

DINNER

ak plans grounded

have their tickets yet and may not be going on their planned vacation.

UW-SP senior Courtney Hoff was prepared to go to Mazatlan, Mexico through the travel program Student Express when her flight was grounded.

"For the past two weeks I've stopped at University Travel Services everyday to pick up my plane tickets. The travel agents kept telling me to come back the next day, and last Friday they told me there is a good chance I would not be going at all," said Hoff. "I decided to deal with the situation myself. I'm not going through Student Express anymore, I'm going through a different company."

According to the Take A Break employee, "Hundreds of students have been affected by this."

UW-SP students are not alone in this situation. Missy Moenssens, UW-La Crosse senior, said, "I would personally never trust a student spring break program again."

Moenssens was scheduled to fly out of Minneapolis for Mazatlan Friday, March 7, but remained in Minneapolis for four days. She finally left for Mexico early Tuesday morning.

Many students are being told different things. President of Student Express, Jim Moldane, denies these allocations. "We have had no planes grounded."

SEE BREAK ON PAGE 3

Pointer mascot snuffs out national competition

By Jason Renkens

CONTRIBUTOR

UW-Stevens Point's mascot, Stevie Pointer, took first place in the collegiate mascot division of the 1997 Americup Cheer and Dance Championship. The annual two day competition was held in Minneapolis the weekend of March 1.

Stevie was invited to the competition because of an automatic bid granted to the UW-SP dance team for placing first in the competition last year. The cheer and dance teams placed second in this year's competition.

The Pointer mascot, portrayed by Greg Lietz, a sophomore health promotion and wellness major is one of two people acting as Stevie at football, basketball, and wrestling competitions as well as special events.

Lietz claims that the job of portraying Stevie



Stevie Pointer hits the practice field to get down his skit routine. (Photo by Carrie Reuter)

Pointer and his female counterpart, Stephanie Pointer, have taken on new dimensions since the unveiling of their new costumes at the 1996 Homecoming celebration.

"There is really a lot more to being a mascot than most people think," said Lietz. "There is almost a

kind of ten commandments written just for mascots."

Lietz, who is lending his talents to the role of Stevie Pointer for the second year, attended the Universal Cheerleading Association Camp this

SEE DOG ON PAGE 14