



# Notes from Dan (& DeAnn)

## \*A Great Big Thank You!!!

Things have started off here at Stevens Point with a bang. There were outreaches, meetings, new friendships started, people coming to know Christ, and so much more. And thanks to you becoming involved in the ministry on campus through your support of me, I have been able to be a part of it. Thank you so much. I am looking forward to a great year ahead of us.

## \*Volleyball!

The volleyball party was my first assignment. The party/tournament was the first big even that we did for the school year. It turned out that the little volleyball tournament was no little volleyball tournament. We had around 400 players at the tourney with a total of 68 teams. The size of the event didn't dawn on me until the morning of and then I started to try and figure everything out by myself. Well, that didn't work. What did work was that God had already put everything into place to make the day a great day.

## \*Things to pray about:

That students would come to Christ!

That my relationship with the guys would be good.

That I would adjust to the role of "staff" quickly and that my title would not hinder relationships.

That DeAnn and I would find time to invest in our marriage in the middle of our hectic schedules.

## \*To Sum It All Up:

Where to begin? That is the question. It has been such an amazing summer and beginning of the school year for me that it is hard to pick a place to start. Why not the beginning?

Recently my life has just been a bunch of life changes; one right after the other. To begin, I graduated from Michigan Tech. That I thought was a big life change. Out on my own. In the "real world." But then the process of starting work with Campus Crusade for Christ began. That has had a huge impact in my life due to having to trust God everyday to provide. Then DeAnn and I got married (check out the picture!) and that was and has been amazing!!! Then we got back from the honeymoon and we began to move into our apartment. That also was a new experience. To have a real apartment which was ours. I wasn't moving in with nine other guys into a house to build a loft and try and jam all my belongings along with a roommate into a small upstairs room with no air-conditioning. This time it was moving in as "The Gerards." Finally I started work at the University of Stevens Point. And these past two and a half weeks have been even more of a whirlwind than the summer was which was obviously very busy already.

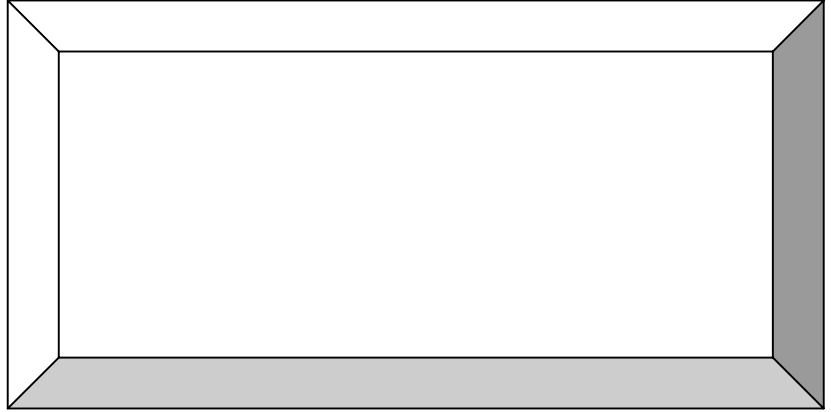
What has ministry been like at Stevens Point? It has gone very well. Not without problems and not necessarily flawlessly, but God has really blessed. We have held a number of events and basically have come away from each with the sense that God wants this to happen and we are just being the instruments that He is choosing to use.

You will hear me talk a lot about "Cru." That is our Thursday night meeting. It is the large weekly event that Student Impact (the local chapter of Campus Crusade for Christ at Stevens Point) puts on. To give you an idea of what God is doing, we had around 350 students attend that meeting each of the last two weeks. It is great that one of our big problems is finding bigger rooms because the group just keeps on growing.

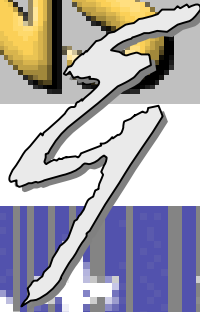


**Together Turning Lost Students into Christ Centered Laborers!**

The final game of the volleyball party went great, even with the rain!



# THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STEVENS POINT



# Student Impact

**\*FSK** The volleyball party was a very laid back relational approach to reaching the campus. The FSKs, or Freshman Survival Kits, were a bit more direct. We put together the kits on Wednesday. Each kit included a Bible, a copy of the book *A Case for Christ*, a Christian music CD, a CD-rom with some great links and info on it, a card telling them about Student Impact and Cru, a cool bouncy ball on a string, and a bag of chips. Then we hit the campus the next day to hand them all out. Our goal was if we saw a freshman that freshman got a kit.

Starting college is a life changing time so we wanted freshmen to look at God and see who they are in Him. It was a great day. We ended up handing out every one of the packs. But the greatest part is to now visit freshmen in their rooms and see a Bible or a *Case for Christ* sitting on their desk with a bit of paper marking their spot.

As it says in Luke 8, the seed is the Word of God, and we are trying to spread it all over this campus!



Handing out 3 of the 880 kits distributed that day

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