo, and Dan Trainer, Stevens Point, dean emeritus of the UWSP College of Natural Resources (CNR).

Kohrt is a professor of geriatric medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver and an adjunct professor in the Department of Integrated Physiology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has received $5.5 million in support of her ongoing research on the use of exercise by people over 65 to improve cardiovascular function and counteract bone loss and the effects of hormonal changes on the aging process.

“The exposure I had to exercise science and preventive medicine while I was at Point influenced the career path I now find myself on,” said Kohrt, who went to teach in Merrill and then earned master’s and doctorate degrees in exercise science at Arizona State University.

Kohrt also served a postdoctoral research fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine, where she also taught for many years before taking the position in Colorado.

The recipient of the 2003 University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Outstanding Research Faculty Award, she has presented lectures worldwide and has been published in prominent medical journals. Kohrt has also continued to support the UWSP Foundation and the UWSP Women’s Athletic Fund.

As construction comes to an end this winter, several special events have been planned to mark the completion of the $23.7 million Dreyfus University Center renovation at UWSP.

A ceremony to officially rename the center for UWSP’s ninth president and first chancellor, Lee Sherman Dreyfus, a former governor of Wisconsin, will be held during Homecoming weekend on Friday, October 12, beginning at 1 p.m. in the newly renovated Laird Room on the center’s second floor.

Members of the Dreyfus family will be present, as will special alumni guests, former Student Government Association presidents and Chancellor Linda Buehler. Week will not be fully complete at this time, so use of the center will be limited. A public reception will follow at 2 p.m. in the Noel Fine Arts Center Courtyard.

Dreyfus Center dedication set for October 12
Dear fellow alumni,

After a whirlwind summer full of activities for the Alumni Affairs Office, it still comes as a surprise to realize that fall is just around the corner and soon we’ll be welcoming back our students, or should I say, our future alumni.

The fact that our students are the future of the UWSP Alumni Association led to the founding of the Future Alumni Association (first called the Student Alumni Association) in 2001. Today, this student organization realizes that fall is just around the corner and soon we’ll be welcoming back our students, or should I say, our future alumni.

The FAA’s new president, Kelly Eisenman, a junior psychology major from Holliester, Wis., has been a member since her freshman year. Kelly has enjoyed connecting with alumni through volunteering at events such as First Nighters, reunions and Homecoming, and because of that, one of her goals this year is to increase membership.

The group hopes to offer a “Five under Twenty-Five Gathering,” which would bring five recent graduates under the age of 25 to campus to meet with FAA members and other students to discuss their personal successes and setbacks since graduation. If you are interested in being one of those five, we would love to hear from you.

“It’s great to hear all of the success stories of graduates and it’s encouraging to know that they were once in the exact spot we are,” says Eisenman. Hearing from alumni is also helpful because of the networking possibilities for students, she adds.

Kelly believes that being involved in FAA now will help make her a better alumna of UWSP, and she looks forward to being able to return to campus and talk to undergraduates or provide them with career opportunities.

Whether you are a student or alum, making connections through UWSP benefits you in any number of ways. As I think about the past six months, what comes to mind are the images I’ve seen of people meeting and laughing, finding out they knew someone in common, lived in the same hall or even met their significant other at UWSP.

The connection Pointers have with each other is, in my opinion, one of those timeless traditions and it is one that continues to amaze and humble me. Thank you for your dedication to UW-Stevens Point.

Sincerely,

Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ‘02

**UWSP Alumni Affairs**

The UWSP Alumni Affairs Office staff includes, left to right, Jessi Eisenman, ‘08, student intern; Katie Carlson, assistant director; Julie Johnson, administrative assistant; Terril Taylor, director of major events; Joe Motacek, ‘10, student intern; and Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ‘02, director.

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**Pointers in Spain; Paris and Beijing next**

Sevenién UWSP alumni and friends traveled to Spain for a nine-day trip in April, touring through the southern half of the country to the cities of Madrid, Toledo, Cordoba, Seville, Granada and Malaga. A few of the travelers took a day trip across the Strait of Gibraltar to Morocco. The group enjoyed learning how to order tapas in Spanish, attending the opening day of the Feria Sevilla (annual fair in Seville) and dipping their toes in the Mediterranean. A wonderful time was had by all!

Are you interested in joining the UWSP Alumni Association on their travels in 2008? Trips are planned for “Paris in Early Spring” from April 5-13 and “Dyanmic Beijing” from November 13-20, 2008. Be sure to visit www.uwsp.edu/alumni/Travel2008.htm for more information. We hope you can join us!

**Pointer Alumnus**

Circulation 57,500

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**Photographers**

Katie Carlson, Doug Moore, master’s

**Graphic Designer**

Mian Yang, ’80

**Pointer Memory**

I have too many memories to mention, but the Undergraduate Research Symposium in both the College of Natural Resources and the College of Letters and Science are at the top of the list.

Sarah Orlowske, ’06, Blacksburg, Va.

Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ‘02

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**Alumni Association Board of Directors**

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Patrick Braatz, ’84, Portland, Ore.

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**Editorial Assistant**

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**Graphic Designer**

Mian Yang, ’80

**Contributing Writers**

Tom Miller, Jim Strick

**Photographers**

Katie Carlson, Doug Moore, master’s

Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ’02

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point practices equal opportunity in employment and programming.

Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ’02
Alumni and students win prizes

A participant in a survey that ran in the last issue of The Pointer Alumnus has won a free hotel stay for Homecoming 2007, according to Laura Gehrmann Rottier, ’02, director of Alumni Affairs. Kurt Gernerd, ’77, Purcellville, Va., received the prize for his survey entry. “Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey,” said Gehrmann Rottier. “Another thank you goes out to those who have joined The Connecting Point. More than 2,200 alumni are now connecting with each other, updating their alumni record and registering online for alumni events.”

In addition, Ann Whipp, ’94, Stevens Point, won a 37-inch LCD television through a drawing for those who are Advantage Members through a Sentry Insurance promotion offered with the UWSP Alumni Association.

To join The Connecting Point and find the latest alumni news and information, go to www.uwsp.edu/alumni.

Tuition Raffle

This year’s Alumni Association tuition raffle raised over $21,600 for student scholarships and the Future Alumni Association while awarding two UWSP students with valuable prizes. Daniel Kerley, a sophomore social science major from West Allis, won a full year of tuition valued at more than $5,500. Incoming freshman psychology major Elizabeth Sawchuk of Oconomowoc won a full year of the university meal plan valued at more than $1,800.

SGA officers greet alumni

Dear UWSP alumni,

We, the Student Government Association, are excited for another school year here at UWSP. It is a great privilege to serve the student body and work to continue to make UWSP great. We would like to take this chance to share with you what we plan to accomplish this next school year.

With the recent proposals by the State Assembly, we feel certain legislators are forgetting about the students they represent. The major objective this school year is for SGA to empower students by putting on programs and demonstrations to show students a voice. We plan on having a week of student activism put on by the Student Government Association and other student organizations to promote different issues that are important to students, from tuition to the environment.

Another major objective is to educate students more about going into the real world and what they can do to make the transition to living off campus smoother. We plan on establishing programs to help students with their taxes, ease the hassle of finding a place to live, sublet, or even look for a roommate, and what to look for or expect when signing a lease.

Additionally, we plan on continuing the great initiative the previous administrations have started by pushing for more green spaces and green energy on campus, promoting fair trade products, encouraging the use of public transportation and even establishing a bike rental program.

Stevens Point has already been named the largest purchaser of renewable energy in the entire UW System and we plan to expand upon our goal of becoming energy independent.

Furthermore, we are working to provide a chance for students to have a voice on tenure decisions of professors. We are also looking to get more student art on campus and to provide students a say in what art to put on this campus from outside artists as well.

SGA has many notions on what to tackle, but we are constantly looking for more issues from the student body and you, the alumni. We encourage you to contact us with whatever concerns you may have.

Thank you for your time. Please contact us at any time with any further comments or questions. We’d love to hear from you.

Sincerely,
Justin Gadowski & Adam Lehmann
President & Vice President
UWSP Student Government Association
(715)346-3722 or sgapers@uwsp.edu

Out of state discount offered for alumni families

The sons, daughters or grandchildren of UWSP alumni who would like to carry on the family legacy of attending UWSP are offered a special discount program for out-of-state tuition.

The Return to Wisconsin program, begun in 2004, offers a 25 percent discount off the regular non resident tuition rate to all qualifying UWSP undergraduate students who are the children or grandchildren of UWSP alumni. Graduates are defined as persons who have been awarded a baccalaureate, associate or graduate degree from UWSP.

Eligible non resident students include those who are residents of states other than Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as residents of U.S. territories and foreign countries. This discount is available to a student who is enrolled either part time or full time and is renewable as long as the student maintains satisfactory academic progress as defined in the UWSP course catalog.

For purposes of this program, parents are defined as biological, adoptive, stepparents and/or legal guardians. Grandparents are limited to include biological or adoptive grandparents. The discount does not apply to special course fees, housing and food service plans, segregated fees or any other fees. Nor does the program offer preferential treatment with respect to admission to UWSP.

For more information about the Return to Wisconsin program, see www.uwsp.edu/admissions/returntowi.htm. To speak with someone in the UWSP Admissions Office, call (715) 346-2441 or send e-mail to admiss@uwsp.edu.

Favorite Pointer memories throughout Alumnus

In our last Pointer Alumnus issue, we asked for your favorite Pointer memory. Throughout this issue you will find some of the replies sent in by fellow alumni. Keep an eye out for the Pointer Paw and see if you share some of the same recollections as others across the generations.

Do you have a favorite Pointer memory? Please share it with the Pointer Alumnus for a future issue! Stories may be edited for content or space. Add them to the Connecting Point at www.uwsp.edu/alumni, or send by e-mail to alumni@uwsp.edu or mail to UWSP Alumni Association, Room 208, 2100 Main St., Stevens Point WI 54481.

Alumni and students win prizes

Get ready for Homecoming 2007

Enjoy a weekend full of activities at UWSP this October as part of Homecoming 2007, Viva Las Vegas.

Return to campus the afternoon of Friday, October 12, for the Dreyfus University Center naming ceremony and get a sneak peak at the renovations. That evening, enjoy an All Greek Reunion on the front lawn of Old Main as well as the comedy of television and film star Bill Cosby in two shows at the Quandt Fieldhouse.

On Saturday, October 13, reunite with old friends and meet new ones at the parade and football game. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the annual All Campus Picnic, which offers something for everyone on the front lawn of Old Main. The picnic is also FREE!

Enter a drawing for one of four free Stevens Point hotel stays when you register for Homecoming activities online at www.uwsp.edu/alumni. For a complete list of times, reunions and ticket information, see the back page.
Larry Beck

John Betinis

Catherine Dugan

Laura Felda-Marquardt

Gerald Gau

James Gingles

Wesley Halverston

Virginia Helm

Pamela Becker

John Munson

Rick Rothman

Carole Van Horn

Sandra Madison

Robert Kase

Robert Mosier

My Favorite Pointer Memory

My most memorable event at UWSP was the listen lecture from Dan Trainer. I was a freshman at Stevens Point and his first lecture was a wildlife dispersal topic that I thought would be dull and boring was fascinating. It was the only time I ever attended the same lecture twice. Usually one lecture was enough.

Chad Hass, '90, Beaverton, Ore.
Larrick shares music with preschoolers

Retired Professor Geary Larrick has been performing for the preschool-age students at UWSP’s Gesell Institute, located in the College of Professional Studies building, since his own son was there in the 70’s. This past spring semester, Larrick performed three concerts for the children.

Using bongo drums, conga drums and a xylophone, he performed original pieces including one written by his daughter who was also once a Gesell student. He emphasizes the importance of reading music, hoping children will remember seeing him reading and playing at the same time. After the performances, the children are able to play with the instruments themselves.

“I love to do this sort of thing,” says Larrick. “It’s important for someone my age to play for a young audience like this. It allows me to impart what I know to them, as they are used to listening to music on the TV or radio. It’s also rewarding for me too. It helps me to feel relevant and not ‘over the hill,’” he adds.

“This is such a wonderful opportunity for young children to hear all types of music and have the experience of hands-on exploration of unique instruments,” said Lorrie Richardson, the institute’s director.

Kraft featured on Route 51 talk show

Wisconsin Public Radio hosted a live broadcast of its weekly “Route 51” regional talk radio show in the Founders Room of Old Main on April 26. Pictured from left is WPR’s Glenn Moberg, Mike Carter, George Meyer and UWSP’s George Kraft.

George Kraft, a professor of water resources, was featured on a panel of environmental and economic experts in a live radio show broadcast from UWSP by Wisconsin Public Radio.

The show, Route 51, featured a forum on Central Wisconsin watersheds and its importance to the economy and environment. In addition to Kraft, the panel included George Meyer, executive director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and former secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and Mike Carter, executive director of the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers.

The show was broadcast in front of a live audience.

Bywaters’ paintings installed at West Bend medical unit

Diane Canfield Bywaters, Stevens Point, a UWSP professor of art and design, created and installed three paintings for the entryway of a helicopter rescue medical unit in West Bend.

Bywaters was commissioned by the Department of Military Affairs Aviation Support Facility through the Wisconsin Percent for the Arts program. The three large oil paintings on canvas show aerial vistas of the West Bend area during spring, winter and fall.

Bywaters, who usually paints en plein air (on location), created the paintings from photographs she took during each season from a small airplane she hired to fly over the area.

“I’m always seeking painting adventures,” said Bywaters, who last summer rafted the Grand Canyon as part of an en plein air painting expedition.

“But taking the photos in winter from a two-seater airplane required that I stick my head out of the window. This was far more adventurous than I expected, and I was certainly glad to land that day.”

The paintings were stitched, fitted with grommets and then stretched with rope onto two large stainless steel structures designed by Bywaters and fabricated by Metal Crafters Inc. in Stevens Point. The completed works resemble stretchers used by the helicopter crew.

“The intention of my paintings was to give a visual sense of renewal to a very stressful medical rescue unit. The seasons represent the different stages of life,” she said.

Thomas chosen to lead Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, master’s ’79, in January became the second woman in Wisconsin history to lead the state’s Natural Resources Board.

Dean of the College of Natural Resources (CNR) and a professor of natural resources at UWSP, Thomas will chair the board through May 1, 2009.

She says she is pleased to follow in the footsteps of her mentor, CNR Dean Emeritus Dan Traun, who also chaired the Natural Resources Board.

In addition to her role as a university educator, Thomas developed “Becoming an Outdoors-Woman,” a program that teaches women outdoor skills, and has received numerous awards for her educational and conservation pursuits, including Educator of the Year by the Safari Club International and Woman of the Year by the American Sportfishing Association.

Dombeck receives honorary degree

Michael Dombeck, ’71, master’s ’74, Stevens Point, a UW System Fellow and professor of global conservation at UWSP, received an honorary degree from Haverford College in Pennsylvania.

Dombeck received the honor in May. Haverford awards four honorary degrees annually to those who have distinguished themselves in sciences, letters or the arts.

UWSP recognized him with the Distinguished Alumni honor in 1997.

The former chief of the U.S. Forest Service and former director of the Bureau of Land Management, Dombeck has been a UWSP faculty member since 2001.

A renowned conservationist, he has over 25 years experience in managing federal lands and resources.

He has received the Lady Bird Johnson Conservation Award, Audubon Medal and Distinguished Executive Award for federal service. In addition to UWSP, he has degrees from the University of Minnesota and Iowa State University.

He and his wife, Patricia, reside near Stevens Point.

Faculty and staff honored for outstanding work

Outstanding faculty and staff members for the 2006-2007 academic year were honored at a reception and awards program in April at the Noel Fine Arts Center courtyard.

Selected for Excellence in Teaching were Richard Geesey, professor of forest recreation; Lorri Nandrea, associate professor of English; Judith Pfiffner, ’74, master’s ’85, senior lecturer in health promotion and human development; Justin Ruesch, professor of psychology; and Steven Wright, professor of chemistry.

Recognized with the University Scholar Award were Jeana Magyar-Moe, ’98, assistant professor of psychology, and James Stokes, professor of English.

The University Service Award recipient was Dan Dieterich, professor of English.

Recipient of the Academic Staff Excellence Award was Anne Hoffmann, assistant director for health and wellness programs, and the Academic Staff Spirit of Community Service Award was given to Mike Pagel, ’79, a career specialist and coordinator of new student orientation in career services.

Winner of the Classified Staff Excellence Award was Carolyn Rolfsen Sargis Award was Thomas Jensen, ’84, a physician’s assistant in health services.
Clark and her husband, Matthew Clark, Sauk Rapids, Minn., both graduated from UWSP in 2005. Nook and his wife of 27 years, Cheryl, also have two other children.

Nook holds a bachelor’s degree in physics and mathematics from Southwest Minnesota State University, a master’s degree in astrophysics from Iowa State University, and a doctorate in astronomy from UW-Madison.

“I am thrilled to be returning to Wisconsin and working with one of their finest UW System four-year institutions,” said Nook. “My goal is to help the students, faculty, and staff meet the growing academic challenges and opportunities of a modern 21st century campus. The storied history of UWSP is well-known throughout the region and the nation, and I am excited and ready to work with the campus and greater community toward building on the campus’ legacy.”

“Dr. Nook has had an outstanding career as researcher, faculty member, and as an administrator. He was well received during his campus/community visit, receiving strong support universally from people across campus that had an opportunity to meet him. On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff we welcome him with open arms,” said UWSP Chancellor Linda Bunnell.

While at SCSU, Nook chaired the Department of Physics, Astronomy and Engineering Science for five years before becoming dean of Undergraduate Studies. He was also the director of the campus observatory and planetary museum and was also a senior research associate at the SCSU planetarium and was a full professor. He also worked at the Space Astronomy Lab at UW-Madison and taught at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.

A native of Holstein, Iowa, Nook enjoys camping, fishing and hunting and hopes to continue his science and astronomy education outreach to young people in Central Wisconsin.

Robinson named development officer at UWSP

An alumnus and Wausau native has been named director of development for UWSP’s College of Fine Arts and Communications.

C.J. Robinson, ’04, a third generation Pointer, will identify, cultivate and secure resources for students, faculty and staff as well as work to expand financial support through scholarships, planned gifts and grants.

“| I look forward to building and maintaining relationships with alumni and friends of the college and the university, ” he said.

Since his grandfather and both his parents are also UWSP alumni, “I have been prepared for this role,” he jokes. While at UWSP, he served as vice president of the United Council of UW Students and was involved in many student political organizations and honor societies. After he graduated, he was elected to a two-year term as the Stevens Point 5th district alderman and was the youngest person ever elected to that position.

Previously Robinson was director of development for the Boys & Girls Club of Portage County and owned SoundWave Entertainment.

Pointer Alumnus

Nook named provost/vice chancellor

A specialist in astronomy and astrophysics, who was dean of Undergraduate Studies at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) in Minnesota, is the new provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at UWSP.

Mark Nook succeeded retired Provost and Vice Chancellor Virginia Helm on July 16. Nook already has ties to campus, as his oldest daughter, Meaghan (Nook) Robinson, ’04, is a third generation Pointer, will identify, cultivate and secure resources for students, faculty and staff as well as work to expand financial support through scholarships, planned gifts and grants.

“I am thrilled to be returning to Wisconsin and working with one of their finest UW System four-year institutions,” said Nook. “My goal is to help the students, faculty, and staff meet the growing academic challenges and opportunities of a modern 21st century campus. The storied history of UWSP is well-known throughout the region and the nation, and I am excited and ready to work with the campus and greater community toward building on the campus’ legacy.”

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Fall 2007

UWSP the top purchaser of renewable energy in UW System

After an additional purchase through Wisconsin Public Service’s NatureWise program, UWSP is using 16.4 percent renewable energy on campus. This amount is among the largest use of all UW campuses.

The NatureWise program, created in 2002, uses a blend of wind and biomass energy to generate electricity. UWSP’s purchases of this energy are being funded by the Student Government Association, Residential Living, Residence Hall Association and most recently, UWSP administration. The total use of renewable energy in the residence hall now stands at 33.2 percent.

Last September, UWSP was one of four state universities chosen by Governor Jim Doyle for an energy independence project that aims for energy independence through renewable energy sources and aggressive conservation efforts. In addition, UWSP Chancellor Linda Bunnell recently signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, pledging to cover UWSP’s campus with solar energy through Wisconsin Public Service’s NatureWise program.

My Favorite Pointer Memory

During the course of obtaining a major in general conservation, one of the required areas of study was a class or two in conservation law enforcement.

This class met in Old Main, lower level, and a friend of mine and I sat nearest the door so that when the bell rang we could be out of the door and have a smoke before our next class.

At the start of one of our class periods, while the professor was taking attendance, a man came in strangely dressed, wearing a red and black shirt, heavy hunting pants, big black boots and a black stocking hat on his head.

When he came into the room he pulled a small pistol from his pocket, leveled it and shot towards the professor. He fell and the man ran out of the room.

We knocked him to the floor, with both of us on top of him. Luckily we did not break his arm or leg. It was at this point that we heard the professor yelling at us. It was all right, it was just part of the project of the day – conservation education.

The professor told us he had forgotten he had a bunch of returning Korean veterans in his class.

She was 16. He succeeded interim URC director Todd Kuckkahn, Assistant to the Chancellor for Advancement and Executive Director of UWSP Foundation.

“IT is an honor to be asked to serve UWSP – a gem among public universities,” said Ward. “This is a university with a bright future that will be built upon its rich history of service to the region and the state of Wisconsin, and I look forward to helping to tell its story.

We are all delighted to welcome someone with his experience and expertise to the university and our wonderful community,” said Chancellor Linda Bunnell.

Ward will be the primary communications advisor to the chancellor and URC staff, as well as student employees and interns. He will also serve as the official spokesperson for the university and work to support both advancement and alumni relations.

His 22-year career includes work in journalism, public relations and education, and he has experience in communications in the fields of higher education, government, broadcasting and teaching. He attended the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and earned a bachelor’s degree at Michigan State University and a master’s degree from The American University in Washington D.C.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have three daughters.

Frechette memorialized at UWSP

Menominee artist James F. Frechette Jr. was memorialized at UWSP in April with the unveiling and dedication of 11 museum-quality reproductions of artist George Catlin’s Menominee portraits.

The paintings are on exhibit in the Albertson Learning Resource Center library on the east wall facing the Reference Desk.

“This is a wonderful way to honor Frechette’s legacy, as well as augment our Menominee Clans collection with Catlin’s superb artistry,” said College of Letters and Science Dean Lance Grahn. “Both these exhibits offer our students a deeper historical appreciation of the Menominee Clans as well as a broader understanding of the Oneida’s cherished history and lore here in Wisconsin.”

Frechette carved and painted thirty Menominee clan figures that are on permanent exhibit on the first floor lobby of the LRC. He died last October.

Catlin’s original paintings are currently housed in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

Dugout, fields improved

Improvements to the UWSP baseball field were completed this summer through $54,000 in donations to The Dugout Project.

The infield was redone with a new soil base and new sod. The old dugouts were demolished, with roofs and benches sent to University Surplus to be sold. The new dugouts are 10 feet longer, six feet deeper and are safer than the old ones.

Pictured celebrating the completion of The Dugout Project fundraiser are Chuck Nelson, Stevens Point; Steve Pointer, Joan North, dean of the College of Professional Studies; Rod Larvon, ’83, Menominee; Rob Stouk, ’87, Stevens Point; and Craig Shuler, Stevens Point. The signed helmets were presented to donors to the project.

A second phase of this project is now being contemplated. For information, contact UWSP baseball coach Pat Bloom at (715) 346-4412.

Ward named head of University Relations and Communications

A Michigan native has returned to the Midwest as the new executive director and assistant to the chancellor for University Relations and Communications (URC) at UWSP.

Stephen Ward served as director of marketing and communications at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Ga., before coming to UWSP July 16. He succeeded interim URC Director Todd Kuckkahn, Assistant to the Chancellor for Advancement and Executive Director of UWSP Foundation.

“IT is an honor to be asked to serve UWSP – a gem among public universities,” said Ward. “This is a university with a bright future that will be built upon its rich history of service to the region and the state of Wisconsin, and I look forward to helping to tell its story.

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His 22-year career includes work in journalism, public relations and education, and he has experience in communications in the fields of higher education, government, broadcasting and teaching. He attended the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and earned a bachelor’s degree at Michigan State University and a master’s degree from The American University in Washington D.C.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have three daughters.

Trainer dedication highlight of CNR Fall Migration

The College of Natural Resources building will be named for Dean Emeritus Daniel Trainer during the annual Fall Migration, a fundraising dinner for the CNR.

The event will be held Saturday, November 3, beginning at 3 p.m. in the west lobby of the CNR, where UWSP Chancellor Linda Bunnell and UW System officials will be present to dedicate the Daniel O. Trainer Natural Resources Building.

Through his leadership, Dan Trainer helped make the College of Natural Resources one of the largest of its kind in the nation,” said Bunnell. “By naming the CNR building after him, we recognize his legacy of conservation on our campus, in the community and in the state.

Following the building dedication, the Fall Migration Dinner and Auction will be held at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center with a social at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Entrée choices include chicken cordon bleu, Almond walnut crusted red snapper, slow roasted prime rib or vegetarian Wellington.

Throughout the evening a silent auction, live auction and raffle will be held.

Tickets are $60 per person and tables of eight are available. Proceeds from the event benefit the CNR Endowment.

For reservations or information, contact Tammy Hanson, (715) 346-4417, or thanson@uwp.edu.
Join us for the journey – hiking and biking abroad

Seven trips for cyclists and hikers of all levels are being offered in 2008 through the UWSP School of Health Promotion and Human Development in the College of Professional Studies.

UWSP Bicycling and Hiking Adventure Tours offer itineraries of 30 to 70 miles per day for cyclists and five to ten miles for hikers, designed so participants can bike or hike as little or as much as they wish. Accommodations are typically at comfortable, charming 3-star hotels, often family run and characteristic of the area. Local cuisine is featured, as are cultural and historical 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:
- **Mallorca, March 27- April 6** (bicycling) – Mild weather, excellent roads, spectacular scenery and outstanding accommodations are the highlights of our annual trip to Mallorca. This island in the Mediterranean is a cyclist’s paradise!
- **Italy (Tuscany), June 12 – 29** (bicycling) – Enjoy the sunflowers, villas and birds, fauna, and butterflies. We’ll also visit the World Heritage Site of Colonia del (Valley of the [Greek] temples).
- **Sicily, May 23 – June 2** (hiking) – Explore Sicily’s rich history, its beautiful monuments and diverse landscapes. This cultural walking and low-impact hiking tour will feature stays in Taormina, Piazza Armerina, and Erice. We’ll visit Mount Etna and the Sfingi di Sicilia (Valley of the [Greek] temples).
- **Ireland, September 11 – 25** (hiking) – The warmth and hospitality of the Irish people will complement an itinerary that features walks through beautiful verdant valleys, quaint villages, and rugged cliffs. Features include the Wicklow Mountains National Park, Killarney, Ennis, the Cliffs of Moher and the Burren peninsula.
- **Argentina, November 17 – 30** (hiking and exploration) – This trip will feature urban hikes in Buenos Aires, tango dinner (maybe even dance lessons), architectural tours and traditional barbecues. Rent-a-bike tours will give us a unique perspective of the city. In addition, we’ll spend two days on the Argentina/Brazil border at Iguaçu Falls National Park. Walking tours to the falls feature an abundance of birds, fauna, and butterflies. We’ll also visit the World Heritage Site of Coloma del Sacramento in Uruguay.

To learn more about the trips, visit the Web site at [www.uwsp.edu/hphd/bikehike](http://www.uwsp.edu/hphd/bikehike) or e-mail [bikehike@uwsp.edu](mailto:bikehike@uwsp.edu).
Alumni greet old friends and make new ones

Milestone Reunion 2008 — Save the Date: June 20-22
Classes of 1998, 1983, and 1958 will be honored as they celebrate 10, 25 and 50 years of being Pointers with their friends in surrounding class years. To learn more or help plan your milestone reunion, call or e-mail the Alumni Office.

www.uwsp.edu/alumni/photo.htm
Halverson carries on tradition as Stevens Point mayor

The nearly 30-year tradition of Stevens Point mayors who are alumni of UWSP continues with the election of Andrew Halverson, ’01, Stevens Point, in April. The owner of two men’s clothing stores in Stevens Point, Halverson defeated city alderman Mike Wiza with 70 percent of the vote after twelve-year incumbent Gary Wescott, ’74, Stevens Point, chose not to run again.

As Halverson notes that, the late Gilbert Halverson, ’42, (no relation to Andrew) served for 10 months in 1944-1945; the late Scott Schultz, ’72, served from 1987-1994; Raymond Bartkowiak, ’49, Stevens Point, was interim mayor in 1987; and Mike Haberman, ’69, Stevens Point, was mayor from 1976-1987.

“I consider myself a natural cheerleader for UWSP,” said Halverson, who serves on the UWSP Alumni Association Board of Directors. “The mayor has to have the best interest of the city at heart. But I am an advocate for UWSP and understand what the purple and gold is all about. The university is truly an unbreakable community treasure for Stevens Point.”

Born and raised in Stevens Point, Halverson feels privileged to serve in his hometown. “I love the community. It’s a great place to live and it’s an honor to serve in my hometown. It’s a very special feeling,” he said.

“The best part of my job is knowing that the day-to-day efforts of City Hall and the Mayor’s Office can change lives for the better. That responsibility lies in my hands and I don’t take it lightly.”

While he continues to own his businesses, he has left the day-to-day operations to his team of managers and employees because he dedicates all of his time to being mayor. “It’s more than being in the office or running city council meetings; a trip to a local grocery store often means running into constituents who have questions or suggestions.

“But then I really get to know what people want and how they feel,” he says. “That’s a great tool for me as a leader. I’ve got 25,000 bosses, and I want and how they feel,” he says. “That’s a great tool for me as a leader. I’ve got 25,000 bosses, and I work for them.”

His training in politics first began at UWSP, where he majored in political science and public administration. He served four years in the Student Government Association and one year as its president and was active in the College Democrats and Pi Sigma Alpha national political science honor society.

“I thought I would be a public finance director or city manager,” he said of his career goals. While he was at UWSP, he met his future wife, Shana (Chase) Halverson, ’02, and both were Albertson Medallion Award winners. The couple now have a year old son, Alexander.

It was while he was attending graduate school at UW-Milwaukee that he realized he wanted to own his own business. Having worked at Parkinson’s men’s clothing store in downtown Stevens Point since he was 15 years old, men’s clothing seemed to be the perfect fit. Halverson moved back to Stevens Point and in November 2002, opened Andrew’s Ltd. Distinctive Men’s Clothing on Highway 10 East, specializing in suits and dress clothing for men.

Halverson was honored for his business acumen twice in 2005 with Wisconsin’s Young Entrepreneur of the Year and Portage County’s Entrepreneur of the Year awards. In March 2006, he opened Andrew’s Downtown, offering tuxedo rentals and casual wear in the former Parkinson’s store where he got his own start.

The chance to run for mayor of Stevens Point came to Halverson in November 2006. “The opportunity chose me,” he said. “Stevens Point is at a point in its history to pounce and develop aggressively. We needed a catalyst to push it forward and make it greater than it already is. I felt I had the mindset and enthusiasm for the job.”

The most intense four and half months of his life followed that decision, he said. While campaigning was both physically and mentally challenging, the support of his family really helped, he says. Halverson was elected on April 3 in the city’s first open race for mayor in 12 years, standing on the issues of downtown revitalization, a new justice center, preserving the environment and encouraging public transportation.

“A lack of faith in the political process deters some from running for public office, he says, but “we have a duty to change that perception.”

“If you work hard, you can get elected and have the chance to change things for the better. You can make a difference. Anything of magnitude starts with one person.”
Alumnus publishes highly acclaimed fantasy novel

Patrick Rothfuss

A few recent UWSP alumni might remember Patrick Rothfuss, ’00, Stevens Point, as a longtime student at UWSP. After all, he spent nine years at the campus, changing his major several times before graduating with a major in English. He might also be remembered for his satirical column in The Pointer, one he still writes today as an associate lecturer in English at his alma mater. Still there are a few other alumni who may have known him as their freshman English teacher.

My training at Stevens Point was so valuable,” she says. “I loved every second of it!” Unlike many schools she had considered, UWSP offered a well-rounded “triple threat” training program in acting, singing and dancing, she says. Osnes has met many fellow Pointers acting in New York, where her Broadway dreams have become reality. “You have to believe in yourself and take advantage of every opportunity,” she advises.

Macmillan Publishing was so delighted with The Name of the Wind that they bought the book in a very competitive bid, making it one of the first serious speculative fiction or creative writing debut novels to win such a huge advance. The New York Times, Publishers Weekly, Library Journal and other major publications have fanned the enthusiasm of readers and critics alike, with Publishers Weekly calling it “the most brilliant first fantasy novel I have read in over thirty years as an editor.”

I love the world and the characters that I’ve created,” said Rothfuss. “I love that people are getting the chance to meet them. I wanted to create a fantasy novel that didn’t stick to the standard clichés of elves, goblins and evil sorcerers. My novel takes things in a different direction. It’s a behind the scenes look into what it really means to be a hero.”

Daw publisher Betsy Wollheim described the book as “the most brilliant first fantasy novel I have read in over thirty years as an editor,” and a review by Publishers Weekly called Rothfuss “the fantasy world’s new star.”

Rothfuss has already completed all the books in the trilogy, which he finished two months before he graduated. In 2002, he returned to UWSP to teach after earning a master’s degree at Washington State University. That same year, a portion of The Name of the Wind won first place in The Writers of the Future contest. The prize included attendance at a writer’s workshop, where he was introduced to his agent and subsequently Wollheim.

The second novel is due in April 2008 and the third the following spring. Foreign rights to the first book have been sold in 12 countries, including Russia, Germany, France, the UK, Sweden and the Netherlands. Additionally, there are already plans in the works for versions of the trilogy to be adapted into films, games and graphic novels, says Rothfuss.

“I didn’t know I even had a film agent until he called me on the phone,” he said. “It’s been exciting, but surreal.”

His plans include more books after this trilogy, including an urban fairy tale and more novels set in the same world as The Name of the Wind.

“My world is bigger than this single story,” he said. “There are places on the map yet to be explored. Characters that only make brief cameos in this trilogy will have larger roles in the works to come. Honestly, I think I could write stories in this world forever.”

He also hopes to eventually teach a course on speculative fiction or creative writing. Find out more about Rothfuss and The Name of the Wind at www.nameofthewind.com.
Matthew Loftness, ’99, Trayc, Minn., is a conservation officer for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in Redwood County. Previously he worked as a police officer in Tracy. “Being able to study the natural resources from the best instructors in the nation was very instrumental to me,” he says.

Jennifer Regan Mitchell, ’99, Tacoma, Wash., is a graduate student at University of California studying human resources. She has a son with her husband, Chris, who will soon return from an overseas tour with the U.S. Army.

Danielle Norheim, ’99, Livermore, Calif., started her own interior design business and also works as an interior designer at DaVinci Marble in San Carlos, Calif. She will be married to TJ Tyler this year.

Matt Normann, ’99, Sturgeon Bay, owns Normann Photo, providing professional wedding and portrait photography to northeastern Wisconsin (www.normannphoto.com). Aaron Onurde, ’99, Beaver Dam, was elected to the Beaver Dam City Council as the 5th Ward alderperson in April. He works at the Internet help desk for the city of Beaver Dam.

Matthew Schrock, ’99, Los Angeles, Calif., manages a Walgreens on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Katherine (Post) Willerth, ’99, Racine, and her husband, Ben, have a daughter who will be a future Pointer among us?” Kris asks.

“Mark, ’98, and Lisa (Rosin) ’98, Oakshott were married in September 2005 and welcomed their daughter in July 2006. Lisa is a direct support provider with Special Care in Oshkosh and Mark is a systems engineer and database administrator for Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac.

Susan (Resch) Goyette, ’99, Mauston, is a payroll and benefit coordinator for the Mauston school district. She and her husband, Shaun, a sheriff’s deputy and emergency medical technician, have two children.

Charles Winegarden, ’99, Menasha, is the assistant vice president for credit administration with Green Lake State Bank.

Heather (McPherson) Wolf, ’99, Red Deer, and her husband, Rich, had a daughter on Christmas Day 2006. Heather is an assistant park manager and ranger for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Fred Grabara, ’97, Madison, drives a 12-wheeler for Wisconsin Northern and has a daughter with his wife, Hannah.

Laura Mundschau, ’97, Stevens Point, is a landscape designer and artist who owns and operates Drei Katzen in Madison. Laura’s oil paintings recall her experiences as a fire prevention technician for the Forest Service. Her works and services are available at www.drei-katzen.com.

April Kedrowicz, ’96, master’s, ’96, Salt Lake City, Utah, earned a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Utah in 2003 and since that time has worked in the College of Engineering as director of the Center for Engineering Leadership.

James Barrett, ’94, Washington D.C., is the marketing and communications coordinator for the University of Maryland in College Park.

Justin Freier, ’94, Neenah, married Angela Brown in Atlanta, Ga., on June 22.

Eric Lohner, ’94, Fall River, is the wildlife program supervisor in the 11-county South Central Region of Wisconsin. He has worked for the Department of Natural Resources for 15 years. He and his wife, Christy, have two children.

Chad Pontov, ’94, Rolling Meadows, Ill., and his wife, Jen, had their third child, Ally Elizabeth, in March. Chad’s sons, Jack and Megan, have a son, Jax. Chad is a senior business application developer for PepsAmericas in Schaumburg, Ill.

Jonathan Otto, ’94, Pleasant View, Tenn., serves in the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army. He has served in Iraq twice and expects to return in the near future. His wife, Laurie (Price) Otto, ’94, earned a bachelor’s degree in social work and works for the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services. The couple has two children.

Michael S. Taulman, ’93, St. Paul, Minn., is an actor under the name of M. Scott in the Twin Cities. He has performed in several films for Shallow Creek Productions, including It Came from Another World, The Minister of Phantoms, and Woman on Mars. He appeared in the Buffalo Gal Productions show Our Town over the summer and also works as a massage therapist. He and his wife, Pam, have a son.

Ryan Yunkers, ’93, North Mankato, Minn., and his wife, Molly, presented their son, Ethan, with a little brother, Comor, in February. Ryan is assistant director of Student Affairs and Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn.

Dana (Aft) Zahorik, ’93, Reedsville, completed a doctor of higher education leadership degree through Nova Southeastern University in December. She also earned a master’s degree in counseling education from UW-Oshkosh in 1995. Dana is a counselor at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton. She and her husband, Keith, have three children.

Stephen Loehr, ’92, Onalaska, is vice president of operations at Driftless Truck Inc. and is on the board of directors of Merchants Bank. He is also on the boards for Wisconsin Steamboat Company and the Southeast Wisconsin Storeholders Association, Martin Luther College and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Onalaska. Previously he worked for Gateway Foods in New Richmond.

Bil (Freiger) Quigly, ’92, De Pere, is an administrative assistant and listing coordinator for Resource One Realty. His wife, John, is a nurse.

Mark Anderson, ’91, Wauwatosa, is an investment advisor with Edward Jones. Inc. and helps coach disadvantage youth in the Boys and Girls Club Alternative program in Milwaukee. Mark and his wife, Cindy, have two daughters.

Lisa (Blakcsh) Messer, ’91, Edgerton, is a registered dietitian and her husband, Jeff Material, ’89, works for Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville. Lisa is organizing a reunion for residents of the Allen Quad (Roueh, Hyn, Pray/Sims and Smith halls) during 1985-1988 as a class reunion event.

Kathleen Theisen, ’91, Dubuque, Conn., is an opera singer and national representative for a music teacher with her own studio in Greenwich, Conn. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut in 2003 and frequently performs in New York City. Reach her at kathleen@kathleentheisen.com.

Ken Van Mieghem, ’91, Green Bay, was named the 2007 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. Ken has worked with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, a correctional facility in Winnebago that specializes in mental health treatment, for six years, and has developed art and drama classes that help inmates express themselves. Previously he taught in public schools for 10 years. He and his wife, Kim, have four children.

Chad Haas, ’90, Beaver Dam, Oreg., is a co-owner of O’Doughnuts, a franchise offering luxury concepts and professional furnishings designed for the garage. The company has been featured in Robb Report, Money Magazine and Forbes. His wife, Kari, is a manager at O’Magos.

Erica Heath-Cox, ’90, Keshena, is the community health outreach director and diabetes nurse educator for the Stockbridge-Muskego Wellness Center in Bowler. Erica is an enrolled member of the Stockbridge-Muskego band of Mohican Indians.

Jon Elmore, ’89, Decatur, Ala., is a co-owner of a franchise that offers health and beauty products. He is also a founder of the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services.

Fritz Hammer, ’88, ’89, Portage, has taught elementary grades in the Portage school district since 1989 and was the head girls’ basketball coach last year. His wife, Susie, is also a teacher.
89 Jim Marce, ’89, Centreville, Va., is a project scientist for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in Reston, Va. His wife, Darlene, works for the U.S. Treasury.

Deborah (Taufener) Vacearella, ’89, Milwaukee, is a librarian in the Milwaukee public schools. She and her husband, Rob, have a son.

88 Mohd Sokhimi Ab Mutalib, last attended ’88, Kajang Selangor, Malaysia, is a university lecturer in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Kelly Burton, ’87, Madison, is the graduate student services coordinator at the UW-Madison College of Engineering. She adopted a baby boy from Guatemala in March.


86 Greg Diekroeger, ’86, master’s ’94, Stevens Point, won the Robert W. Busch Award in April at the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) Northern Plains Regional Conference. Assistant director of Campus Activities at UWSP, Greg has been involved with NACA for many years and chairs its board of directors.

Laura Gentille, ’86, Washington D.C., is a communications director for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She’d like to hear from other graduates in the D.C. area at gentille.laurena@epa.gov.

85 Jordan Holley, ’85, Rock City, Ill., opened her own business, The Empty Attic, in 2005, offering unique and funky home décor. “It’s a dream come true!” she says.

Richard Formella, ’84, Brunswick, Ga., is the chief procurement officer for the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. He previously worked as national chief of construction contracting for the Federal Bureau of Prison’s central office. “I learned to give back and pass on knowledge and experience to the next generation from CNR professors at UWSF,” he says.

Chris Burgard, ’84, Santa Clarita, Calif., researched, wrote and directed Border, a documentary about the United States/Mexico line and problems in both countries. The film, screened at UWSF in April, has been selected for film festivals in California, Wisconsin, Texas and Rhode Island and nominated for best documentary by several. It has also attracted the attention of the U.S. Congress. A Wisconsin native, Chris has performed in rodeos and had a career as a dancer, actor, horse trainer and equestrian actor. He has written, produced, acted and directed in television and co-founded a program to introduce incarcerated and underprivileged juveniles to ranching. He says.

Sheldon Cohen, master’s ’83, Bali, Indonesia, is the senior policy coordinator for the Coral Triangle at The Nature Conservancy’s Coral Triangle Center in Bali. He mobilizes political will and public funding for the protection of marine life in the area of Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Malaysia, East Timor and the Solomon Islands. He has worked for The Nature Conservancy for over nine years, most recently in Arlington, Va., as the director of policy for protected areas.

Elaine (Monson) Gies, ’83, is a speech-language pathologist in the Park West school division in Birtle, Manitoba, Canada. She has a master’s degree from UW-Madison and has two children and two step-children with her late husband, Don. “Many people from UWSP had an impact on me and some are still my friends today,” she says.

Cheryl (Smith) Manzarek, ’83, Appleton, is vice president of marketing and business development for Citizens First Credit Union in Oshkosh.

Susan Rupert, ’83, Cleveland, Ohio, is director of the Heart and Vascular Center at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland.

82 Sondra Jo (Gatting) (Wojcik) Holden, ’82, Stevens Point, and her husband, Darrell, have been involved in several Christian mission trips, including Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan’s Purse Domestic Disaster Relief Project and missions to Ecuador. For more information or to help, contact them at sgdhfillen@optus.net.

Erin Davison, ’82, Suamico, addressed graduates, including her brother, Quentin, at UWSP’s May commencement ceremony. Erin coordinates the CBS Channel 5 news in Green Bay. She is married to Mike and is stepmother to two girls.

Kendall Kamke, ’82, Oshkosh, a senior fisheries biologist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, was featured in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in April in a story about walleye surveying on the Wolf River. One of his assistants was Cory Wienerandt, ’99, Oshkosh, a DNR fisheries technician.

Kendall is married to Chris (Young) Kamke, ’83.

81 Lori Dehlering, ’81, Waupaca, is the executive director of the Portage County Business Council (PCBC). Previously she was the PCBC director of member relations, executive director of Northeast Land Trust and a manager for Add Inc. and Main Street Waupaca Inc.

Deryle (Lee) Hecimovich, ’81, Palmer, Alaska, works for the Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

Thomas Morse, ’81, Neenah, is a product manager in the paper industry. He is married to Janice.

79 Thomas Albright, ’79, Bloomington, Ind., would like to hear from his classmates from Dr. Moore’s summer 1978 archaeological dig, and from anyone from the UWSP Gay Student Union in 78-79. Contact him through The Connecting Point. www.uwsp.edu/albright.

Joseph Brown, ’79, Austin, Texas, retired from the U.S. Army as a colonel and is now working for IBM’s Supply Chain Management area as a managing consultant in Austin.

Terri (Lee) Wasmoen, ’79, Omaha, Neb., is a senior director for biological research for Schering-Plough Animal Health in Elkhorn, Neb. She was among five of the company’s employees honored at the 2007 Tribute to Women in Industry Awards. In New Brunswick, N.J. Wasmoen was recognized for research that has resulted in 70 new veterinary vaccines. She is married to Alan Wasmoen.

78 Dan Buchholz, ’78, Waunakee, has been the fire chief and administrator of the town of Waunakee Fire Department since 2000. Previously he was the city of Waunakee’s park supervisor. In 2006 he won the Wisconsin State Firefighter of the Year award at the state conference. He is married to Carla.

Jon Hempel, ’79, Morgantown, W.Va., is director of the National Geospatial Geospatial Development Center for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. He would love to hear from Pointer friends at jon.hempel@usda.gov. He is married to Julie.

Glen Westman, ’78, Lindenhurst, Ill., is a principal wetland specialist with the Lake County, Ill., Stormwater Management Commission. He has also been a soil scientist in Colorado and Montana.

76 Elizabeth “Betsy” Anderson, ’76, San Mateo, Calif., has been a registered nurse in San Francisco for 19 years. She moved to California when she was 25 and worked as a park ranger for many years before getting her nursing degree. She encourages friends to stop by for a bit through The Connecting Point, www.uwsp.edu/alumni.

Bruce Wulff, ’76, Brookfield, Ill., retired from AT&T in September 2006 after 30 years of service. He now enjoys trips to his cabin in Cable, Wis., and flea markets.

Tom Charlesworth, ’87, Waupaca, won second place for Ouch!, a photo taken at a UWSP Pointer football game, in the monthly image competition of the University Photographers Association of America. Tom works in Digital and Media Services at UWSP and is married to Laurie.

Brian Day, ’89, La Crosse, reports that the 20-year reunion of the founding of the BDGs, a university organization that held events at two College Avenue locations, was held in Stevens Point in May. Missing from the photo is longtime BDG president Philip M/F Bailey. The group is still looking for LDG’s and anyone else interested in future BDG events. Contact Brian at brianday99@hotmail.com.

Bill Torrey, ’80, Loudon, Tenn., recently caught up with former members of The Doors, Ray Manzarek and Robbie Krieger.
Rich Johannes, ’70, Marshfield, retired from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service after more than 33 years as a soil scientist. He mapped more than 1 million acres in Montana, North Dakota and in 35 counties across the state of Wisconsin. “I did my part to preserve our natural resources and I am proud to say it all started at UW-Stevens Point,” he says. His wife, Helen (Rackow) Johannes, ’72, master’s ’95, is a lecturer at UW-Marinette/Wood County.

A few USDA employees gathered in Medford last August to celebrate Rich’s retirement. Those present included, front row, from left, Bob Plawski, ’68, Medford; Terry Kroll, ’76, Wausau; Jesse Turk, ’79, Stevens Point; Dave Hvidzak, ’76, Spooner; Helen Johannes; Rich Johannes; Melissa Knipfel, ’92, Wausau; Art Voightlander, ’81, Janesville; and back row, from left, Elbert Rackow, Rich’s father-in-law, ’68, master’s ’70, Stevens Point; Fred Simeth, ’73, Spooner; Adam Abel, ’04, Mediﬁeld; Steve Oehler, UWSP faculty; Matt Zoschke, ’97, Medford; Dave Omernik, ’69, Tim Meyer, ’74, Eau Claire; and Mike Koehler, ’73, Ladysmith.

Bob Wundrock, ’72, Verona, retired in January after 31 years as an engineer and designer with the Wisconsin Educational Communications Board in Madison, the parent organization of Wisconsin Public Television and Radio. Bob credits his experience as one of the original staff members of UWSP’s WWSP 90FM as a key influence on his career. He has been married to his wife, Emily, for 36 years.

Boyd Simmonson, ’63, Waupaca, received the Celebrate Literacy Award in February at the Wisconsin State Reading Association Convention. Simmonson retired this spring after 50 years in education, most recently serving as principal of the Waupaca Learning Center, an 800-student school. He established the United for Reading Success program with his local Rotary Club and partnered with the Waupaca Public Library in an after-school homework program.
**Alumnus establishes nature preserve in South America**

A UWSP alumnum is helping preserve the rain forests and endangered species of northeastern Bolivia and the Amazon basin.

John Wenger, '65, master’s ‘78, a retired wildlife biologist from Anchorage, Alaska, organized and helped finance the purchase of a 3000-acre parcel of land in the tropical lowlands of northeast Bolivia, north of Noel Kempf National Park. The Estación Ecológica Rio San Martin (Río San Martín River Ecological Station) is registered with the Bolivian government and soon will be included in a world database for nature preserves.

“I’ve always wanted to directly help an endangered species,” says Wenger. “Others can help in our goal of preserving the land and the species there by donating to several environmental organizations, such as Armonía, www.armonia.org and FaunAgua, www.fuanaqua.org.

“This wouldn’t have been possible had it not been for UWSP,” he added. “I’d like to thank UWSP, especially the College of Natural Resources, for the superb formal education I received which led me to a fantastic career and rewarding life.”

The preserve includes tropical hardwood forests, dry uplands, savanna and clear water rivers. Species include the giant river otter, freshwater pink dolphins, three species of felines including jaguars, nearly 300 bird species, howler monkeys and a multitude of insects, according to Wenger.

“The night sounds are amazing,” he says.

“The preserve has a caretaker, cabin, fruit trees and dugout canoes, he says, and visitors are welcome. “In time, groups interested in learning tropical ecology may arrange studies here,” he says. He is currently developing plans to attract wild birds and other nature lovers.

After graduating from UWSP in 1965, Wenger joined the U.S. Navy and served in the underwater demolition team (now renamed the Navy SEALS). He served in combat in Vietnam and assisted with the recovery of the Apollo 12 astronauts before completing his tour of duty and moving to Alaska. Before he retired he had a 35-year career as a naturalist and wildlife biologist, working for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and teaching natural history for the University of Alaska.

Although he resides in Alaska, Wenger visits Bolivia for extended periods to help manage the preserve, volunteer for environmental organizations such as FaunAgua and study Spanish. Once he is back home, he hopes to take a digital presentation on the road in Alaska and to the lower 48 states to share the natural history of Bolivia and the ecological station with nature lovers.

Wenger would like to hear from former classmates and instructors and anyone interested in his Bolivian project. Reach him via e-mail at gowild@ak.net

-A UWSP alumnus is helping preserve the rain forests and endangered species of northeastern Bolivia and the Amazon basin.

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**Resident of the Alien Quad halls during 1965-1966 will reunite at Homecoming 2007 to remember the mud football game of 1966 (above) and memorable friends, such as Kevin Kummer, ’98, Roscoe, Ill., (right) and others pictured here. For information, e-mail Lisa at messerlj@vt.edu.**

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**My Favorite Pointer Memory**

Being able to study natural resources from the best instructors in the nation was very instrumental to me. Treehaven is a place that is very memorable to me. The hands-on studies we did while attending Treehaven were second to none!

-Matthew Lofness, ’99, Tracy, Minn.
Bernard Somers, '83, Louisville, Ky., survived by his wife, Joni, and daughters of Stevens Point, died May 14 at age 46. Her husband, Trevor, preceded him in death.


Michael King, '81, Waupaca, died of cancer on June 3 at age 51. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War in the past 25 years he has worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a forester in Langlade, Iron and Marathon counties. In 2002 Michael received the State of Wisconsin Forester of the Year Award. His wife, Theresa, survives.

Margaret (Zurawski) Konkle, '80, Stevens Point, died of multiple sclerosis at age 66 on May 1. She worked for St. Stanislaus Parish, Acorn Equipment and UWSP Records and Registration. She received awards for designing Web sites for WebTV. Her two daughters survive.

Bernadette Mayek Stiebs, '79, Waupaca, died Feb. 22 at age 70 from ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). She was a family living agent in Waupaca County, where she founded the Peaceful Hands Quilt Guild and worked to make the county’s recycling program a reality and maintain the River Ridge Trail. She is survived by her husband, Lyle, three daughters and two stepchildren.

Todd Eidles, '78, Eden Prairie, Minn., died May 10 at age 50. He was president of The Wildlife Society while at UWSP. He coached his daughter’s youth hockey team, delivered meals during the winter months and received a commendation for a family from their burning home. He is survived by three children.

Jay Jensen, '79, Port Washington, died of cancer on April 23 at age 52. He earned a master’s degree at UW-La Crosse and worked as a parks director in Maryland and Ohio and most recently in Port Washington. He named the 2006 Park and Recreation Director of the Year by the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association. He was active in his community United Way, Lions Club and church. His wife, Christine, preceded him in death.

Stephen Stute, '77, Cross Plains, died May 3 at age 55. He worked for Graber Products in Middleton.

Jeffrey Hembel, '74, Jan. 23 at age 53.

Susan (Shower) Heningier, '74, Watertown, died March 13 at age 53. She was a piano teacher and performed regularly and was active in her church and its music and mission programs. She is survived by her husband, Tom Heningier, '73, and two sons.

Ruth (Kleinschmidt) Porrey, '74, died July 13 at age 54 after a long battle with cancer. She worked for UWSP for 25 years in the Fishery Unit, Extended Services Division and accounting. She was named the school’s accounting award in 1983 and controller in 1998. She was also active in her church. Her husband, Michael, and two children survive. A memorial has been established in her name with the UWSP Student Foundation in Stevens Point.

Douglas Spelman, '74, Madison, died of cancer on June 9 at age 56. He began his education career in 3rd grade, then taught art and coached in Ladymoth for the Flambeau school district for 27 years. He earned a master’s degree in guidance counseling. His wife, Vicki, survives.


Michael Schneider, '73, Sun Prairie, died of cancer on April 27 at age 53. He worked at Sentry Foods, Wisconsin Employee Trust Fund and the Department of Public Service. His former wife, Connie, and three children survive.

Maurice Sparhawk, '72, Stevens Point, died July 17 at age 62 after a lengthy illness. He was a semi driver for over 40 years, the last 14 with Weather Shield Co. He was involved with Big Brothers/Sisters and was a member of the National Rifle Association. His wife, Patricia, and six children survive.

Berenice Hansen, '72, Merrill, died April 10 at age 89. She and her late husband, Willis, farmed for many years prior to her death. She earned her bachelor’s degree. She taught in Clintonville and Merrill, earned a master’s degree at UWSP in 1982 and retired in 1990. She was active in her church. Three children survive.

Sandra (Peterson) Volkmann, '71, Westboro, died March 12 at age 63. She worked in the Eagle River area and then in the UW-Poston in Central Wisconsin, serving as postmaster in Ogema until her retirement in 1996. She was involved in several community organizations. Her husband, Thomas, preceded her in death.

Arlene (Schloss) Hallman, '70, Waupaca, died of cancer March 15 at age 58. She and her husband reside in Weyauwega. Arlene was director of the Manitowoc Milk Producers and Ellington Mutual Insurance. She was involved in several community groups. Her husband and six children survive.

John Oberbeck, '70, Eau Claire, died May 18 at age 54. He held various positions for six years and worked as an accountant and counselor for Anoosheh. The Wisconsin State Markets then Wisconsin Bell, and was active in community organizations. His wife, Mary, and children survive.

Ladysmith, died June 9 at age 56. He began his career in 1967 as a stepfather of two and two children survive.

Harry Jensen, '68, Yucaipa, Calif., died March 18 at age 64. He earned a applied science degree at UJ-Milwaukee then worked at Great Lakes Intercollegial. He went on to work in local governments in Idaho, Oregon, Washington and California. His wife, Jean, and children survive.

Marvin Suhr, '68, Truman, Minn., died April 22 at age 63 after a decade with Alzheimer’s disease. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, winning several awards. He worked for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in Wisconsin, West Virginia and Wyoming, retiring in 1997. His wife, Joan (Newby), '67, and a daughter survive.

Harold “Butch” La Chapelle, '67, Wisconsin Rapids, died May 5 at age 61. He went to the University of Miami Law School and practiced law in Wisconsin Rapids. He was the Wood County District Attorney from 1972-1976. His wife, Rhonda, and four children survive.


Arlyn “Butch” West, '65, Stevens Point, died Feb. 11 at age 64. He taught in Appleton, farmed in Plover then worked for Terra-Rain Irrigation. He began selling real estate in 1994 and established his own office in 2005. He also coached youth hockey and football. His wife, Susan, and two sons survive.

William Pani, '64, Waussau, died April 13 at age 70. He served in the U.S. Army and earned a master’s degree at UW-Stevens Point. He was a teacher, principal and administrator for the Waussau school district for 34 years and coached his work part time in retirement. He was president of two retired teachers’ organizations and active in Kiwanis. In 2006 he was honored with an award from the National Retired Teachers Association for establishing a project to rebuild a school library in Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. His wife, June, and two daughters survive.


Alvin King, '63, Los Angeles, Calif., died Dec. 8 at age 74. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and earned a bachelor’s degree from UW. Madison. He taught in Puyette, Oregon, and was a high school principal in Oregon, where he was a principal and assistant superintendent. He was active in his church and teacher organizations. His wife of 58 years, Carol, and three children survive.

Dorothy (Dodge) Trusty, '63, Fort Atkinson, died June 23 at age 74. She served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II. She taught for 42 years in Taylor County schools and farmed with her husband, Ferdinand, who preceded her in death.

Helen “Tulla” (Petterson) Clark, '61, rural Tigerton, died June 28 at age 89. She taught in rural schools and for 38 years in Tigerton and Bowsher. She also taught piano in her home and was a church organist for 76 years. She was active in community organizations. Her husband, Carlos, preceded her in death and three children survive.

Pearl (Plank) Weber, '61, Wauponia, died Feb. 23 at age 96. She taught in Wauponia for 14 years. She is survived in death by her husband, Herbert, and son. A daughter survives.

Delmar Westphal, '60, Grant Township, died April 11 at age 72. He served in the U.S. Army and earned a degree at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He worked at the Lutheran Children’s Friends Society and as a social worker in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He later helped with his family farm and was active in his church.

Jerome (“Jerry”) Clark, '59, Colfax, Calif., died Dec. 11 at age 74. He was a long haul semi driver for Service in Wisconsin and the Midwest. He earned a master’s degree in business from WebTV. His two daughters survive.

Elizabeth (Weinmann) Jesko, '58, Stevens Point, died June 2 at age 71. She worked at Dairy State Markets then Wisconsin Bell, and volunteered at her church. Her husband, Elmer, and children survive. One daughter preceded her in death.

Robert Peterson, '58, New London, died June 15 at age 72. He served in the U.S. Army and co-owned a printing company in New London with his wife of 49 years, Sharon. She survives, as do her children.

Agnes Benn, '57, King, is deceased.

Erna Krohn, '57, Plainfield, is deceased.


Harry “Jim” Walker III, '57, Rochelle, Ill., died Jan. 26 at age 70. He worked for International Harvester then began Walker-Schroik International in Rochelle. He later joined Hickory Ridge subdivision there. His wife, Sharon Zentner Walker, '57, and a daughter survive.

Roland Cross, '54, Stoughton, died Feb. 17 at age 81. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and earned a master’s degree from UW-Madison. He taught in Puyette, Oregon, and was a high school principal in Oregon, where he was a principal and assistant superintendent. He was active in his church and teacher organizations. His wife of 58 years, Carol, and three children survive.
Robert Paulson, 54, Rhinelander, died July 12 at age 74. He earned a master’s degree at the University of Iowa and served in the U.S. Army. He was an administrator for the State of Wisconsin in Wisconsin Rapids and Rhinelander. After retiring in 1990, he was a social worker for St. Mary’s Hospital. He was a volunteer Little League coach. His wife, Gwen, and two sons survive.

Robert Bestul, 51, Viroqua, died Jan. 2 at age 77. He served in the U.S. Army and then taught music and band in Almond and Viroqua. He earned a master’s degree at VanderCook College of Music in Chicago in 1957. He and his wife, Lola, who preceded him in death, enjoyed music and traveling in retirement. Three children survive.

Garth Spees, 51, Plainfield, died June 24 at age 82. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He began his teaching career at Viroqua then was a coach and lifeguard. He then taught, coached and was an audio visual specialist at Oshkosh schools for 29 years and earned a master’s degree at UWSP. He retired to Plainfield in 1985. He is survived by his wife, Maralou, and a daughter. A daughter preceded him in death.

Robert Westenberger, 50, Park Ridge, died April 3 at age 79. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War then worked at Westenberger Drug Store, taught for four years in Scandinavia then returned to the family business. In 1980 he began working for the Portage County Human Services Office, retiring in 1993. His wife, Elizabeth, and three children survive.

Donald Gunzam, 50, Rhinelander, died August 11, 2008. He was retired as a checker in the Viroqua Food Processor Company. His wife, Patricia (Harrison) Gunzam, 51, survives.

Robert Friesch, 49, Sun Prairie, died Jan. 27 at age 77. A retired counselor, he served in the U.S. Air Force and Wisconsin Air National Guard, attending several naval aviation schools after graduating from UWSP. He earned a master’s degree from The George Washington University and taught and coached in De Forest and Sun Prairie. His three brothers, Myron, 34, Ted, 42, (a former Green Bay Packer) and James, 52, all alive, are also UWSP alumni. He is survived by his wife, Deborah, and four children.

John Steeves, 49, Neenah, died June 2 at age 83. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and taught in Neenah and Hortonville. He was an active member of his church, volunteering in the jail ministry. He was featured in the book “American Profile HomeTown Heroes.” His wife, Pauline, and 11 children survive. A son preceded him in death.

Irina Hardzinski, 48, Marshfield, died Oct. 20.

Gerald Baalrud, 47, Waukesha, died Feb. 5 at age 86. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He earned a master’s degree at UW-Milwaukee then worked for the Waukesha school district as an elementary teacher and principal. His first wife, Phyllis, preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane, two daughters and two step-children.

LaVon Andrus, 45, Hudson, died April 12 at age 81. She taught in the Shawano area and farmed with her husband of 56 years, Leonard. He preceded her in death and their daughter, Lindy, was active in the community and 4-H. Five children survive.

Laura (Simo) Cieswski, 44, Rosholt, died April 7 at age 90. She taught in several country schools and in Rosholt. Her husband, Joseph, preceded her in death. Two children survive.

Harvey Martini, 39, Marco Island, Fla., and formerly of Stevens Point, died April 11 at age 89. He taught high school chemistry then was a timekeeper for the Genco Power Co. in La Crosse. Then he worked for 40 years with Harwood-Hayward Mutual Insurance (Sentry Insurance) and the Hartford A&I Insurance Co. in New York, Ohio and Connecticut. During his career, he was recognized for his insurance expertise in major disasters, including the Three Mile Island nuclear accident and Love Canal. He received numerous insurance awards and was involved in community organizations throughout his life. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death and four children survive. Memorials may be made to two family scholarships at UWSP (contact the UWSP Foundation at www.uwsp.edu/foundation). Loretta (Grab) Arnold, 36, Rudolph, died April 1 at age 90. She taught in Milladore and Lindsey and farmed in Rudolph with her late husband, Paul. She is survived by seven grandchildren, with whom she raised 12 children. Eleven survive.

Harvey Martini, 39, Marco Island, Fla., and formerly of Stevens Point, died April 11 at age 89. He taught high school chemistry then was a timekeeper for the Genco Power Co. in La Crosse. Then he worked for 40 years with Harwood-Hayward Mutual Insurance (Sentry Insurance) and the Hartford A&I Insurance Co. in New York, Ohio and Connecticut. During his career, he was recognized for his insurance expertise in major disasters, including the Three Mile Island nuclear accident and Love Canal. He received numerous insurance awards and was involved in community organizations throughout his life. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death and four children survive. Memorials may be made to two family scholarships at UWSP (contact the UWSP Foundation at www.uwsp.edu/foundation).

Clifford Cone, 61, Stevens Point, assistant professor emeritus of education and instructional resources, died Oct. 9 at age 90. Cone taught classes in the use of audiovisual equipment and photography for 17 years at UWSP before 2003. Previously he taught at high schools in Elroy and Adams-Friendship.

William Marsh, 28, Madison, died March 7 at age 87. He earned a master’s degree at UW-Madison and taught in Friendship and Neenah. He then spent 36 years in Madison schools as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. He was involved in the Wisconsin Education Association and many community organizations. He earned the Silver Beaver Award for 25 years of service to the Boy Scouts and in 1949 was named “Father of the Year” by the Madison Chamber of Commerce. He was an expert horseman, enjoyed outdoor activities and sports and was an avid traveler. He founded Leaf Nut Inc. to help families in Mexico utilize alfalfa products. His wife of 60 years, Louise, and four children survive. A daughter preceded him in death.


Joycelyn (Lauletta) Criswell, '28, Madison, died Feb. 9 at age 90. She was a member of her church, translator and history major. She earned a bachelor’s degree at UWSP and a graduate degree at UW-Stout. She operated a dry cleaning business for 22 years then earned his degree at UWSP and a graduate degree at UW-Stout. His wife, Norma (Foster) Brown, preceded him in death. Two children preceded him in death.

Kathy Falk Anderlik, 71, Horicon. “She was always very proud to say she was a UWSP graduate,” her family said. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Vander Cook College of Music in Chicago, Appleton, Coos Bay, Oregon and Connecticut. During her career, she was involved in community organizations throughout his life. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death and four children survive. Memorials may be made to two family scholarships at UWSP (contact the UWSP Foundation at www.uwsp.edu/foundation).

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During the 30s, Cone was a traveling musician who played with Jack Teagarden and James P. Johnson. He operated a dry cleaning business for 22 years then earned his degree at UWSP and a graduate degree at UW-Stout. His wife, Norma (Foster) Brown, 59, and two sons, preceded him in death. One son survives.
Points' spring into action

Baseball

For the second straight year, UWSP used a dramatic run through the postseason to reach the Division III College World Series, resulting in the highest finish in school history with a top four placement at Fox Cities Stadium in Appleton. The Pointers won their third straight WIAC tournament title and finished 34-17 to advance to the College World Series. Junior Jordan Zimmermann, Auburndale, was named the Most Outstanding Player of the World Series after pitching a one-hit shutout against Emory (Ga.) in a 2-0 opening game win. He was also eight-for-13 at the plate in the four tournament games. The Pointers beat Carthage (Wis.) 6-2 in the championship game behind pitcher Kevin Kostuchowski (N.J.) 7-4 and Emory 18-7 for their third place finish.

UWSP hosted the NCAA regional tournament for the second straight year and won three straight games when facing elimination. They scored five runs in the bottom of the ninth to beat Ripon (Wis.) 11-10 and then ousted St. Thomas (Minn.) 6-3 and UW-Oshkosh 6-0 to qualify for the World Series.

Softball

UWSP achieved the highest single-season winning percentage in school history and reached the NCAA Division III tournament for the first time since 2001, finishing with a 33-10 overall record.

The Pointers were nationally ranked much of the season and finished the year ranked 21st in the country. UWSP beatewartburg (Iowa) 8-2 in its regional opener before falling to eventual national champion Kean (N.J.) 7-6 and Gustavus Adolphus (Minn) 5-3 in nine innings.

Senior pitcher Stephanie Anderson, Milwaukee, set a single-season record with 160 strikeouts, while junior shortstop Laura Van Abel, Kaukauna, totaled all-time single-season marks with 65 hits and 103 total bases.

Women's golf

It was an historic year for the Pointers, who qualified individuals for the NCAA Division III championships for the first time in school history. UWSP finished the year ranked eighth in the country and head coach Matt Interbartolo was named Division III Coach of the Year.

Senior Susie Lewis, Crystal Lake, Ill., finished 35th at the national meet and posted an 81.4 average in 27 rounds. Lewis was a three-time all-conference selection and won the individual titles at the UW-Oshkosh and Elmhurst invitationalals. Freshman Jessica Urban, Hartland, was 45th at the national meet and totaled an 81.3 average for the season.

Track and field

Senior Kyle Steiner, Graton, set a school record with 7.111 points in the decathlon, but finished second in the event as the UWSP men's team placed 23rd at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track Championships.

Senior Mitch Ellis, Three Lakes, added a fourth place finish in the high jump at six feet, eight inches.

The UWSP men's team had a strong finish in the team record-setting spring as Andrea Irvine, Green Bay, Angelo Steffens, Cottage Grove, Kathleen Folbrecht, Jefferson, and Laura Simonis, Rosholt, placed eighth nationally in the 1600-meter relay with a school-record time of 3:50.14.

The Pointers' 400-meter relay of Irvine, Simonis, Elizabeth Caine, Stevens Point, and Danielle Kindermeyer, Appleton, also had a school-record time of 48.24 seconds.

Alumni named to football hall of fame

Jerry Griffin, ’75, Reedsburg, was one of 22 individuals induced into the Wisconsin Football Hall of Fame in 2007.

Griffin played football under Coaches Pat O'Halloran and fellow Hall of Fame inductee Monte Chauncy. He went on to play for coach Vic and Elkhart Lake, and has been football coach and a physical education teacher at Reedsburg since 1983. He led his team to three conference championships and was District Coach of the Year three times. He earned a master’s degree at UW-Platteville in 1988. Griffin retired from teaching in the spring.

He and his wife, Beth, have been married for 25 years and have two children.
Three honored as Academic All-Americans

Another successful season on and off the playing field resulted in three UWSP student-athletes earning Academic All-America honors.

Women’s swimmer Beth Bard, Alexandria, Minn., men’s track and field athlete Kyle Steiner, Grafton, and women’s hockey player Amy Statz, Wisconsin Rapids were all honored by ESPN The Magazine.

The squad includes all NCAA Division II, Division III and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) athletes from across the country. The Academic All-American team in each sport includes 15 members and is selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Bard was a first-team selection and owns a 4.00 grade point average in biology. She was a member of four first-team All-American relays and three honorable mention All-American relays. She is a member of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) record holding 200-yard medley and 400-yard freestyle relays.

Steiner, a second-team selection, carries a 3.79 grade point average while majoring in biology. Steiner placed second at the NCAA Division III outdoor championships in the decathlon with a school-record score. He also set a conference record in the heptathlon and was named the conference’s indoor field Athlete of the Meet for the second straight year.

Statz was a third-team pick and carries a 3.66 grade point average in athletic training. She owns the most wins of any goalkeeper in NCAA Division III history with a 68-19-11 career record and was a first-team All-American by U.S. College Hockey Online after leading the Pointers to their second straight third place finish at the Division III Frozen Four.

Ninnemann new women’s hockey coach

After leading the UWSP women’s hockey team to its second straight NCAA Division III Frozen Four appearance, the team’s alumna interim coach has been named its full-time head coach.

Ann Ninnemann, ’06, Plover, led the 2006-07 team to a 20-7-2 overall record and a third place finish at the Frozen Four. She is also the assistant coach for the Pointer softball team.

“I am definitely excited to be back,” she said. “The first year exceeded my expectations, but the whole transition phase was easier than I thought it would be. I learned every day this past season and I’m ready to continue leading this program.”

“Ann is the perfect choice to maintain the high level of success our women’s hockey program has established,” said UWSP Athletic Director Frank O’Dell.

Ninnemann was UWSP’s first women’s hockey All-American in 2001-02 and was captain the Pointers for three straight seasons from 2002-05. She totaled 38 goals and 69 assists for 124 points while never missing a game and ranking second all-time in goals and points.

She was assistant coach for the 2005-06 national third place team before accepting the interim position in August.

UWSP ranks highly in Director’s Cup

UWSP again ranked highly in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III Director’s Cup standings, a measure of the nation’s top athletics programs.

UWSP placed 13th overall, having sent qualified teams or athletes to NCAA Division III tournament competition in 12 of its 20 varsity sports. The award, presented by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, is based on points accumulated in NCAA tournament competition. UWSP has now placed in the top 25 for 10 straight years.

The standings include all 441 Division III schools.

The Pointers’ top performances were third place finishes in baseball and women’s hockey. The men’s basketball team advanced to the NCAA Championship and the softball team won its opening game at the NCAA regional. In addition, the men’s swimming and diving team was 12th nationally, while the women’s swimming and diving and men’s indoor track and field teams were 17th. The wrestling team was 20th nationally and the men’s outdoor track and field team was 23rd.

UWSP also received points for qualifying athletes in women’s indoor and outdoor track and field. The Pointers had athletes qualify for the women’s golf championships for the first time, but it did not accrue points for the Director’s Cup.

Nichol named men’s hockey coach

After a national search, a UWSP alumus who worked four blocks from campus was named the head coach of the Pointer men’s hockey team.

Wil Nichol, ’98, Stevens Point, is the fourth coach in the team’s 26-year history. For the last two years he has coached the Stevens Point Area Senior High School (SPASH) boys’ hockey team during a total of nine years of coaching experience.

A defensivemen for the UWSP hockey team from 1994-98, Nichol is a member of the UWSP Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the 1998 national runner-up men’s hockey team.

“It’s a huge honor. To coach at your alma mater, a team that you bled for, a university that you love and a community that you consider home, I don’t know how to put that into words,” said Nichol.

Nichol

“I based on Wil’s coaching experiences, his passion for Pointer hockey, this university and the Stevens Point community in general, he was a natural choice,” said UWSP Athletics Director Frank O’Brien.

Nichol replaces Joe Baldarotta, who served 16 years as head coach and 21 years on the coaching staff, earning a career record of 265-171-38 and a NCAA Division III national championship in 1993.

While at SPASH, Nichol led the team to two WIAA state tournament appearances and a 46-3 record in two seasons. The Panthers became the first team to complete an undefeated Wisconsin Valley Conference season, which they did two years in a row with 16-0 records in league play.

While at UWSP, Nichol captained the NCAA Division III runner-up Pointer hockey team in 1998. He also won the Chancellor’s Leadership Award and Athletic Department’s Citizenship Award and was a volunteer with the Lincoln Hills Poetry Project.

He was a student assistant coach at UWSP while completing his English degree in 1996-99, then was a graduate assistant coach at Miami University in Ohio while completing a master’s degree in physical education, health and sports studies.

He was an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the Chicago Steel of the U.S. Hockey League then head coach and general manager for the DMG Academy Midget AA team in Bradenton, Fla. He then returned to Chicago as the head coach and general manager of the Steel for two seasons, during which he was the only rookie coach in USHL history to be league coach of the year after taking the team to the only regular season Eastern Conference title in franchise history.

Nichol has also served as head and assistant coach for several USA Hockey festivals and assisted with numerous hockey camps.

Alumnus, student take part in world champion football

A senior student and a UWSP alumus helped the United States win a gold medal at the World Football Championships held in July in Kawasaki, Japan.

Cody Childs, Poynette, was a running back and Clayt Birmingham, ’97, Overland Park, Kan., was a linebacker coach for the team, which earned a 23-20 double overtime victory against the two-time defending champion Japan.

Childs caught one pass for six yards in the championship game but did not play in the second half after suffering a minor injury. Earlier in the championships, he scored three touchdowns in games against Korea and Germany.

Childs was one of nine Division III players chosen for the 45-man squad and one of three WIAC players.

During the 2006 season, Childs was a first-team All-WIAC selection and led the league in all-purpose yards. He made the UWSP record books for the third-highest amount of rushing yards for a single season, the second highest career touchdowns and fourth-highest career receptions. He is a general studies major.

Birmingham was recently hired as the defensive coordinator at UW-Stout. While at UWSP, he was a two-time WIAC All-Conference defensive back for the Packers and the team captain. After graduating, he was a defensive back coach at UWSP then a wide receiver coach at Northern Michigan University while he earned a master’s degree.

He has also served as the defensive coordinator at Emporia State in Kansas and as defensive secondary coach at Western Michigan.

Ninnemann new women’s hockey coach

Ann Ninnemann

Clayt Birmingham, ’97, and senior Cody Childs hold up the gold medals they earned as part of the U.S. Team at the World Football Championships held in Japan in July.

Athletics

For the latest sports information call the Pointer sports hotline or visit our Web site.

715-346-3888, press 4

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

Friday, Oct. 12
Alumni Board of Directors Meeting
Debit 073, 10 a.m.

Dreyfus Naming Dedication Activities
Naming Ceremony, Dreyfus UC Laird Room, 1 p.m.
Reception, Noel Fine Arts Center Courtyard, 2 p.m.
The Truth About Climate Change: What It Means to You
Jenny Baeseman, ’98, lecturer, Al Gore’s The Climate Project.
Noel Fine Arts Center Room 221, 3:30 p.m.

Alpha Phi Omega Meeting
Sentry World Sports Plate, 6 p.m.
For more information, contact Mark Kramer at mskramer1@charter.net or (715) 341-4051.

TKE Board of Advisers Meeting
1632 Main St., (the TKE house) 7 p.m.

All Greek Social
Archies Bar and Grill, 9 p.m.
1632 Main St., (the TKE house) 7 p.m.

TKE Board of Advisers Meeting
1632 Main St., (the TKE house) 7 p.m.

TKE Annual Alumni Meeting
Middletown Grill (Rhody’s) 11:30 a.m.

Health Enhancement Center pool, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Alumni Swim Meet
Nelson Hall Historical Recognition Dedication
Front of Nelson Hall, 11:30 a.m.

Food Drive
Nelson Hall Porch, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Teams will be awarded points for the most nonperishable food items donated.
King & Queen Pageant
The Faux-Core, CAC, 7 p.m.
King & Queen candidates will compete in a variety of contests to win the crowns.

Student Activities

My Favorite Pointer Memory
The events I remember most are Homecoming weekend and Rusty’s Backwater Bash.

Bill Cosby

Saturday, Oct. 13
Coffee with Alumni and Friends
Berg Lobby, 9 a.m.

Homecoming Parade
Campus Streets, 10 a.m.
Judging Area - Steps of Berg Gym
Sigma Tau Gamma Alumni Association meeting
CPS 210, 10 a.m.

All Campus Picnic
Front lawn of Old Main, 11 a.m.
FREE! Free will donations will be accepted under the tent for those wishing to give in support of the Alumni Association’s efforts.
The official reunion area on campus. Inflatables, face painting, and other family activities! Meet your friends under the tent!
The following organizations will be under the tent: UWSP Future Alumni Association, UWSP Alumni Association, UWSP Foundation, Dreyfus University Center, University Book Store, Residential Living, College of Natural Resources, College of Fine Arts and Communication, College of Letters and Science and Public Relations Student Society of America.

Hansen Society Reception
Nelson Hall Great Room, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Alumni Swim Meet
Health Enhancement Center pool, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
TKE Annual Alumni Meeting
Middletown Grill, 1 p.m.
Nelson Hall Historical Recognition Dedication
Front of Nelson Hall, 11:30 a.m.

TKE Cookout
1632 Main Street (the TKE house) 1 p.m.

All Campus Tour
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.
Homecoming Football Game
Goerke Field, 1 p.m.
Come cheer on the Pointers as they host the UW-Stout Blue Devils. The Class of 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees will also be announced during halftime.

Allen Quad Reunion
Partners Pub, 1 p.m.
Residents of Hyer, Roach, Smith or Pray-Sims from 1985-1988 will meet. Bring photo albums, residence hall memorabilia, wing-function apparel. If you can’t attend, send Lisa an e-mail message and address to pass on at the reunion. Contact Lisa (Hackman) Messer, Roach Hall, messer2@uwsp.edu; Lori McCadden, Roach Hall, mccaddenl@ssd.k12.wi.us, or Mary Secord, Sims Hall, jennie55@aol.com.

Point Brewery Tour
2617 Water St., 3:30 p.m.
$3 per person. Join alumni and friends for a personalized tour of the Stevens Point Brewery complete with a gift in honor of the Stevens Point Brewery’s 150th anniversary! Wear your Homeroom nametag for a special discount between 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Call 1-800-369-4911 to reserve your spot now! Tours also available at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

General Information
University Store Hours
Fri. Oct. 12, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 13, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Visitors Center open, self-guided tours
Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
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UWSP Paper Machine Tour
Watch how paper is made. Science Building, TBA

SentryWorld Sports Plate, 6 p.m.
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Jason Quade, ’07, Amigo