

**Advising guidelines
will be improved to ease
registration stress**

**Columnist finds accuracy
in Borat's cultural offerings**

**Intramurals give
students an opportunity
to get involved**



STUDENT VOICE

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Students tipping the scales

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UW-River Falls students are losing the battle of the bulge.

The 2006 results of the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment show UWRf students have reached the overweight category as their body mass indexes (BMI) are higher than the 2005 national average of 23.31 for females and 24.57 for males.

The assessment placed the BMI rates for UWRf students as 25.21 for females and males at 25.49, which fit into the "overweight" BMI values from 25-29. A BMI is a number showing body weight adjusted for height, and is calculated as $703 \times \text{weight(lbs)}/\text{height(in)}^2$.

The outcome of the assessment is not a surprise to UWRf senior Brandi Stillings.

Since transferring here three years ago, the 22-year-old marketing communications major has been watching the numbers of heavier students grow.

"I have kind of been noticing that there has been a bigger percentage of overweight people here," she said.

Student Health Services (SHS) Health Educator Keven Syverson said there is a reason behind UWRf's results and the national trend of expanding waistlines.

"Physical activity levels nationally are declining," he said.

Syverson said this behavior is concerning because it can lead to "creeping obesity," where an individual gains "one or two pounds a year — over 10 years that can be 20 pounds."

Stacy Dekkers, a health and human performance major, is tracking the health of UWRf students who live in dorms by doing body composition tests.

The three tests consist of body fat percentage, BMI calculations, and a basal metabolic rate test, which measures the number of calories a person burns naturally every day. These tests give students in every UWRf dorm an idea of what their weight really means.

Through the body composition test outcomes, Dekkers has found a common theme among UWRf students.

"Weight is a huge factor in why people want to get physically active," she said.

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Eatery offers cure for midnight munchies

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UW-River Falls students and members of the surrounding community now have a place to go to satisfy those late-night cravings for burgers and fries. South Fork Café, 116 S. Main St., has extended its hours, now serving patrons between the hours of 12 a.m. and 4 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

UWRf senior Kelly Hartvig was a key player in getting Owner Dawn Morrow to commit to opening the café up to late-night crowds.

"It was something [Morrow] had been considering and decided for sure when I brought in the campus article on the lack of late night restaurants," she said.

Hartvig has worked at the café since she was a freshman and serves during the midnight shift.

"I think that the new extended hours are needed and a great benefit to the campus community," she said. "[I] found the hours a little difficult to adjust to, however, well worth my time."

Samantha Bruley is a UWRf senior who also serves during the late-night shifts at the café.

"Since we are the only restaurant that is open during those hours, it gets really busy," she said.

The new hours went into effect Oct. 29, and college stu-

dents who were herded out of the local bars at closing time took notice of the neon "open" light in the window of the café.

"The majority of business was student aged and very friendly," Hartvig said of her first night working the shift.

Hartvig said she noticed that business picked up around 2:30 a.m. on Oct. 29, which Bruley also noted as a popular time.

"South Fork fills up in about 10 minutes after bar close," Bruley said. "Before 2:30 it is pretty dead."

Although the café may be empty prior to the bar close rush, those who decided to dine at the establishment during the first weekend the hours were enforced were not disappointed.

"After bar close ... people were so thankful to have a place to go," Hartvig said.

Bruley said that she, along with other UWRf students who work at the restaurant, are scheduled for the late-night shifts since high school students are unable to work those hours due to labor laws.

"Working the new shift is completely on a volunteer basis," Hartvig said.

The first weekend the midnight hours were put into

See Café, page 3



Beth Dickman/Student Voice
Stools in South Fork Café sit empty at mid-day. The empty seats fill up quickly after the bars in downtown River Falls close at 2:30 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday.

Students remain in temporary housing

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Helen Clarke/Student Voice
Andy Hopfensperger, left, and Kyle McMillan relax in their makeshift dorm room at 316 May Hall. The two roommates would like to continue to live there together, but Residence Life does not allow that. Instead, those in temporary housing are reassigned to permanent rooms once they become available.

With residence halls at full capacity, there are still more than 50 UW-River Falls students in temporary housing waiting to receive permanent room assignments.

According to Director of Residence Life Terry Willson, those students will have to bide their time a while longer.

Due to a recent decrease in the amount of housing contract cancellations, the majority of the students living in the provisional accommodations will probably remain there until the end of the semester, Willson said.

"Our cancellations have slowed," he said. "Most of the people that, you know, it didn't work out for them, or they didn't like the University, or they decided to go elsewhere ... have gone."

Willson said student turnover at the end of the semester should free up enough permanent beds to accommodate residents in temporary housing.

See Housing, page 3

Drafty doors chill South Hall occupants

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South Hall was colder than usual last week when garbage bags were visibly placed around the building's new exterior doors to block airflow through gaps surrounding the doorway.

Custodians used the bags in an effort to stop cold air from flowing into the building the morning of Nov. 1 because the trim around the inside of the door has not been completed by the commercial construction company that installed the doors only a few months ago.

Summit Architecture, Inc., located in Minneapolis, was contracted to replace the east, west and north entrances to South Hall this summer, Facilities Engineer Jim Murphy said.

"They have had more than a sufficient amount of time to finish their work," he said. "The contractor was notified to finish the work this summer."

Jason Domino, project manager for Summit Architecture, said he was notified Nov. 3 about the airflow through the trim.

"We don't have a date for getting the trim done," he said. "By Friday, we

See Doors, page 3



Jen Dolen
Garbage bags line the arches of the entrances to South Hall Nov. 1. They were used to insulate the building until trim is installed and sealed.

Facebook ads educate voters

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The votes are in after months of campaigning. Governor Jim Doyle was reelected, Congressman Ron Kind returns to serve District 3, and incumbent Kitty Rhoades beat out recent UW-River Falls graduate Dan Gorman in the State Assembly race.

As an effort to reach out to young voters, these and other political candidates and college students turned to Facebook for the 2006 general election, promoting discussion and encouraging knowledge of the candidates and issues.

Political groups, candidate profiles and advertisements had a strong presence on the online social network by students, campaign managers and organizations.

Many students said it was a successful effort and effective way to reach out to students in future elections.

"The political ads and groups on Facebook encouraged me to look up information for candidates rather than voting for a party," junior Mekha El-ShadiJones said.

Students were able to join groups regarding issues and candidates to show their support or opposition.

"The groups were a good way to get students together," El-ShadiJones said. "Students may not have looked at flyers on walls or read ads on Facebook. The groups helped students formulate ideas away from their parents and communities."

El-ShadiJones said he joined a group pertaining to the Wisconsin marriage amendment.

"I received an invitation to join the

group," El-ShadiJones said. "I didn't know anything about the amendment prior to receiving the invitation, but after I read the description about it, I joined the group."

El-ShadiJones also joined a group opposing Proposition 2, a proposal regarding affirmative action on the ballot in his hometown of Detroit.

He said by joining the group he was able to have a conversation with another UW-River Falls student group about the issue.

"The group encouraged a political discussion with another student here about the proposition," El-ShadiJones said. "It was a unique experience."

Senior Dave Benner said he was a member of several Minnesota candidate groups.

See Ads, page 3

Wisconsin Election Results

Governor — Dem. Jim Doyle
U.S. Senate — Dem. Herb Kohl
3rd Congressional Dist. — Dem. Ron Kind
Assembly District 30 — Rep. Kitty Rhoades
Pierce County Sheriff — Nancy Ortwerth
St. Croix County Sheriff — Dennis Hillstead
Marriage Ban Amendment — Approved
Death Penalty Advisory Referendum — Approved

Minnesota Election Results

Governor — Rep. Tim Pawlenty
U.S. Senate — Dem. Amy Klobuchar
4th Congressional Dist. — Dem. Betty McCollum
5th Congressional Dist. — Dem. Keith Ellison
6th Congressional Dist. — Rep. Michele Bachmann
Washington County Sheriff — Bill Hutton
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment — Approved

VOICE SHORTS

UWRF receives grant for theory project



Terry Brown



Alice Reilly-Myklebust

The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) recently awarded UW-River Falls with a \$10,000 program startup grant as a part of its Bringing Theory to Practice Project at colleges and universities across the country. According to the AACU Web site, the project aims to explore and promote how engaged forms of learning requiring active student involvement and reflection contribute to the resiliency and health of students. In order to secure the program startup grant, two UWRF staff members applied for a \$2,500 mini-grant. Terry Brown, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Alice Reilly-Myklebust, director of Student Health Services and Counseling Services, co-authored a proposal for the mini-grant, which was offered last fall through the AACU. Also included with the mini grant was a \$2,000 institutional enhancement grant, which was used to purchase copies of a book coauthored by Harvard University professor Richard Kadison, titled, “College of the Overwhelmed: The Mental Health Crisis and What to Do About It.” The books were used in addition to the \$2,500 mini-grant to run two discussion groups that talked about students’ mental health issues, which were facilitated by UWRF psychology professor Brad Caskey. Groups included students, faculty, staff, community members, public health officials and police officers. A portion of the mini-grant was also used to host Kadison, who is chief of Mental Health Services at Harvard University, on the UWRF campus last January. Kadison used the topics covered in the discussion groups as a springboard to address members of the UWRF community about the effects of mental health issues on college students, as well as possible ways to remedy the problems.

Student wins award for work in district

A UW-River Falls freshman received national recognition at the National FFA Convention held Oct. 25-28. Amy Robak, a conservation major from Foley, Minn., was named the national winner in the area of Environmental Science and Natural Resource Entrepreneurship-Placement. This award was presented to Robak because of her progress for the past two years working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) within the Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District. In these two short years, Robak went from overshadowing others, sorting papers and filing to working one-on-one with landowners developing nutrient management plans. Two years later, Robak has used Arc-view software to lay out different conservation practices, performed irrigation pivot checks, taken soil and manure samples, scouted crops, performed tree flagging, planned and installed new shelterbelts, and evaluated drainage ditches. She will be working with the NRCS during semester break and spring break before going full time in the summer.

Family to perform native songs, dances

Fast Horse, a Minnesota-based Lakota performing family, is the next act in the Wyman Series at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the North Hall Auditorium. Skillfully interweaving story, music and dance with history and present perspectives, the Fast Horses entertain and educate audiences of all ages. The performance is free for UWRF students, \$5 for adults and \$3 for individuals 18 and under. Tickets are available at the door beginning at 7 p.m. Fast Horse performs the Northern Plains Traditional Woman’s Dance, the Stomping Buffalo Dance, the High-Flying Eagle Dance and the Roving Round Dance, as well as a mixed array of rare and common Native American songs and dances. Tribal people around the world have always expressed their subconscious through song and dance by bringing their dreams into reality by painting, sculpting, beading, singing and dancing. As accomplished dancers and singers, Fast Horse preserves their heritage through the old ways of their culture. The Wyman Series is sponsored by the UWRF Student Entertainment and Arts Committee and the Diversity Awareness Committee, both part of the Leadership Development and Programming Board. Funding for the series is provided by segregated student fees. For more information, contact Student Services and Programs at 715-425-4444.



Fast Horse

Courts sentence former RF man for rape

In a decision released Nov. 2, a state appeals court upheld a former River Falls man’s conviction and sentence for raping and holding a young woman against her will. Joseph P. Hipler, now 24, is serving a 10-year prison sentence at Stanley Correctional Institution. He was convicted of one count of first-degree sexual assault and one count of false imprisonment for events that occurred March 29, 2003 in River Falls. According to reports, the woman, who lived in the same building as Hipler, came to his apartment to help clean up after a party held the night before. The two and another man had drinks and talked about going to another party. The woman testified that Hipler threatened her and her family, dragged her back to his apartment, held a gun to her head and then held her down and raped her. She reported the attack about a week later. Following a two-day trial, a Pierce County jury found Hipler guilty. Judge Robert Wing sentenced him to 10 years in prison followed by 10 years extended supervision on the rape count and three years in prison and three years extended supervision on the false imprisonment count.

Student named National Beef Ambassador

UW-River Falls freshman Londa Johnson was recently named the fourth place National Beef Ambassador. Johnson also received a \$250 scholarship. She competed in the national competition held in Minneapolis in October after being named the Minnesota Beef Ambassador last fall in conjunction with the Minnesota Beef Expo. More than 20 other state beef ambassadors competed for five national ambassador spots. The contestants were judged on a five to six-minute speech and a one-on-one interview with a panel of judges. As a National Beef Ambassador, Johnson will travel the country promoting agricultural as well as the beef industry. Johnson is majoring in dairy science with a pre-vet option hoping to one day be a large animal veterinarian.

Briefs compiled by Leah Danley

Correction

In last week’s page 8 story, “Donation funds interdisciplinary center,” Director of Development and Alumni Relations Dan McGinty was misidentified as Tom McGinty.

SENATE

Student paints mural to honor professor

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In remembrance of history professor Ed Peterson, who died of heart failure March 25, 2005, student Garrett Bergemann painted a mural depicting six different postures of his teaching style. The mural now hangs in the west hallway of the Wyman Education Building (WEB). A reception for the mural will be at 3 p.m. Nov. 28 in the same location. Student Senate was asked by Chancellor Don Betz to offer input as to where the painting should be displayed on campus, Senate President Joe Eggers said. A motion was passed Nov. 7 for the piece’s permanent placement in the WEB hallway. Betz was looking for an artist on campus to paint a mural originally planned for North Hall, Bergemann said. He was approached by art education professor Lynn Jermal last semester to create the art. “With Lynn as my advisor and mentor, I applied for an RSCA grant,” Bergemann said. “I got

the grant and had a meeting with my client, the chancellor.” Bergemann said he was able to sit in his room and paint for 10 hours a day during the summer because of the money from the grant. He said he spent the beginning of the summer preparing the images and ideas depicted in the mural. In July, he began painting, concluding his work at the end of September. The layout of the mural is primarily based on the techniques of photographer Eadweard Muybridge, who used multiple images to show motion, Bergemann said. “The six panels are also an extension of the triptych, where three panels are used to show more of a narrative in painting,” Bergemann said. “I am a huge fan of the figurative painter Francis Bacon, who made a living off of this triptych painting presentation.” The goal of the painting was to show the teacher’s passion through his actions in front of a class, he said. The background is in ambiguous abstract form because Bergemann wanted to portray the visual representation

of Peterson’s passion, but he also wanted students to visualize his thoughts. “I wanted to show the core of knowledge that action causes reaction, which creates awareness,” Bergemann said. “As students walk down the hallway, Ed Peterson will follow them from left to right or right to left, teaching passionately that forced these students to react.” The border around the top and bottom of the mural includes images of the community. The Student Affairs and Academic Services Committee suggested the painting’s placement in the hallway of WEB, where it is currently on display, Senator Natalie Hagberg said. “It is showing different teaching styles,” Hagberg said. “It is perfect for the building because it is the teaching building.” The hallway in WEB was chosen by the committee because the building is mostly used for teaching classes, she said. “Many of our future teachers are coming from there,” Hagberg said. “So, it only seems appropriate to have the painting there.” Hagberg said the painting

shows the techniques and mannerisms of Peterson’s teaching style so well that it is only appropriate to have the picture hanging in the building where students are learning to teach. Though Bergemann never had Peterson as a professor, he said it was extremely easy to paint Peterson through images that he found to suit the needs of his vision as an artist. “I don’t think I could have represented this mural the way I did if I had a relationship with him in the past,” he said. “I feared that this mural would become a memorial of sorts for Ed, and that was not my intentions at all. I wanted to show that we are all similar in that we are all unique, and I wanted to inspire a community by giving a glorified representation of one process of teaching, making people aware that there is something special in educating and becoming educated.”

Student Senate meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Regents Room.



Beth Dickman/Student Voice

The painted mural hangs in the west hallway of the Wyman Education Building. It depicts six different poses of former history professor Ed Peterson's teaching style to show his passion and help students visualize his thoughts.

UWRF seeks to improve student advising

Faculty Advising Committee reviews, discusses advising guidelines

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Advising appointments are supposed to help students plan and evaluate academic and career goals, but the recent concerns of some faculty and students have led UW-River Falls officials to look into improving the process. “To a small extent there’s been some dissatisfaction with advising,” Faculty Advising Committee Chair Brian Schultz said. “Some of it is faculty driven to gain consistency.” The faculty problems are due to confusion regarding the constantly changing online course catalog and deficient advising guidelines, Schultz said. The Faculty Advising Committee met twice this semester, and is planning another meeting in December to discuss advising guidelines and assess the role, scope and expectations of advising at UWRF. In previous years the committee met once per semester. Schultz also serves as associate dean of the College of Business and Economics - a position that has allowed him to hear student complaints regarding advising. “I’ve had students come to me and say they weren’t getting a clear message from their advisor,” he said. Schultz and Academic Advisor Justin Hauer went to UW-Madison Oct. 27 to attend an advising workshop with the hope of gaining ideas from other universities that could be applied at UWRF. “We’re probably at step one-half in this process,” Schultz said. “Part of the impetus of what we’re doing here is to get more consistency so students don’t hear four different things from four different people.” UWRF junior Jerome McNamara is one student who said he has had issues with advising. “I haven’t had effective advising experiences,” McNamara said. When he had a problem, his advisor seemed to blow it off, he said. “They weren’t very insightful,” McNamara said. “The best I got

was, ‘Figure it out.’” The Degree Audit Report (DAR) is a commonly used tool to track academic progress, but it can cause confusion. “I know if I didn’t meet with my advisor I’d be lost,” senior Kelly Hurley said. “I don’t know how to read my DAR without my advisor.” Yet advising experiences depend on the advisor and student. “They like it when you know what you want,” senior Ryan Stovern said. “The better prepared you are, the better it works.” A few students said they believe advising would be a better experience.

See Advising, page 8



Beth Dickman/Student Voice

Professor Sandy Ellis meets with freshman Nicholas Niewinski Nov. 7 for an advising appointment to discuss his DAR and course schedule for next semester.

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

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- Beginning Nov. 22, motorcycles will not be allowed to park in E-Lot, N-Lot and O-Lot. Motorcycle parking in these areas is prohibited to aid in the snow removal process. Motorcycles remaining in these spaces after Nov. 22 will be cited for no parking. The spots will be available again in the spring after snow melts.
- Student parking permit spaces will be enforced Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. through Nov. 21 at 4:30 p.m., and will break during the Thanksgiving holiday. Enforcement of permit spaces resumes Nov. 26 at 6 p.m. Faculty and staff permit spaces, restricted spaces, fire lanes and meters are enforced 12 months a year.
- Questions about either of these issues can be directed to the Parking Department at 425-3333.

- Oct. 31**
 - Andrew J. Fairbanks, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
 - Molly M. King, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Stratton Hall.
- Nov. 2**
 - Rachel V. Merrier, 18, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Hathorn Hall.
- Nov. 5**
 - Jeremiah J. Lukas, 18, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
 - Hannah M. Wortz, 18, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
 - Rona J. Johnson, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption

Café: Students now have a place to eat after midnight

from page 1

effect coincided with Halloween weekend, which typically draws large crowds to the downtown bars.

“The Halloween crowd was a lot of fun and I am glad that we are able to offer people an alternative to driving out of town,” Hartvig said.

Students who do not frequent the local bars also now have a place to eat something other than the usual college food.

“I think that having something open past 11, besides pizza places, would be sweet because we don’t want pizza all the time and we certainly don’t want to drive to Hudson at 3 a.m.,” sophomore Jason Wallace said.

Junior John Breitzman said having the option to go to South Fork Café will also benefit students during finals weeks. He said it would be better for the town if they had more after-hours options for UWRF students to take advantage of, such as later hours at Perkins.

“Why take the business to another town when you can make some money here?” Breitzman said.

Junior Derick Teich bartends two doors down at Bo’s ‘n Mine and sees the restaurant re-open at midnight to accommodate bar patrons.

“They get lots of business, and bar-goers get some good food late at night,” Teich said. “It’s nice to have more than pizza available.”

UWRF alumna Jessi Baeseman said when she attended college in River Falls, she would have loved to have a place to go after 11 p.m. on weekends.

“I do think that the town should think of other



Beth Dickman/Student Voice
South Fork Café, 116 S. Main St., is nestled in the heart of the River Falls bar scene.

places for later at night,” she said. “It’s hard when all you want to do is grab a midnight bite to eat and get on with the studying and there’s nowhere to go.”

Overweight: Chartwells offers students healthy food options

from page 1

While the simple thought of working out can make some people sweat, being physically active does not mean spending tons of time in the gym.

SHS Director Alice Reilly-Myklebust said any amount of exercise students have time for will help them either lose or maintain their weight.

“Incorporating activity into your daily life, even five or 10 minutes here and there, will add up,” she said.

Eating well is another major part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. While UWRF cannot regulate students who live off campus, those who live in dorms are required to have a meal plan.

Chartwells Director of Dining Services Jennifer Conde said UWRF students have a constant supply of healthy food choices.

“Our chef and food service director at UWRF have completed a 10-hour Nutrition Certification Program coordinated through Fraingham University,” she said. “Recipes from this program are incorporated into the existing food options so students always have a healthy choice.”

The lessons learned through the program have been put in place on campus.

“Menus rotate on an eight-week cycle to keep options fresh,” Conde said. “Additionally, Chartwells always provides fresh fruits and a full salad bar with low-fat dressing options. Deli style sandwiches and low-fat soups are available as well.”

With the variety of food choices offered, UWRF

Dining Services Director Jerry Waller said there is one factor students should keep in mind concerning weight.

“It is a matter of choice,” Waller said of what and how much food an individual consumes.

After living in a UWRF dorm, Paul Karklus is one student who prefers cooking his own food.

“Realistically, you have no choice to have a meal plan,” 23-year-old Karklus said.

Though he was required to use the dining services when he lived in a dorm, Karklus said he would have eaten better if he bought his own groceries.

“The food that they serve here is shit,” he said, suggesting the University could provide “food with better nutritional value.”

Karklus’ hope of improved nutrition is one that Conde said is being looked at by Dining Services.

“When the new University Center [Student Center] opens, there will be a station dedicated to healthy menu options utilizing recipes from the Balanced Choices collection,” she said. “A hot entrée, a vegetarian entrée, a side and a salad will be offered daily at lunch and dinner. This is in addition to other fresh menu options, which will include stir-fry, deli sandwiches, soups, salads and home-style entrées.”

For SHS nurse Lori Otto, teaching students to live a healthy lifestyle is helping them to understand the difference from being “fixated to a number” on a scale and “accepting themselves for who they are.”

“We want students to be healthy,” she said. “If they accept themselves at an unhealthy weight, then we want to work with them.”



Beth Dickman/Student Voice
Students stand in line in the Student Center Wednesday evening, waiting to order food at main-level venue Char’s Grille. UWRF Dining Services offers a variety of food choices for students to enjoy on a daily basis, including Blimpie, Freddy’s, Sandella’s and Java Coast.

Housing: Residence Life anticipates emptying of lounges

from page 1

“We plan on them receiving their new room assignments before they leave here for semester break,” he said. “They’ll get first priority [in housing] before any new or transfer students that come in in January.”

The total number of students in temporary housing has dropped from a high of 150 at the beginning of the semester.

With the University having welcomed an unprecedented 1,296 freshmen to campus this fall, Willson said there are now more students than ever living in the residence halls.

“This is the highest number we’ve ever housed,” he said.

To better accommodate this year’s influx of students, sophomores were given the option of moving off campus and first-year RAs received temporary roommates, Willson said.

Students in temporary housing said they don’t mind having to wait a little longer for a permanent assignment.

Stratton Hall resident Ryan

“I would rather stay here with my roommates because we are already adjusted to this way of living and school.”

Andy Hopfensperger, student

Ankerson had three other roommates at the beginning of the school year, but is now living alone.

“I’m fine down here by myself,” Ankerson, a freshman, said. “I’m the only one in the room.”

Freshman Andy Hopfensperger originally had four roommates in his May Hall temporary housing unit. He now has two, and said he enjoys the extra room.

“I have a little more space to myself,” he said.

Hopfensperger said he would prefer to stay in his current location instead of moving next semester.

“I would rather stay here with my roommates because we are already adjusted to this way of living and school,” he said. “Changing this [next] semester will just mess us all up again.”

According to Willson, Hopfensperger’s preference is not uncommon.

Residence Life has received requests from students to remain in temporary housing for the rest

of the year, Willson said.

“We normally hear it when they get their permanent assignment,” he said. “Maybe it’s not their first choice as far as the building they’re going to or they’d really like to room with one of the people they’re already rooming with.”

However, Willson said, Residence Life does not grant these requests.

“We [don’t] give them that option,” he said. “We have to have some method to this assignment process.”

The hope is for the residence halls to regain full usage of their lounges, many of which are being used as temporary housing rooms, Willson said.

“Our desire is to get the lounges back if possible for students to use for late-night study space or socializing and things,” he said. “We like the idea of each floor level in a building having a place where [students] could go to study or could go to visit with friends.”

But Willson said Residence Life anticipates assigning many incoming spring semester students to temporary housing, which means that some of the lounges will continue to be used as rooms.

“We’ll house according to our ability, but ... we’ll know there’ll be a number of them in temporary housing,” he said. “Some of these temporary housing rooms, we’re emptying out in December and then we’re refilling them in January.”

Willson said despite the inconvenience temporary housing may provide, he believes most students are satisfied with their overall experience.

“It’s pretty livable [and] pretty pleasant,” he said, adding that Residence Life has received very few complaints from its residents.

To serve UWRF’s growing student enrollment, future housing expansion plans include the addition of two wings to the South Fork Suites.

Ads: Facebook allows politicians to reach younger demographic

from page 1

“It’s a good way to show your support for candidates,” Benner said.

In addition to political groups, many candidates also had profiles on Facebook. The site allowed candidates to create profiles as part of the Elections 2006 feature.

Brad Smith, who serves as U.S. Rep. Ron Kind’s congressional district field director, said the staff chose to have Kind’s profile on Facebook because it was a good way to reach out to young voters.

“Ron’s staff is a fairly young staff,” Smith said. “The staff thought Facebook was the way to reach out to our demographic.”

Though there is no way to see the number of hits to the page, the profiles increased the amount of student activity with candidates, Smith said.

“It has yet to be seen if it will increase students’ votes, but it allowed students to show their support,” he said.

“Almost every candidate had one,” Benner said. “I think it was a good way to reach out to young people. Students were more apt to learn about candidates since they had more exposure to them.”

Benner said while the candidate profiles on Facebook informed students about the candidates, he does not think it is the best resource to find out where candidates stand on specific issues.

“Facebook is a good outlet for



Screen Capture
A screen capture of Facebook shows Governor Jim Doyle’s election profile. Facebook users across the country were able to add candidates they support to their own profiles.

candidates, but the most information about where candidates stood was on their personal Web sites,” Benner said. “Although [Facebook] was not my favorite resource, it served as a link to candidates for our age group.”

Among other attempts to educate students about candidates was the Young Americans Fund, a congressional watchdog group run by college students.

Derek Schlickeisen, a sophomore at Middlebury College in Vermont, created the organization in July.

“I am concerned about the direction of our country,” Schlickeisen said. “[Our ads focused] on advertising the records of the best and worst of Congress.”

Through advertisements, the organization educated young voters about congressional candidates and their records on issues that matter most to young voters. The organization also rated the candidates on a scorecard based on their commitment to young Americans.

“We were not focused on getting anyone elected or defeated,” Schlickeisen said. “We were focused on simply informing voters.”

The group ran the advertisements, appearing on the left-hand side of all Facebook pages, until the third week of October, reaching 2 million college students nationwide.

Doors: Process to correct frame error delaying installation

from page 1

should have a guy out there to seal the doorways. It will be totally sealed.”

Once sealed, the airflow will be completely stopped, Domino said.

“I’m not up there everyday,” he said. “So I didn’t know it was such an issue or even occurring.”

Domino said the delay was due to an error that occurred with the trim.

Because South Hall is a historic state-owned building, the material for the trim had to be specially made from a company located in Pennsylvania, he said. The company had to make an aluminum material that can be curved to match the arch of the north entrance.

Once the frame is produced, it is then shipped to a company in northern Minnesota to make the curvature to the correct radius of the door, Domino said.

When the frame was curved, the color and material became distorted and the process had to

begin all over again, he said.

“The process is extremely long,” Domino said.

“I’m not up there everyday, so I didn’t know it was such an issue or even occurring.”

Jason Domino, project manager for Summit Architecture

Because the trim for the north entrance had to be sent back, the entire project is now delayed. Domino said he has to wait until another piece is made, leaving him unable to commit to a completion date for the job.

Summit Architecture was selected for the project through a competitive bidding process by the state, Murphy said.

“Their company submitted the lowest bid,” he said. “I’m unable to comment on their prior work record, as I am not familiar with

other work they have done.”

The total cost for the South Hall doors is \$130,000, Murphy said.

“The funds for the North Hall windows, KFA and South Hall doors were received from the State Building Commission,” he said. “They are not student fee generated.”

The construction company was also contracted to install the new entrance doors in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building last fall, which Murphy said has also not been finished.

Murphy said the state can issue a notice to a contracted company about finishing the job and charging for lack of time and work spent on the project, but no action has been taken on UWRF projects.

“There is a process that can be used to have another company finish the work, but [it] is not often used and is not an option that the University can apply,” Murphy said. “It has to be initiated by the Division of State Facilities.”

For all the latest campus news, visit the Student Voice online at uwrvoice.com.

EDITORIAL

Registration causes problems for students

It's that time of year again. Students across campus are flooding faculty offices and incessantly logging on to eSIS in an effort to get their degrees in the most efficient way possible. Yet the preparation process for semesters to come can be frustrating, largely due to technology and ever-changing curricula.

While the eSIS upgrade last March was aimed to improve the program for student use, it also caused visible problems when it comes to registering for classes, clearing holds and rolling over the \$100 deposit.

These issues come to the forefront during registration each semester and bring about much stress on campus.

For some, registering for classes is the only time students log in to their eSIS account, and for first-year students, this registration period is likely the first time they will use the program since orientation without help from faculty and staff.

The organization of courses on eSIS needs improvement. When a class is searched, it should be easy to understand where it fits into each requirement for gaining that eventual degree. But the online program is complicated, often interpreted as a series of useless, repetitive steps.

Still, students don't even have a visible second option to fall back on - new catalogs have not been printed since 2003 due to drastic changes within many general education requirements for undergraduates.

But technology is not the only perceived enemy of students continuing their careers at UWRF.

The advising procedure set for students at UWRF is intended to ease the process of registering, yet for some it seems to be a nuisance rather than a step toward the ultimate educational accomplishment - graduation.

Departments on campus have the ability to change the date, time, and even the option of offering each class for a given semester - often up until the day before registration begins. With the possibility of last-minute changes to vital courses, students are not receiving the fundamental message that conscientious planning is essential to success in life.

It also seems to be a trend among academic departments to completely revamp their curricula. Many are changing for the better, yet alterations leave behind students who fall between the new and old programs.

No matter where a student is in their academic career at UWRF, registering for classes can cause a stir of complications. Advising and eSIS are two tools intended to help the experience or inexperienced, so advisors need to be aware of what is offered, changed and expected of students through this essential process on their educational paths.

Editorials represent the opinion of the Student Voice Editorial Board and are prepared by the editorial staff.

Read the *Student Voice* online at www.uwrfvoice.com

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS

STUDENT VOICE

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The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Thursdays during the regular school year.

All editorial content in the *Student Voice* is determined by the newspaper's Editorial Board. The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper's advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall or to student.voice@uwrf.edu.

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters.

All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

Single copies of the *Student Voice* are free. Printing is paid for through student fees.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Senate operates behind scenes

Student Senate works long and hard hours to represent the students of UWRF.

However, this hard work is not all flash and controversy. Many of the senators and committees that work to ensure students across campus are represented do work behind the scenes.

Two of the biggest undertakings Student Senate has done involve the University's strategic planning and this week's elections. Are strategic planning goals or getting students to vote necessarily a "sexy" topic for Senate to work on? No, of course not, but this does not mean they are any less important. Senators are spending large numbers of hours with faculty and staff in committee meetings discussing the future of this University. For some reason, that does not get as much publicity as Senate's stance on the marriage amendment. However, the results of the strategic planning will have a far larger impact on what this University will look like in the coming years.

Many of the Student Senate committees have done exceptional work that has gone unnoticed by the *Student Voice*. Our Shared Governance director, Derek Brandt, has worked with his committee to ensure students are placed on various University committees and their voices heard. Student Affairs and Academic Services Director Dan Scott has been working with his committee to make sure students lock their car doors at night. Sarah Saal, our Women's Initiatives director, has been advocating breast cancer awareness. Ashley Olson has been meeting with underrepresented students across campus to ensure they have a voice in what is going on in our growing campus.

These are just some of the many things senators have been doing and some of the examples of excellent work the Student Voice has overlooked in order to get a "sexy" story.

Joe Eggers
Student Senate president

Columnist uses incorrect facts

Let me begin by stating that Nicole Aune had a good point to make about Americans supporting President Bush regardless of their views. However, this is where she stopped making any valid points.

Perhaps it's because she admits that she's never been a political person, but then please don't waste our time with unsupported banter. Aune stated that if terrorists took out Bush, they could overtake the United States. Is she implying that we're all under the mind control of Bush, and if he was some how taken out of the picture we would become terrorists? How

could one single person be holding back the attacks?

As for Bush's "Texas English," that's what the press secretary and speech writers are for. After six years, Bush should not still be having as many issues as he is with his speech. And what is "correct" English?

In regard to the approval rating, perhaps other Presidents have had lower ratings, but how long did they last?

Perhaps the editor should be making sure that her columnists are using facts and not assumptions, but it appears that the *Student Voice* isn't very interested in responsible journalism.

Ashley Kollath
Student

Thanks to voters

Thank you to all the students who were part of the fight to defeat the proposed amendment to ban civil unions and marriage. We came up short on a statewide level, but the students on our campus do believe in a Fair Wisconsin. This is not the end of our fight for equality. In five years, our generation will make a difference in this world, affording civil rights to all people.

Thank you again.

Lacey Felmlee
Campus Director,
Fair Wisconsin
Student

Bush's mistakes harm America

In last week's *Voice*, Nicole Aune states that in criticizing the failures of President Bush, "We, the people of the United States, are making ourselves look weak to the enemy."

Unfortunately for Aune, this is not a cosmetic problem. Worrying about the image we as a nation project regarding our distaste of Bush is not going to solve any problems. Does she really think that if we were all to shut up, other countries will suddenly stop realizing that Bush is making colossal mistakes throughout the world?

Aune also says that if we were to take out our president, the terrorists would win, and we would do whatever they say. Does she truly believe that the citizens of this great nation would turn over our decision making to the terrorists? If she believes that, I have some weapons of mass destruction in Iraq to sell her.

In addition, assuming that Bush's butchering of the English language is a product of where he is from is a slap in the face of all Texans when considering that Bush has invented such profound words as "Internets," "nucular" and "misunderestimated."

She says that what's done is done, and even though the president has cost some money and some lives, leaving Iraq now would make us look even weaker. Let me get this straight: the

only solution is to throw another 2,800 lives into Bush's meat grinder so Bush doesn't have to be a real man and admit a mistake? Our troops and our nation deserve better.

As Teddy Roosevelt put it 88 years ago, "To announce that there must be no criticism of the president, or that we are to stand by the president, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public."

Brian Hogenson
Student

Fall break not an option for UWRF

The issue of a fall break comes up just about every time an academic calendar is considered by the Faculty Senate. I am the chair of the Calendar Committee, and we recently submitted a report to the Faculty Senate on the feasibility of a fall break. Most people on campus would likely agree that a fall break would be desirable, but there are some hurdles that get in the way of actually scheduling a fall break — some large hurdles and some not so large.

By far the largest hurdle is a Wisconsin statute [36.11(16) COMMENCEMENT OF FALL SEMESTER] that does not allow fall classes to begin until after Sept. 1. This leaves only 77 days available for instruction between Sept. 2 (the first date we can hold class) and Dec. 22 (the latest date to be considered for scheduling the end of final exams) in all but one year of the calendar cycle. These 77 days do not include Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day or the Friday after Thanksgiving.

A second hurdle is a UW-System policy [92-9 ACADEMIC CALENDAR POLICY] that specifies a minimum of 150 days of classroom instruction and even-length semesters. The standard UWRF academic calendar meets this requirement with 75 days of instruction in the fall and spring semesters, including 70 days of classes and 5 days of final exams. This leaves essentially two days of calendaring freedom for the Calendar Committee to work with the fall semester calendar.

There are additional issues that arise from the UWRF Balanced Calendar Policy [Faculty Senate motion 01-02] that makes using those two days of calendaring freedom for a fall break problematic.

The long story made short is that a meaningful fall break is not feasible with the current calendaring constraints. The complete report on the feasibility of a fall break can be found on the UWRF Faculty Senate web page at: www.uwrf.edu/faculty_senate/senate_agendas/2006-07/Agenda%209-13-06/FallBreakMemo.doc

The Calendar Committee is always interested in hearing comments and suggestions related to the academic calendar so that we can craft an academic

calendar that best serves the needs of our campus community.

Karl P. Peterson
Calendar Committee chair

Dissent is not injuring country

I am writing in response to last week's "Support Bush for the greater good" column.

First and foremost, it is not weak to show dissent. I would argue that to stand amidst a crowd of dissent and still hold strong to one's principles is a symbol for strength. To be weak is to support something one does not agree with simply because it is what the majority is doing.

Bush, who is from Connecticut, not Texas, does not look "weak" because he cannot speak proper English, but because he has lied about the reasons for the Iraq war, the NSA spy program and has failed to provide any clear plan for the war other than to "stay the course." Bush may have once had high approval ratings, but the fact is he doesn't any longer, yet he continues to pursue policies that the American people, whom he is supposedly representing, disagree with.

The author of the column also wrote, "What's done is done," apparently referring to Iraq. This is a gross miscalculation — October 2006 was the bloodiest month on record since August 2004. Neither Bush nor his cronies have the strength to admit that things are not improving in Iraq. Each day they commit more soldiers to an occupation that claims their lives in the name of oil, capital and imperialism, benefiting a small elite class at the expense of the soldiers.

We are a country built on revolution, dissent toward imperial power and the freedom to eject unjust leadership. Holding true to our foundations, we should unite together against Bush and those who promote similar imperialistic ventures, voicing loud and clear our opposition to such policies, showing our strength and standing tall in the face of injustice.

Alex Halverson
Student

Trust worth more than opposition

I would like to say that I wholeheartedly agree with Nicole Aune's viewpoint that we as Americans need to stand behind our president during times of crisis in order to support the greater good of America.

When our country is in a time of crisis, it is simply un-American to express dissident views on our president's policies at home and in Iraq. America as a nation has a long

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history of political complacency and quietude when it comes to expressing views that are incongruous with those of the ruling elites. There is no reason for these traditions to be challenged at this point, especially when our friends, brothers and sisters are spilling their blood in Iraq in order to satiate rapacious corporate greed.

Just think of how hurtful it would be to our president if we were to ask him to accept responsibility for lost lives in a senseless war. It is imperative that we stand behind our leaders, even if their policies cost us our lives. We may live in a democracy, but can you imagine the confusion that would be present if the majority of Americans were to question their own government's policies? This would be a disaster, as most Americans are too stupid to know what is good for them anyway.

During times like these, we need to trust our magnanimous leaders to make decisions for us, even if those decisions mean our lives will be lost in order to satisfy avaricious corporate greed.

Aaron Olson
Student

Profs on sidelines as students teach

I'd like to pose a question to the student body: Has anyone else noticed that professors aren't ... well ... professing anymore?

I've spent three years here at UWRF, and in the past two semesters I have noticed a trend in the presentation of topics in a good chunk of my classes. These presentations are student presentations. OK, don't get me wrong, I love doing presentations just as much

as the next student, but when the class presentations are the only things happening in class, there is something wrong with the teaching style.

I give big credit to the professors who have done the hardest thing I think a professor has to do — generate a topic and present it in a way that keeps them interested and helps them retain information they can take into the world. Now, some aren't as great as the others at keeping it interesting, but at least they are trying.

A growing number of my fellow classmates and I are disappointed by how some of our classes are now being taught—by us, the students.

Some professors have given up teaching their own class and turned it over to the students. In my opinion, if I'm teaching part of the class and the rest of the class teaches everything else while the professor hides behind student presentations, where is my slice of the paycheck? I'm paying to be taught by a professor. Whether they make the class interesting or not, at least they are actually teaching their own class instead of leaving it in the hands of the students. I would rather get the straightforward and most reliable information from a professor who has a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree in the subject than from a student who spent 15 minutes looking up definitions on Wikipedia.

My basic point is that I am paying tuition to be taught, not to teach the class on my own. I beg you — teach me. I'm willing to learn. That's why I am here.

Katherine Arcand
Student

Amendment piece unfair, biased

I was disappointed in Kate Garlock's Nov. 3 article, "Election to determine fate of same-sex couples." Not one sentence in the whole article suggested that there might be another side to this issue.

The article goes on and on about how bad the marriage amendment would be. I kept waiting for even the slightest suggestion that there was some support for the amendment - but it never materialized.

At best, this is lazy journalism unfit for publication in a serious newspaper. At worst, it was a biased attempt to affect the outcome of this referendum. The editor should have insisted on a balanced reporting on this important topic.

Sean Blackburn
Staff

Blind devotion not greater good

To say that the U.S. citizens must support Bush regardless of his many mistakes and his aggressive moral imperative is not only ridiculous but an affront to our founding fathers.

Dissent is one of our constitutionally protected rights, and it was this founding principle that our forefathers held too. I, for one, would not like to live to see it die.

The United States has always been a country of individuals and strongly self-motivated people, and there is no reason to throw this away and become sheep.

Our right to dissent has led the United States to greater freedom, not weakened us. To blindly follow Bush would be to murder a

Abrahm Simons
Student

Have something on your mind? Write a letter to the editor and drop it in the box outside of 304 N. Hall

Borat could teach global lesson

Two things happened on Tuesday, and I thought they wouldn't have any connection to each other: I voted and I saw the movie "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan." Aside from the prideful, patriotic feeling I got from affixing the "I Voted" sticker to my chest, voting wasn't very entertaining or amusing.

But "Borat" was hilarious. Sacha Baron Cohen, the actor who plays Borat, takes on his character masterfully and without any reservations, and the various acts and stunts he performs so shameful that they rival those of Johnny Knoxville. The movie was definitely worth the \$7 admission fee and the drive to Oakdale.

Less hilarious, though, were the Americans who Borat encountered during his trek across the United States. At one point, Borat asked a car salesman which vehicle would be most likely to attract a girl with a shorn pubic area, to which the salesman replied, "That would be a Corvette. Or a Hummer." Borat then showed up to a rodeo in the South where an American man encouraged Borat to shave off his moustache because it made him look too much like a Muslim. Later in the movie, Borat asked a gun dealer which weapon would be the most effective in defending himself against a Jew. (Keep in mind, Baron Cohen is Jewish in real life.) To this, the dealer recommended a 9-millimeter hand gun. On another occasion,

one college-aged guy asked Borat, "Are women your slaves in Russia?"

These examples are embarrassing and humbling, and they should be for every American. Is our naivety of foreign customs so great that we don't understand when a witty actor is making Americans the butt of the joke? When Borat was off camera at one point in the movie, a woman commented about Borat and his fictitious cultural practices saying, "I think the cultural differences are vast. I don't think it would take him long to become Americanized." So, to answer my own question, apparently we are. These candid, unscripted lines from the American public are proof.

As I was researching Baron Cohen and his Borat character, I came across a column by Howard Fineman of Newsweek. He asked if Americans still see George W. Bush as the savior for inferior nations in need of political reform, support and guidance, "or have Americans come to view him the way comedian Sacha Baron Cohen-slyly, through his Borat character—does: as a rootin'-tootin,' boorish fool?"

The way the elections went, the American public has answered, "Yep, the boorish fool." Perhaps we're looking to change the perception—the George W. Bush perception—we have

of the rest of the world and, in turn, the perception the rest of the world has of us. This midterm election was labeled a referendum against Bush, and in some sense, the referendum has passed. The U.S. House of Representatives sent many long-time Republican incumbents home with their tails between their legs, and now the House has shifted dramatically to the Democrats' advantage. Although it may take days—even weeks—to completely discover the makeup of the new Senate, Democrats have clearly gained seats in that department as well.

With the uncertain times we're having in Iraq, failing foreign diplomacy and a general disregard toward America, this congressional shift is just what our country needs. We've proved that plowing through the opposition's suggestions just to "stay the course" is no longer the answer. The course isn't working, and it's making our country look like a bunch of careless conquerors with no regard for the rest of the world's population. Former President Bill Clinton put it nicely: "It's time to stop and think. Then we can decide and act."

On Tuesday, voters agreed. We have a new, better direction to go, and the rest of the world will understand that Americans are as eager and excited for change as anyone.

Or as Borat would say, "I like! High-five!"

Less hilarious, though, were the Americans who Borat encountered during his trek across the United States.



Ben Jipson

ish fool?"

The way the elections went, the American public has answered, "Yep, the boorish fool." Perhaps we're looking to change the perception—the George W. Bush perception—we have

Facebook segregates students

Online social networks like Facebook and MySpace are the fastest growing new trend on the Web. They are a great way for people to interact, stay in touch with friends, and meet people with similar interests. People in the Facebook or MySpace community usually meet others with their same interests by joining or creating groups. This is usually a harmless way to bring together people with similar interests, but recently Facebook has been corrupted by groups that see the racist sentiment.

I came across a group called "THE BIGGEST (NONCOLORED) FACEBOOK GROUP EVER," because I was invited to join it by a guy who I used to go to high school with. I was disgusted and turned his group invitation down. On his group site, it says he created it in response to someone who created a group called "THE BIGGEST (NONWHITE) FACEBOOK GROUP EVER." These two groups may seem harmless to some people, but ignorance like this is what keeps racism alive and well in the United States today. Neither

one of these people were right in creating their respective groups.

"This group is not meant to be racist, it is meant to simply prove a point," the creator said of the "NONCOLORED" Facebook group.

The creator of this group may not think he is being racist, but anytime someone takes a step like this they are being overtly racist. The same is true for the creator of the other group. Both people probably believe that they are creating groups where people of their same ethnic background can get together and interact.

But that is the scary part about these two people and anyone who joins their groups — they think that racial segregation is OK. White people should only congregate with other white people, and nonwhites should only congregate with each other. This is starting to sound like an Internet version of Jim Crow. Before long

there will be Facebook groups for "white" water fountains or bubbles (take your pick), and "non-white" ones.

Discrimination by ethnicity is not the only racial issue prevalent in social networks today. Sexual orientation discrimination has also nestled its way into the electronic medium. Anti-gay and lesbian groups are imbedded in Facebook and they usually get shut down by the administrators, but some of them just change their names, such as the "Random group since my anti-gay one got deleted" group. People who create and join groups such as these are just as ignorant as the people who create and join racist groups.

One of the biggest concerns I have with our society today is that people tend to be afraid of what they don't understand. People in the "NONWHITE" Facebook group and people in

the "NONCOLORED" group undoubtedly don't take the time to get to know people out of their respective ethnic bubbles. The same is true for people who join anti-gay and lesbian groups. They may not think it's a big deal to discriminate against gay people, but even discrimination on this small of a level can eventually lead to hate.

It is truly sad that discrimination and hate are starting to leak into electronic mediums such as Facebook and MySpace. People who spread hate and discrimination can be found in every walk of life, but with the aid of the Internet they can now be brought together like never before.

As college students, it is our duty to dispel the myths of discrimination, and this is definitely true for electronic mediums. We may live in a nation where the First Amendment gives us the right to free speech, but it does not protect hate speech. People who bring their racist sentiment to online social networks should know that those ideas are not welcome.

Music videos distort the American image

Although I have yet to see the film, just the previews for "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" have got me thinking in a way no goofy comedy featuring a weird guy from Britain should.

In case you don't have cable TV, Internet or eyes, "Borat" is about a guy from Kazakhstan who comes to the United States and manages to remain oblivious to the culture shock he is experiencing — with hilarious results.

In a commercial that came on while I was getting ready for class one day, Borat says something about our "singing prostitutes," which struck a chord with me because I had been flipping back and forth between VH1 and MTV trying to find a music video that didn't have female anatomy bouncing all over the screen. To make matters worse, the guys in the videos almost always wear huge clothes, which make them look like kids trying on daddy's clothes.

Apparently in these cases daddy is either a professional jogger or a hit man. At least soft porn has a little more for the ladies ... or so I hear anyway.

Because TV is the great communicator between countries, people of other nations who see those videos associate them with American culture. Personally, Diddy is not the ambassador I want representing American values. It seems a little bit hypocritical for Americans to be complaining about how in other cultures women are oppressed and abused and forced to wear yards of fabric in 100-degree weather, when in our own country women are treated as either sperm receptacles or aids in sperm elimination, according to our entertainment industry anyway.

What is the point of making music videos anymore? They all follow the same template — even the songs are not that different from each other. All they are is a chance for the singers to dress up or down and encourage people to desire the body, riches and lifestyle they will never have. Videos are also a chance for performers to stroke their ego, because even repeating your name over and over in a song doesn't really show people how awesome you are.

I just want to take this opportunity to say that Fergie of the Black Eyed Peas fame seems to be obsessively finding a way to make her name the highlight of every one of her Gwen Stefani knock-off songs, and it bothers me.

Despite all of my whining, I don't think Americans should be ashamed of our freedom with sexuality; it's one of the freedoms we are lucky to have in our country. I just wish the other characteristics most Americans also have, like compassion, ambition and diversity, were given half the publicity as our ability to dance without busting out of our clothing.

Americans are more than sex addicts sitting at a drive-thru reading a Bible, and it is the side that television does not portray that really represents our population and the ideas we want to share with other nations.



Cassie Rodgers

Negative ads rule airwaves

After listening to campaign ads that seems to only attack other candidates instead of promoting their issues and values for the past couple months, I, like many other people, am extremely happy to say that it is finally over.

There used to be a day when politicians created positive campaigns that did not send negative messages about their opponents. But this year seemed to be the campaign year with the most negative and attacking ads in history. Politicians focused on the negative aspects of their opponents instead of the ideas and goals for their own campaigns.

As voters in Wisconsin, Minnesota and throughout the country try to unscramble the messages sent through the media to find a candidate that best suits their beliefs, they also need to pay attention and learn how to decipher fact from fiction.

It seems like the only way to get into office is to see who the best opponent basher is, who can come up with the most attacking ad, or who has the best sources to create a message that twists others' words into something so far from the truth.

I couldn't help but hear about the frustrations some people had with all of the ads. While I was visiting my parents this weekend, my dad muted the TV every time an ad came on because he was "so fed up with that crap." No matter how neutral I would have liked to remain and not say anything, I couldn't help but agree with him.

Isn't the process of running for office supposed to include politicians talking about their campaign issues and how they will make changes — not just saying, "I will lower taxes," but what process they will take to do so — and improvements to society? Not about how their opponent is so horrible and so incredibly untrustworthy that the country will go down the drain.

Then, as these vicious politicians work their campaigns, they want the young people to get out and vote on issues that don't directly relate to them in any way whatsoever. I'm sure many would agree that they would be more apt to get out to the polls and vote if the issues actually concerned them somehow. But as for now, young people are forced to vote on Social Security and Medicare — things that have no effect at the present time.

Maybe at the next election in 2008, politicians will realize that their scare tactics aren't necessarily the best way to go about campaigning.

They should notice that people want results, and to receive votes they need to talk about their issues and goals instead of trying to ruin their opponents' reputations and campaigns.

Citizens do care about who gets into office, as long as they see positive results. For now, it will be a nice break from seeing attacks every time a commercial comes onto the TV.



Sara Hauer

Border battle rivalry heats up



Sarah Packingham

If things go my way, I will have my eyes glued to the television on Sunday, as one of the most heated rivalries in all of professional football gets underway when the green and gold take on my beloved purple and gold.

I have been waiting for a long time to see the Minnesota Vikings take on the Green Bay Packers at one of my favorite places in the world, the Metrodome. Although I have never been to the Dome for a football game, I can only imagine that this Sunday, the place is going to be a rockin’ for the entire duration of the game.

Last season, I made a prediction that the Vikings would beat the Packers by three. And I was right, twice. Both games, decided by field goals, were won by

the Minnesota Vikings at home and all the way in Green Bay at Lambeau Field.

This weekend, I’d like to say the Vikings are poised to beat the Packers again, but I’m not so sure.

It seems like no team is the sure favorite going into this weekend’s game. While the Vikings started out at 2-0, it doesn’t seem to matter as the team has only won two more games since. And the Packers have only won three games overall. There is only one team that both Minnesota and Green Bay have beat, and that’s the Detroit Lions. While the Packers’ offense had a slight advantage in the 31-26 victory over the Lions, the Vikings held the edge in defense, beating Detroit 26-17.

Defense has seemed to be the advantage of the Vikings this year. Even though the team is not allowing the other teams to score a large amount of points, the offense can’t always win the game. In the last two weekends against the Giants and the Patriots, respectively, the Vikings were only able to man-

age 10 points total, and the defense only gave up 40 total points.

The Packers, on the other hand, are scoring more points. In the final two games, one of which was a win over the Cardinals, Green Bay squeezed out 41 points, including 31 points in the win alone. In the two games, the Packers’ defense gave up 38 points, which is comparable to the Vikings, but Minnesota still can’t put opponents away.

Neither of the teams are spectacular this season in any respect. The Vikings’ overall record going into this weekend is 4-4, while the Packers are two games below .500 at 3-5. The Vikings started out the regular season with two consecutive wins, and the Packers began the early season with two losses. The beginning of the season was a sign of things to come for a sub-par season for the Green Bay Packers.

In years past, both teams have been near the top of their league, if not at the very top, so it’s strange to see them towards the middle and bottom of the

NFC North division.

It seems like the only good team in the league is the Chicago Bears, which is unusual. The Bears’ overall record is 7-1, which includes a 19-16 win over the Vikings and a 26-0 win over Green Bay. I’ll give Minnesota credit for keeping it competitive; in fact, it wasn’t even until the end of the game where Minnesota lost composure, giving the Bears the victory.

Even though neither team has been amazing this season, I still think that the battle this weekend is going to be one to remember. These two rivals always come out ready to play, no matter what point in the season it is and where the season may be going. I’m not going to say either team is going to have perfect defense or if there will be an offensive onslaught by one team, but it’s still going to be fun.

And with that all being said, I’m going to pick Minnesota for the 20-13 win over the Packers, mainly due to the fact that the Vikings will have home field advantage.

Baseball club preps for its first season

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Like men’s soccer, men’s baseball at UWRF is having to build a team from the ground up. Unlike the soccer team, which is brand new to UWRF, the new baseball team is replacing the original team which was cut after the 2001-2002 season because of Title IX and budget cuts.

Title IX is a law that passed in 1972 that says there have to be the same number of women’s sports teams as there are men’s. Women’s gymnastics was also cut. Women’s golf and men’s indoor track were added to replace them as cheaper alternatives.

The team was started last spring by sophomore Alan Knaeble, and has since made major strides to become official.

Recreational Leadership Coordinator Kurran Sagan said the team had to fill out a packet to be recognized as an official student organization. He said it’s a very simple procedure.

There has been a lot of interest so far this year. Tryouts were held last month and about 30 players showed up. After cuts were made, the team’s roster stands at about 18.

At this time it will not be varsity, but instead, part of the National Club Baseball Association (NCBA).

The NCBA is a private organization that gives smaller universities baseball teams. Some bigger schools have them too, as an alternative to the varsity team. The UWRF team will be in the Great Lakes West Conference, along with UW-Madison, Marquette, UW-Whitewater, UW-Eau Claire, Northwestern University, UW-Milwaukee and Columbia College.

Because the NCBA isn’t affiliated with any school, the UWRF team won’t be able to

See Baseball, page 7

Punter proves his worth through career with Falcons



Submitted Photo

UW-River Falls senior Jovin Kroll punts the ball down the field in a game against UW-Eau Claire last season. Kroll is the top punter in the WIAC, and is one of the top 10 punters in all of Division III football. Kroll hopes to help the team finish the season strong on Saturday.

Jovin Kroll goes from red-shirt to top in WIAC

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Senior Jovin Kroll has been playing football since he was in sixth grade, but has been a member of the UW-River Falls football team for the past five years, including his first season being red-shirted.

This season, Kroll’s hard work has paid off. Going into last weekend’s game against UW-La Crosse, he was the WIAC leader in punting.

“I think it’s really a culmination of five years of hard work,” head football coach John O’Grady said. “I remember having doubts if he’d ever be able to physically mature enough, but now he’s one of the best punters in our league.”

Even though Kroll has had success punting here at River Falls, he hasn’t always been focused on that position.

“I picked up the duties prior to my senior year of high school when our previous punter was forced out of school,” Kroll said. “Through high school I was a normal position player. It was only once I got to UWRF that I focused only on being a specialist.”

Kicking coach Tom Caflisch has been working with Kroll for five years.

“Jovin is one of the most coachable players I’ve ever worked with,” Caflisch said.

While most players only have one crucial role to fill on a team, O’Grady said that Kroll really helps out the team by holding the ball on all field goal and point after attempts for the Falcons.

Punters and kickers have a completely different role on the team than a defensive lineman or a wide receiver, and sometimes that makes it hard for them to feel comfortable with the rest of

the team. However, O’Grady doesn’t think that’s an issue with Kroll.

“They all accept him as a football player,” O’Grady said.

Kroll knows that his skill and role on the team is unique in comparison to every other player.

“Punting is unlike every other position on the football field. You never know when you’re going to have to go onto the field and perform. You have to be constantly ready to go onto the field, even though that may only happen four or five times a game,” Kroll said.

Kroll also said that weather plays a role in a punter’s performance.

“Also, you have to be constantly aware of the elements. Conditions like wind speed and direction can not only affect where the ball travels, but how long it hangs up in the air and how high you try to hit it.”

But that’s not all that makes punting such a difficult role to fill.

“Another unique trait is that flexibility and technique are more important than strength. In a sport where the emphasis is on being bigger and faster, that is not the case with punting,” Kroll said. “The actual punt is such an individual activity that I’ve got to do perfect every time for positive results, but at the same time, it is totally dependent on the guys up front protecting.”

In Saturday’s loss to UW-La Crosse, Kroll had what may have been his worst game of the season, but O’Grady thought he bounced back well after having a punt blocked. He said that nothing fazes the experienced Kroll any more. It will affect him somewhat, but he doesn’t let it get to him.

This season, punting has been the strongest in recent Falcon football history and Kroll has been one of the most consistent players all season long.



Jovin Kroll

“I think after doing this for four years you actually start to get into a consistent rhythm and your form starts to become identical every punt,” Kroll said. “However, there’s still a lot of punts I’d like to have a shot at hitting again. Coach Caflisch has really guided me in developing a consistent form and rhythm.”

The English major will finish up classes this fall and student teach in the spring. While he might not miss playing in each individual game, he will miss the memories he shared with his teammates.

Following his time at River Falls and student teaching, Kroll plans to get a job teaching English and is marry his fiancée Breana Lind in June.

“The most important person in my life is Breana. I’m really excited to get our lives rolling once I get done with classes this fall. I’d really like to thank her and my family for following our team around the state and the country for the last four or five years,” Kroll said. “My dad was instrumental in getting me involved with football at a young age. I’m sure I wouldn’t be playing here today if it weren’t for him.”

Kroll and the Falcons finish the season on Saturday against UW-Whitewater. Kickoff will be at 1 p.m. at Ramer Field. Whitewater played for the national championship last year and is the defending WIAC champion.

“It’d be really nice to go out with a successful day Saturday,” Kroll said. “Win or lose, I’d just like to thank all the people who’ve supported us throughout the years. Though we don’t say it enough, we really appreciate it.”

Falcon volleyball falls twice in WIAC final four

Falcons end season with two losses

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After a rough start to the beginning of the season, the UW-River Falls women’s volleyball team pulled it together midseason and turned it around, only losing a few more matches before the playoffs.

Four of the matches the Falcons lost were to teams ranked in the top ten in the country in collegiate women’s volleyball.

While it’s not really 100 percent clear what made the change in the Falcon volleyball program, there are two things that are certain to have helped make the change.

Senior Andrea Geehan said that at that point, the team start-

ed jelling and really having fun on the court.

On Nov. 3, the Falcons played UW-Eau Claire in the final four of the WIAC playoffs. The Falcons started off the match on top, but were unable to keep pace with Eau Claire, losing the match and sending them to the fourth place game.

“Whenever you get to the top four it’s always a battle. Eau Claire was a very, very good team,” head coach Patti Ford said. “They responded with aggressive defense and aggressive hitting. We’re a good team. We just didn’t have the endurance.”

The Falcons took on UW-Platteville in the fourth place game and didn’t manage to come out on top, but they still took positives out of getting that far into the season.

“We played a strong match,” Ford said. “It was a fan-friendly

atmosphere and we played well on both sides of the ball. It was a good match to end the season on.”

Making it to the final four and losing was not the way the Falcons really wanted to end their season, but the experience in the final four was a good one.

“It was awesome. I wish we could have got past the final four,” Geehan said. “I always knew we were good enough to get there. It became more clear half way through the season that we were going to get there and we did.”

Competition in the final four couldn’t be taken lightly by any of the teams involved.

“When it comes down to the final four you are playing the best teams in your conference and the team that wants it the most and is willing to do any-



Beth Dickman/Student Voice

Senior Andrea Geehan, left, and junior Susie Ingalls go up for a block on Sept. 27 against UW-Eau Claire. The Falcons lost the match 3-1. UWRF lost Nov. 3 to Eau Claire in the playoffs.

See Volleyball, page 7

SPORTS WRAP

Women’s hockey skates to two straight ties

Two late third period goals by Hamline, with no scoring in over-time, gave the Falcon women’s hockey team a second straight 2-2 overtime tie on Nov. 4 at Hunt Arena. The Falcons scored their first goal at 17:57 of the first period. Jenna Scanlon made the 4-3 power-play goal with assists by Jennifer Wallace and Jessie Dyslin. The Falcons grabbed a 2-0 lead when Kelly Snedeker scored at 12:35 with Dyslin getting the assist. Hamline wasn’t giving up as they set up a game plan during a time out at 17:30. The combined pressure of two Falcons in the penalty box and the pulled Hamline goalie, gave Hamline the push they needed to score at 18:22. Hamline’s Melanie Leveille got the goal. They kept their momentum going and with only 18 seconds remaining HU’s Emily Dusold scored to send the game into overtime. On Nov. 10 the Falcons will play at Bethel at 7 p.m.

Hamline University 2, UW-River Falls 2 (Nov 04, 2006 at River Falls, Wis.) Hamline University... 0 0 2 0 - 2 UW-River Falls..... 1 1 0 0 - 2	HU - Testolin (64:08-53:51) St. Mary’s 2, UW-River Falls 2 (Nov 03, 2006 at River Falls, Wis.) St. Mary’s..... 0 0 2 0 - 2 UW-River Falls..... 0 0 2 0 - 2
First period 17:57 RF - Scanlon (Wallace, Dyslin) Second period 12:35 RF - Snedeker (Dyslin) Third period 18:22 HU - Leveille (Davidson) 19:32 HU - Dusold (Miller)	Third period 01:04 SMU-W - Mondo (Kryzer) 10:30 - RF - LeBlanc (Wallace) 18:11 - SMU-W - Madden 18:55 - RF - Sunderman (Bergh)
Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves) RF - Lindner (65:00-28-26)	Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves) SMU-W - Jung (65:00-52-50) RF - Lindner (65:00-21-19)

Men’s hockey picks up two wins over weekend

Jim Henkemeyer’s two power-play goals helped River Falls defeat St. Olaf on Nov. 4 at Hunt Arena, 3-1. Dustin Norman got the puck sliding for RF as he knocked in a goal just :24 into the game. Norman’s score was his second of the season and it was assisted by Jordan McIntyre and Wade Harstad. St. Olaf tied the score thanks to Andy Ockuly’s score coming 17:02 into the second period. The tie did not last long as River Falls Henkemeyer put in a power-play score at 19:20. Henkemeyer made an appearance in the scoring column for a second time 8:48 into the third period on a power play. His second score of the game was also his third goal of the season. The goal was assisted by Norman and TJ Dahl. With the insurance goal in the bag, the Falcons skated to a 3-1 win, extending their winning streak to three. The Falcons improve their record to 3-1-0 on the season and look to increase their wins come Nov. 10 when they visit Augsburg. The puck will drop at 7 p.m.

UW-River Falls 3, St. Olaf College 1 (Nov 04, 2006 at River Falls, Wis.) St. Olaf College..... 0 1 0 - 1 UW-River Falls..... 1 1 1 - 3	(Nov 03, 2006 at St. Peter, MN) UW-River Falls..... 2 2 0 - 4 Gustavus Adolphus... 1 1 0 - 2
First period 00:24 RF - Norman (McIntyre, Harstad) Second period 17:02 STO - Ockuly (Hilmershaus, Mudra) 19:20 RF - Henkemeyer (Norman, Dahl) Third period 08:48 RF - Henkemeyer (Norman, Dahl)	First period 03:42 RF - Borgestad (Harstad) 07:44 RF - Hansberry (Dahl, Borgestad) 10:15 GAC - Bigham (Hosfield, Keseley) Second period 07:12 RF - Dahl 13:19 GAC - Ollila (Hosfield, Idris) 18:46 RF - Hansberry (Henkemeyer, Norman)
Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves) RF - Bucchino (59:57-25-24) STO - Eberwein (59:13-27-23)	Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves) RF - Bucchino (60:00-26-24) GAC - Johnson (60:00-28-24)

UW-River Falls 4, Gustavus Adolphus 2

Falcon football falls to UW-La Crosse on the road

The Falcon football team fell behind 28-0 in the first half of their 41-17 loss to UW-La Crosse Saturday afternoon at Memorial Field. The Eagles opened up with the first points of the game on an impressive 80-yard drive for a touchdown. The Eagles ended the first quarter in dominating fashion putting together another touchdown drive. The Eagles scored through the air on a 12-yard John Schumann pass to Ted Everson to make the score 21-0 after the first quarter. The Falcons finally got on the board with 4:31 left in the half on a 3-yard fourth-and-goal Beau DeBruin touchdown run. In the second half the Eagles scored a field goal and two touchdowns to make the score 38-7. The Falcons got on the board in the third quarter on a Spasimir Bodurski field goal, but the Eagles answered with another touchdown. The Falcons scored a touchdown in the fourth quarter, ending the scoring at 41-17. The Falcons end their season on Nov. 11 against conference leader UW-Whitewater at Ramer Field. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m.

UW-River Falls vs #9 UW-La Crosse (Nov. 4, 2006 at La Crosse, Wis.)	11		
1st 08:23 UWL - C. Geldernick 2 yd run (Dylan Rude kick), 12-80 4:04, RF 0 - UWL 7	Interception Returns-Yards....	0-0	0-0
04:54 UWL - C. Geldernick 9 yd run (Dylan Rude kick), 3-34 1:29, RF 0 - UWL 14	Punts (Number-Avg).....	7-31.6	3-45.3
00:54 UWL - Ted Everson 12 yd pass from John Schumann (Dylan Rude kick), 6-47 1:57, RF 0 - UWL 21	Fumbles-Lost.....	1-0	2-2
2nd 10:26 UWL - Dan Hall 66 yd run (Dylan Rude kick), 2-79 0:41, RF 0 - UWL 28	Penalties-Yards.....	5-45	8-70
04:31 RF - Beau DeBruin 3 yd run (Spasimir Bodurski kick), 4-4 1:23, RF 7 - UWL 28	Possession Time.....	30:39	29:21
01:01 UWL - Dylan Rude 23 yd field goal, 12-83 3:20, RF 7 - UWL 31	Third-Down Conversions.....	2 of 13	4 of 10
3rd 09:52 UWL - John Schumann 3 yd run (Dylan Rude kick), 12-80 5:03, RF 7 - UWL 38	Fourth-Down Conversions.....	1 of 1	0 of 0
05:24 RF - Spasimir Bodurski 45 yd field goal, 4-5 1:43, RF 10 - UWL 38	Red-Zone Scores-Chances.....	2-3	6-6
00:16 UWL - Dylan Rude 22 yd field goal, 10-41 4:58, RF 10 - UWL 41	Sacks By: Number-Yards.....	1-12	0-0
4th 07:18 RF - Jeremy Wolff 5 yd run (Spasimir Bodurski kick), 10-80 4:36, RF 17 - UWL 41	Individual leaders		
	RUSHING: UW-River Falls-Jeremy Wolff 8-59; Beau DeBruin 17-58; Robert Crump 10-24; Lawrence Gales 11-16. UW-La Crosse-C. Geldernick 18-136; Dan Hall		
	6-95; Tom Stark 11-31; Reid Oldenburg 1-4; Markus Lang 1-1; Mike Schmidt 1-1; Darren Drewek 1-minus 1; Eric Donoval 1-minus 4; John Schumann 3-minus 5.		
	PASSING: UW-River Falls-Jeremy Wolff 6-10-0-62. UW-La Crosse-John Schumann 11-19-0-157; Markus Lang 4-6-0-23.		
FIRST DOWNS.....	RECEIVING: UW-River Falls-Josh Grover 2-34; Brett Hanson 2-24; Connor Graves 1-3; B.J. LeRoy 1-1. UW-La Crosse-Dustin Esser 3-52; E. Kettenhofen 3-33; Chris Johnson 2-21; Brian Edmiston 2-12; C. Geldernick 1-24; Ted Everson 1-12; Jason Wagner 1-12; Dan Hall 1-8; Charlie Schultz 1-6.		
RUSHES-YARDS (NET).....	INTERCEPTIONS: UW-River Falls-None. UW-La Crosse-None.		
43-258	FUMBLES: UW-River Falls-Jeremy Wolff 1-0. UW-La Crosse-Eric Donoval 1-1; Markus Lang 1-1.		
PASSING YDS (NET).....			
180			
Passes Att-Comp-Int.....			
10-6-0			
25-15-0			
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS.....			
56-219			
68-438			
Fumble Returns-Yards.....			
0-0			
Punt Returns-Yards.....			
2-15			
3-28			
Kickoff Returns-Yards.....			
7-79			
1-			

STANDINGS

Football				Men’s Hockey			
WAC Standings	W	L		NCHA Standings	W	L	T
UW-Whitewater (9-0)	6	0		St. Norbert (4-0-1)	0	0	0
UW-Lacrosse (7-1)	5	1		UW-River Falls (3-1-0)	0	0	0
UW-Oshkosh (5-4)	3	3		UW-Stout (2-0-1)	0	0	0
UW-Platteville (5-4)	3	3		Lake Forest (2-2-0)	0	0	0
UW-Stevens Point (5-4)	3	3		UW-Superior (2-0-0)	0	0	0
UW-River Falls (3-6)	2	4		UW-Stevens Point (2-0-0)	0	0	0
UW-Stout (1-5)	3	6		UW-Eau Claire (2-1-0)	0	0	0
UW-Eau Claire (2-7)	1	5		St. Scholastica (1-1-0)	0	0	0
Volleyball				Women’s Hockey			
WAC Standings	W	L		NCHA Standings	W	L	T
UW-Eau Claire (28-3)	7	1		UW-Superior(4-0-0)	0	0	0
UW-Oshkosh (32-5)	7	1		UW-Stevens Point(2-0-0)	0	0	0
UW-Whitewater (32-6)	6	2		Finlandia(3-1-0)	0	0	0
UW-LaCrosse(20-9)	4	4		UW-River Falls(0-0-2)	0	0	0
UW-River Falls (24-13)	4	4		Lake Forest(1-0-1)	0	0	0
UW-Stevens Point (24-12)	4	4		UW-Eau Claire(0-2-0)	0	0	0
UW-Platteville (26-11)	3	5					
UW-Stout (15-14)	1	7					
UW-Superior (14-20)	0	8					

For complete stats check out UW-RF Sports Information Web site at www.uwrf.edu/sports

Baseball: New organization up and running, preparing for inaugural season’s start

from page 6

use the name “Falcons,” unless given permission by the school. Getting into the NCBA was a big step, but other problems remain. Money is needed to pay for uniforms, equipment, buses and league fees, which each team has to pay to the NCBA. New players are charged a fee of \$25 and each year the team gets a certain amount of money from the University, but it is trying to come up with other fundraisers. Sagan said they can

apply for funding up to \$500 every year. Sophomore Eric Resch, who is running the team this year, said the club team is trying to get sponsors and are also looking into a T-shirt sale. The team doesn’t have a coach, but because of the money involved in getting one, the players will be coaching themselves. The team is also without a field. The field that the original UWRf team played on was bulldozed and replaced by ten-

nis courts. The scoreboard is still standing next to the courts as a reminder of the old field. The team has been practicing on fields that are terribly inadequate. “We have tried many different options around campus, and it’s pretty sad to say that the intra-mural softball fields have been our best bet,” Resch said. “It’s pretty hard to field a ground ball on those infields.” The team has a schedule for next year set up. It will play five

teams, three games apiece, with a week to play each team. To play though, it will need to find a regulation sized field on which to hold the games. Resch said the team will probably have to play at a local town’s field and maybe pay to use it. Even though it’s in the early stages, senior Luke Meier is optimistic about the upcoming season “Hopefully by spring there should be a team that people can come to watch,” he said.

HEATING UP THE ICE



Kenny Yoo

UW-River Falls senior Jared Sailer (11) goes for the puck in the corner against an opponent from St. Olaf on Saturday night at Hunt Arena. The Falcons won the game 3-1, which brings their overall record to 3-1. Jim Henkemeyer scored two goals in the win and AJ Bucchino picked up 43 saves. The team travels to Augsburg Friday night and plays at home on Saturday.

Swim team ready to contend with best in WIAC

Men’s and women’s swim teams retain experienced athletes

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This season, the UW-River Falls men’s and women’s swim teams have a number of experienced veterans returning to help give the Falcons one of their best seasons in recent history. Head coach Bill Henderson said that every member of the men’s team who could return from last season did, while a majority of the women’s team returned. There was one woman who transferred back home to be with her boyfriend, a second who wanted to be closer to her family and a third who was so homesick that she had to go back home. “People do what they got to do,” Henderson said. Even though the team has a number of new faces, coaches and athletes are not worried about how the season is going to play out. “This year I think our team is

looking to move up in the conference to fourth or fifth,” Henderson said. “We can beat Oshkosh on both sides.” Moving up to fourth would bring the Falcons close to the same level as some of the top teams in the WIAC. UW-Stevens Point, UW-La Crosse and UW-Eau Claire are expected to be tough to contend with at the conference meet. “We’re looking to win more meets,” women’s captain Tia Felts said. “We’re looking to place really well at conference and work on team building and support each other inside the pool and out.” The men’s team has many of the same goals as the women. “I’m looking for a great performance from the whole team as one and a good overall performance at conference,” men’s captain Mike Keyser said. On Nov. 18, the Falcons squad will attend the conference relays and have the second chance to beat Eau Claire. Also, that will give them a chance to see some of the times of the other teams in the conference. The relays will give the Falcons a chance to see how much depth they have.

The Falcons have been swimming together since captains’ practice began on Sept. 11 and practice with the coach started on Sept. 25. Team chemistry has been good ever since. “It’s a little tighter than last year,” Henderson said of the chemistry. “It’s just off the charts, it’s so amazing.” While there are three different times to practice, those who go to the first two still show up at the end of the third practice to bond and eat with their teammates. “I think this year there is a more positive attitude,” said Felts. “A lot of new teammates and they all click together.” The fact that the men have all possible returnees is seen as a very positive sign. “It’s going to be great,” Keyser said. “The returners are sophomores and juniors are a great base.” He also said that next season, with all the experience, the Falcons squad will be even better and good leadership is in the future. Coach Henderson has a lot of experience and his leadership will surely help the team

achieve all its goals this season. “He’s a great person and he knows his stuff,” Keyser said. “He has had his own swimming career. He has coached all age groups and it’s been a great experience to swim under him.” The Falcons opened up the season on Oct. 27 against Macalester. “Obviously we could have won,” Henderson said. “It was a good, close meet. It was the diving that cost the men.” Without having divers, the men entered the swimming portion of the competition down 18 points. Henderson also said the women had five events that came down to a second or less. Last weekend, the Falcons had a duo meet with UW-Eau Claire who is generally one of the top teams in WIAC. “They were just too much,” Henderson said. “They were a good strong team and we knew to beat them we’d have to have a perfect match.” Henderson also said, against Eau Claire, he just put people in where he wanted to test them out and see how their times would end up.

Volleyball: Team peaks at right time, able to advance to final four of WIAC playoffs

from page 6

thing to win,” Geehan said. “I think we wanted it, but not as bad as the other teams. After the first game Friday night I thought the match was ours, but it did not turn out that way. Saturday went back and forth and that’s the way it should be when two good teams are playing. But we came up short in the end.” Geehan is one of six seniors who suited up for the last time in a Falcon uniform on Saturday. “It’s always tough when you graduate a core group of players,” Ford said. “But we have a core group of players, a great

group of eager underclassmen. It will be different, but that’s the nature of sports. That’s what makes it entertaining.”

“It’s always tough when you graduate a core group of players.” Patti Ford, volleyball coach

The graduating seniors will take fond memories of Falcon volleyball with them following their graduation and will miss the times suited up in red and

black. “I am going to miss the long bus rides, fans, hotel stays and not playing with one of my best friends after eight long years,” Geehan said. “It’s been a long journey but all things have to come to an end, [like] playing on any team, learn great life experience and build great friendships.” Although the Falcons finished fourth in the WIAC playoffs, that doesn’t mean their season ended without any accolades. Four seniors were named to the All-WIAC Volleyball team. Geehan, along with teammates Kat Krtnick, Lindsey Mace and

Kate Thompson were all bestowed with that special honor. This was the second straight season that Geehan and Krtnick were named to the team. Krtnick was also named the 2006 WIAC Scholar Athlete of the Year. The Falcons overall record to end the season was 24-13. The WIAC record was 4-4. Ford said this year she, along with the team, learned a lot and that will help her out next year. “I’m going to take it one step at a time, and one day at a time,” Ford said. “Just like I’ve done for the last 15 years here.”

Check out the *Student Voice* next week for a recap of the men’s and women’s cross country season.

Dumpsters replace hall trash rooms

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Walking up to Prucha Hall, individuals are now immediately met by four dumpsters — two in the center, slightly smaller for recycling, and two larger ones on each end. These receptacles have replaced trash rooms for some of the residence halls on campus.

The move took place last August, when cement was poured on the west end of campus in an attempt to increase safety conditions for the custodial staff, as well as deter pests in the buildings.

Dumpsters were placed outside of Johnson, for Johnson and Stratton Halls, and outside of Prucha, for Prucha and May Halls. This is just the first phase of getting rid of the trash rooms in all of the residence halls on campus.

The plan for this change began about 15 years ago, said Michael Stifter, director of Student Life Facilities. The initiative didn't catch on for aesthetic reasons, but morale and safety issues brought the plan to the forefront.

The large amount of effort it takes to haul the trash receptacles up flights of stairs has been a major complaint of the custodial staff, Stifter said.

Students are also responsible for some maintenance— recycling representatives are students who are solely in charge of making sure that the recycling is taken care of. On the east side of campus, this still means hauling large bins up stairs for collection. The physical toll taken on students is another primary concern.

Stifter said the physical requirement for lifting the totes is one of the most difficult aspects of the job.

Another big concern is the attraction of pests. Stifter said it hasn't been a pressing problem and rodents have not been as great of a threat as insects, but it was still a concern that helped prompt the change.

While the changes were made with good intentions, they haven't come without problems.

The major issue Stifter said he noticed with the new dumpsters was the quality of recycling at the beginning. Students were confusing the trash and recycling dumpsters, which caused contamination



Beth Dickman/Student Voice

Dumpsters located outside of Prucha Hall allow students to throw trash away on the way to class.

of the recycling.

For students, however, there seems to be a different concern with the new dumpsters.

"Right now they are an eyesore; they don't make the campus look good," said Johnson Hall resident Samantha Matti. "It does make the basement smell better, but it still does not make the campus look good."

Despite appearances, Prucha Hall Manager Rebecca Grossman said there have been no major problems in the halls, such as students leaving trash in hallways or bathrooms. Grossman has a much more positive attitude about the change.

"Students can toss their garbage on the way to class," Grossman said. "It's very convenient."

The second phase of the process means moving the trash rooms in the east area residence halls and possibly Hathorn Hall next summer. Stifter said Residence Life will look at how well the dumpsters are received for the rest of this academic semester, using the west area halls as a trial.

"It's been a very positive change," Grossman said. "I hope the whole campus will be able to make the switch."

Rape center relocates RF office

Beckie De Neu
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Since 2001, local sexual assault victims have been served by the St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) at nearby hospitals and emergency rooms. Yet with the victims' fear of public embarrassment on her mind, Executive Director Kristi Pavek made the decision to transition to a one-stop shop for dealing with assault situations.

"This is a town where everyone knows everybody," Pavek said. "Some people don't want to go to the hospital where they are going to know someone who is going to ask them questions."

Last month, the center moved to 1343 N. Main St., next to Burger King. Pavek said the new center will ensure the highest quality care for sexual assault victims, and instead of having to go to the hospital after an assault, victims can go straight to the center for the care they need.

"We will be the first one in the Midwest to provide medical

forensic evidence collection, advocacy and support groups at the same time," Pavek said of the new SART location.

The new center, which begins providing its new services in January, includes a medical room where a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) can provide exams, as well as a support group room.

Not only will this new center be a one-stop shop, it will also be completely free and run by volunteers, Pavek said. It is primarily funded by donations from the public and foundations.

"We still need volunteers for advocacy and other things," Pavek said. "Anyone is welcome and there are a lot of things to do around here."

SART offers financial assistance and medical forensic exams to sexual assault victims if the incident is reported to police. The SANE also gives the victim emergency contraceptives and antibiotics to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. SART also provides advocacy, which is emotional support provided by volunteers. September and October mark

the months when the majority of sexual assault cases are reported, Pavek said. This year the number of incidents has decreased, but the positive statistic doesn't stop SART's local efforts.

"I hope this means that it isn't happening," Pavek said. "We saw a couple more this summer, but not as many these past two months."

River Falls Police Chief Roger Leque said the drop in numbers may be a result of students and residents of River Falls becoming more educated on sexual assault and what to do in dangerous situations.

"The awareness that we raise on sexual assault and the precautions to take leads to reduction and prevention" likely play a role in the decrease, Leque said.

Pavek said the decline may also be a result of the closing down of some of the big party houses on campus.

"I don't want to place blame at all, but those two facts are out there," Pavek said. "That's how it is on every campus, not just UWRF."

ITC receives praise from students

Rachel Ogrodnik
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The International Traveling Classroom (ITC) is a program that allows students from UW-River Falls the opportunity to travel around Europe. This year the program is so popular that some students have been put on a waiting list.

Wes Chapin, previous ITC Coordinator (2003-2006) and 2005 group leader, said many factors contribute to the ITC's popularity.

"Personally, I think the popularity of the ITC is a result of several factors," he said. "Students can complete UWRF courses that require the typical examinations, papers, and so on, but they do it as part of a group with UWRF faculty and staff who can assist them before, during and after the experience. Student also really liked completing courses that allowed firsthand experiences unavailable here."

Chapin said UWRF staff and students who have been involved with the ITC have played a large role in the growing interest in the program.

"I think that was probably a function of our recruitment efforts as a staff, and the fact that recruitment for the 2007 group benefitted from the positive views that the 2005 and 2006 students spread around campus," he said.

The ITC travels overseas each spring semester and is now in its third year. In 2005, the group took part in a three-week program. Last year, the group spent an entire semester in Europe. Next semester, the group will travel to London, Athens, Amsterdam, Paris and Vienna.

ITC Coordinator Charlie Rader said students in the program often appreciate the differences between Europe and the United States.

"It's damaging to say, 'That's not how we do it in America,'" he said. "Students should approach their travels with an open mind."

For students who haven't had an experience with international traveling before, Rader said he absolutely encourages it.

Students who have traveled with ITC agree. "Take out a loan if you have to, because this is an excellent opportunity," senior Chris Wenig said.

Wenig traveled with ITC last spring, and his favorite places to visit were Spain, Rome and the Czech Republic.

"I liked Spain because of the beautiful sunny beaches," Wenig said.

Rader said faculty members are constantly searching for ways to improve the program.

"We are always looking for different places to explore," he said. "Since we don't have the same access to the Internet, we try to make things logistically easier for students."

In order to prepare for their travels in the spring, students are required to go through 10 hours of orientation during fall semester.

"We talk about packing, basic communication, small assignments, health, safety and money," Rader said. "Students also need to handle taxes before they leave for Europe because that occurs while we are overseas."

Before the euro, the single currency of 12 European countries, some students had issues with money. Now those problems are almost non-

existent with the presence of the euro and ATMs.

The ITC is not only about traveling, but classes are involved as well.

ITC group leader Rik Seefeldt will teach two psychology classes in the program this year. In the past, human geography classes have also been taught.



Submitted by Charlie Rader

Karen Pedersen stands in front of the Palace of Versailles. She went to Europe as part of the International Traveling Classroom last semester.

Junior Amber Dallager plans to travel with the ITC this year.

"I am looking forward to being in Europe for a whole semester," Dallager said. "I am really excited for the historical aspect of Europe — museums, historical buildings, statues, art, everything. There is just so much to learn and discover."

Rader said students who are interested in traveling to Europe should do it, whether or not they do so through the ITC.

"This is just an option that the campus provides," Rader said. "Students should find a program that fits their needs because it's so important for students to have a significant experience overseas."

Rader makes preparations for the students and faculty who travel with the program. He makes airline arrangements, participates in orientation and goes through student applications. He also travels with the group.

Rader said there are many reasons why he enjoys being coordinator.

"The most rewarding thing is probably seeing how the students grow and change over the semester," he said. "They become good travelers and world citizens. They learn what it means to be an American."

Applications are being accepted now for the ITC 2008. Although the ITC faculty is still in the process of finalizing the itinerary, students can expect to travel to England, France, Germany, Italy and possibly Spain. The ITC is open to all students from all majors.

For more information, visit www.uwrf.edu/itc/ or e-mail Rader at charles.p.rader@uwrf.edu.

Advising: Committee plans to have guidelines by next year

from page 2

rience if their advisors took the time to know their aspirations.

"I don't think it would hurt if my advisor knew me a little better," senior Tyler Hasse said. "It's just as much on my shoulders as it would be on hers."

But with advising appointments being as short as 15 minutes, the time for pleasantries is often limited.

"In terms of being more personal, most advisors would like to know more ... like goals the student has," Schultz said. "But they don't want to delve too much into their personal life."

UWRF faculty advisors have anywhere from 10 to 50 advisees, Schultz said.

International Studies Chair Wes Chapin often has more than 100 advising appointments each semester, seeing some students multiple times.

Chapin was selected by students as one of the College of Arts and Sciences advisors of the year.

"I think that most faculty and staff would agree that there is no single approach to advising that will work well with every student in every situation," Chapin said. "I also think that sharing ideas and information about successful advising approaches is something that can be beneficial to all advisors, whether they are new or experienced."

"I haven't had effective advising experiences."

Jerome McNamara,
UWRF student

Yet problems with advising seem to be the exception, not the rule.

"My advisor knows exactly

where I am with my classes and which ones I should take," Hurley said.

Though some students have difficulty reading their DAR, others make full use of the reports and eSIS to plan their academic careers. For those students, advising appointments take on a different meaning.

"There should still be meetings," Schultz said. "Other things could be discussed — internships, post-graduate plans."

The Advising Committee's goal is to have definitive advising expectations for every department by the end of the year.

"We'd like common goals or outcomes for advising across campus," Schultz said. "It is more than just printing off a DAR and looking at pluses and minuses."

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Minneapolis musician returns to RF, hopes to open hearts with songs

Keighla Schmidt
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Baring your soul to anyone who will listen at the risk of facing societal shame is not an easy undertaking to pound. But when the benefit is perceived to outweigh the hazard, it's not so difficult.

At least it isn't to Minneapolis-based singer-songwriter Ellis.

"I'm doing this to open people's hearts," Ellis said. "I just want to touch people."

Crowned "Best Musical Artist" by Minnesota Women's Press and "Best Musician" in Lavender Magazine for five years, the folk singer is commanding the Brandy's stage at 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10.

As an openly gay individual, the singer's appearance is sponsored by the Diversity Awareness Community (DAC). Ellis returns to UW-River Falls following successful performances in the past.

"Ellis has historically been a very well-attended event, promoting diversity in a very unique way," DAC President Ashley Olson said. "She consistently is a strong performer and good role model for the GLBT community."

Aside from the positive attendance in

years past, the nature of her act also reels her back by DAC.

"With her great musical talent and her good sense of humor," Olson said, "Ellis has a way with audiences to, in a non-threatening way, share a diverse background."

Acknowledging the position of influence she has as a successful performer, Ellis said she "loves" the opportunity to touch people through her music.

She said she believes she provides an example to people who have not yet come out.

"I don't need to hide the fact that I'm queer," she said.

Ellis said she recognizes her calling as a songwriter and likes to prove that people can do what they want, regardless of sexual orientation.

"I feel good knowing I'm just a normal person touching people doing," she said. "It's super important for us to be visible."

Still, her sexuality is not what defines Ellis as a performer, but rather her musical talents.

"Her music has been described as joyful, unpretentious acoustic rock with



Alessandro De Sogas
Award-winning singer and songwriter Ellis plays her music across the country, reaching diverse audiences. Ellis performs at 9 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10 at Brandy's.

influences of folk and a slight hint of country flavor," according to her press kit.

The musician is also largely focused on her fan base. That notion is visible in her performances.

"She really appreciates her fans," fan Lacey Felmlee said. "She's really interactive with her fans."

While her solid fan base centralizes in the Minneapolis area, it is expanding to include a nationwide following.

Overwhelming the artist's MySpace page are comments from fans all across the country wondering when she'll schedule an appearance near them. Recent requests came from San

Francisco, Chicago, Atlanta and Kansas City, among others.

Noting her expanding following, Ellis said it is a really great excuse to see the country.

"It's such a beautiful country," she said. "I can see more how we're the same all across the country."

Ellis said she appreciates seeing fans that were "regulars" in one geographical location show up at an event after they have moved to a different region.

She rewards her fans by sponsoring essay contests with prizes including the production of an album and a personal guitar.

But it's the sense of humor coupled with her musical flair that keep some UWRF fans returning to her on-campus performances.

Ellis is "known for her vibrant and open-hearted nature and contagious sense of humor," according to her press kit.

Personal accounts from fans agree.

"She's really funny and tells personal stories," said Abigail Cook, who has seen Ellis perform on campus twice.

"In combination with being an incredible singer and songwriter, Ellis has a uniquely unforgettable laugh and has a way with the audience," Olson said.

Ellis said it wasn't her original intention to be funny, and she was actually surprised when people started to laugh at her, but now realizes that her personality comes out in performance.

"I'm not political," she said. "But I am who I am."

Her songwriting aspirations began after she began flirting with the idea when she was just 16 years old. Following the suicide of a friend, she started writing songs. Events in her personal life continue to shine through in her lyrics.

"Definitely my life comes into my art," Ellis said. "The only experience I have is my own. Songs are a medium to express life."

Olson said the songs leave a lasting impression and provide an "understanding [to] the crazy stories behind them."

Ellis said she aims to "write songs that everyone can relate to."

Her attempts are successful.

"Anyone can relate to [her songs]," Cook said. "She's really enjoyable; it's fun to go and listen and just be with friends."

Ellis started her own record label and has since recorded five albums.

For more information, visit her Web site at www.ellis-music.com.

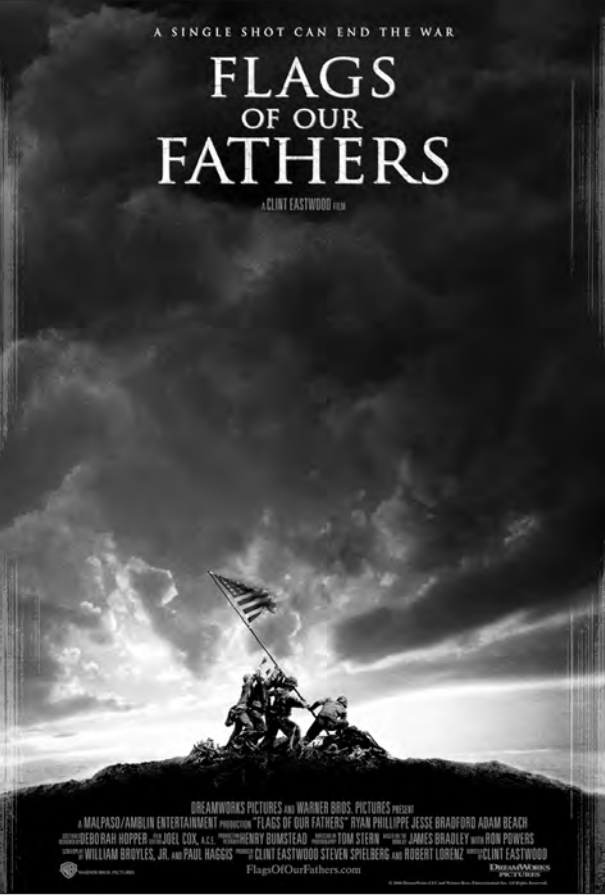
'Fathers' brings battle to life



Jenna Lee

Call me cynical, but a great story doesn't always make a great movie. In the case of "Flags of Our Fathers," we run into those same clichéd problems. However, the computer-generated imagery and great acting performances bring the battle at Iwo Jima to life in a way that is so rarely captured on film.

"Flags of our Fathers" follows the lives of three soldiers who were in the famous photograph taken on the island while they raised an American flag during battle.



But the plot does not flow chronologically as we are used to. The movie flashes out of order, showing the men in old age, on the battlefield and touring the country to promote war bonds.

This seems like it would cause a problem for the audience to follow, but if you've seen any recent war films, you've seen it before.

Ryan Phillippe plays Doc, a navy corpsman who seems to be the most levelheaded of the group. He isn't fame-hungry like Private Rene Gagnon (Jesse Bradford), and he doesn't try to drink away the memories like Private Ira Hayes (Adam Beech).

Many of the other actors who play soldiers in the film have been in war movies before, like "Saving Private Ryan" and "Black Hawk Down." Their characters never change or have a back story, which is fine because they usually die early in the plot.

Beech was also in "Windtalkers," the movie about Navajo code used in World War II, but his performance was better than any of the others. The character became amazingly captivating even though Beech was still playing a Native American soldier during the war. While the story focused more on Doc's character, the tragic thought of Ira was always there.

It is not fair to consider the storming of Iwo Jima and Normandy as the same battle, just on other sides of the world.

However, this film was produced by Steven Spielberg, so the similarities between "Flags of our Fathers" and "Saving Private Ryan" must be taken into account.

Many of the camera angles and shots during battle were first used in "Saving Private Ryan," like water splashing on the camera lens and bodies floating on the shore. This isn't necessarily a bad thing — those are the most realistic ways to shoot a war film.

Both movies also discuss what it really means to be a hero. Again, if the theme isn't broke, don't fix it. But when you look at the movie as a whole, you might as well have called Spielberg the director and saved Clint Eastwood the trouble of getting up in the morning.

You might consider staying through to the end of the credits because the real black and white photographs of the soldiers' journey are very moving.

I always love to put the reality back into the story because that's what makes a war movie believable and fascinating. "Flags of our Fathers" may run into some typical problems early on, but once the characters grab your attention you'll start calling them heroes too.

Jenna is a junior studying journalism and music history. She enjoys watching dark comedy movies.

Ratings for movies are based on a scale from one to five. A film that scores five stars is worth seeing at least once. A film that scores one star is horribly acted or directed with no substance.

English band offers fans a less serious sound



Mike Pearson

I'm starting to feel rather old when I talk about music.

Saying things like, "Hey, remember that song 'Peaches' by the Presidents of the United States of America?" or "I heard 'Sellout' by Reel Big Fish on Drive 105 last night!" tend to attract more than a furrowed brow these days.

I'm starting to think people have forgotten that music doesn't really have to be serious to be good, and that there is more to the radio than what is "Fergalicious."

While visiting some friends in London this past summer, I was introduced to The Kooks, whose album "Inside In/Inside Out" was recently released in the United States. I realize England's taste of music could shy some readers away. With artists like James Blunt and Franz Ferdinand, who could blame you for moving over to the movie reviews?

However, The Kooks could do more than just save England's reputation — they could save the reputation of our generation as well.

"Inside In/Inside Out" is not overly serious, and should not be listened to over a cup of coffee and your Friday morning bagel.

This band is out to put a smile on your face, get you up on your feet and make you dance around like you're trapped in another obnoxious iPod commercial.

The band is led by 19-year-old Luke Pritchard. Pritchard is a living embodiment of The Kooks — he's awkward looking with a curly mop-top hairdo and

the stereotypical English dental features.

"Inside In/Inside Out" starts out with a simple, acoustic love song, "Seaside." Maybe this won't get you up on your feet, but it should grab the attention of any listener, thanks to Pritchard's unique vocals. The album's second song, "See the World," sounds much like one of the two or three good songs by The Strokes.

The tracks on this album vary from Indie rock to Britpop, and in this case, garage rock. "See The World" begs the listener to put away their books and newspapers and pick up their air guitar again, however the songs are still decent at best until we get to the first American single, "Eddie's Gun."

"Eddie's Gun" is Indie Rock personified. The song grabs the listener by the wrist and runs with them to the dance floor. This is one of those songs that makes it impossible for you to worry about who's around you. Immediately when it begins to play, you feel the need to flail around like a monkey on speed.

Other highlights from the album include "Naïve," which highlights Pritchard's vocal talents yet again, and "She Moves in Her Own Way." Between its playful melodies and tongue-in-cheek lyrics, this song will force a smile out of the most serious of emo kids.

It reminds me that, amidst an era of bar flies and self-proclaimed divas, you just have to alert your eyes open for that right one.

Sound familiar?

Among artists like Nelly and My Chemical Romance, you need to keep your eyes and ears open for the right band. Maybe it's The Kooks, maybe not. Either way, if you see me dancing around campus like one of those over played iPod commercials, you'll know who I am listening to.



English musicians The Kooks make their world debut with "Inside In/Inside Out."

Impossible to escape the lingering effects of '80s popular culture



Keighla Schmidt

I went home to my mother's house this week and saw some old photos that brought me back. Way back. I'm talking back to the day when all I needed was my favorite Cabbage Patch doll snuggled in my lap while watching "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" in my rocking chair eating a crust-less peanut butter and jelly sandwich at the ultra mod coffee table.

I know I'm not alone when I admit I will repeatedly watch "I love the '80s" on VH1 whenever it makes an appearance.

Don't deny it — you will too. I'll even watch it if it's "On Demand."

Through watching that show, I realize there are many things I can most definitely identify with as a product of the decade that brought us leg warmers over stirrup pants, expertly color coordinated with an oversized, off the shoulder sweatshirt.

Do you remember where that amazing ability to match came from? I'll remind you: Garanimals, the clothing brand that helped our parents buy clothes that would match based on patterns or colors.

Thanks, Mom.

This was the same era when people thought getting a perm to just your bangs would be a wise vogue choice. But if I'm not mistaken, girls were not the only ones making excellent fashion decisions. I distinctly

remember some male classmates sporting the infamous mullet cut.

I can also recall watching my aunt, who was in high school at the time, get ready. She would oh-so-expertly apply her pretty blue eye shadow before walking out the door with her tapered jeans snugly rolled into a cuff partway up her leg.

Also not to be forgotten, no matter how badly we may want to, is the awesomeness that was Zubaz.

They came in all colors, and I'm pretty sure people would wear them on any occasion they could come up with. Bearing the colors of their favorite sports team was the perfect excuse to have more than just the plain old black and white pair.

From the depths of my heart, I hope I'm not the only one who can recall the short-lived phe-

nomenon of Hypercolor products. I had a shirt that would change color as it was exposed to hot air, and my brother had a toy car that did the same.

Thinking back, that is a terrible idea, and I hope from an even deeper depth in my heart that I didn't get super hot and display my fever in the armpit region of the shirt. How embarrassing.

Let's not fail to recall the TV shows we spent Saturday mornings watching. I'd share the TV with my brother and father. That's right, my dad would sit in the living room with us and eat his bowl of Captain Crunch (with Crunch Berries) right next to us watching cartoons. We all got to pick a show.

My brother isn't nicknamed "Boo-Boo" for no reason, and I don't have a secret obsession with Care Bears to this day because I spent too much time watching "Transformers" and playing with hinged action figures. We can still have accurate conversations with my dad about specific episodes of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" on any given day.

But the elemental event that really brought it all back to me this week was a song my 3-year-old sister sang to me.

"Baby beluga in the deep blue sea, swim so wild and you swim so free. Heaven above and the sea below, and a little white whale on the go."

Don't pretend you weren't a fan of Raffi. I'm not the only one who bumped up and down in a little red wagon.

What actually blew me away was the very next song she was literally "bumping" to — "Shake your Moneymaker" by Ludacris. She then proceeded to follow Luda's instructions and shake that baby ass like she had some business doing it. I blame my other sister and brother, who are 14 and 12, for that.

So I guess Mr. Rogers, leg-warmers and Raffi have all been replaced, but that's OK. I will always identify with them, and we can all get together and secretly reminisce about the times when we thought we were beyond cool because we saved the princess from the dragon in the Mario Bros. Nintendo game all on our own — and it only took us four weeks.

Intramurals offer athletic alternative

Beth Dickman
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Intramural sports are a huge part of the UW-River Falls community. Whether living on campus or off, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of different sports on co-ed and single-sex teams.

They get the choice of playing competitively or just for fun.

Recreational Leadership Coordinator Kurran Sagan keeps track of the nine different leagues and 13 Intramural tournaments that are held throughout the school year.

“Intramurals provides a very convenient and fun activity on campus where you can pick and choose

your favorite activity,” Sagan said. “You always get to play with your friends.”

Even though UWRF has 13 recognized Falcon sports teams, it’s Ultimate Frisbee, dodgeball and broomball that draw students as both participants and fans.

“I think that Intramurals give everyone an opportunity to play,” Sagan said.

“That’s the bottom line.”

In all, there are eight different sports and nine leagues offered in various seasons throughout the school year.

Most students pick their sports and stick to them, but some students participate in as many events as possible, Sagan said.

Jeffery Parker, an English major and Hathorn Hall resident, is one of the students who gets involved with Intramurals whenever his schedule allows.

Sagan refers to him as an “Intramural superstar.”

“It’s just a great way to have some fun,” Parker said. “It’s a chance to hang out with friends, and the different levels of competition make it so everyone can be involved regardless of talent or athletic ability.”

The leagues are separated into competitive and recreational groups.

Both offer a fair amount of fun and competition, but the competitive league allows more aggression and serious play.

Sagan and Parker, along with the recreational staff, have put a lot of effort into e-mailing the campus about events and strategically placing signs throughout campus for everyone to see.

“Intramurals are amazing because there’s so many different sports offered,” Parker said.

This fall, Intramurals has offered co-ed Ultimate Frisbee and soccer, as well as an all-male league of flag football.

Sagan said women’s and co-ed flag football have been offered on numerous occasions, but the interest has not been great enough to get a league started.

Being played this month is co-ed volleyball, as well as separate leagues for men’s and women’s broomball.

The volleyball season is short, ending at the end of the academic semester, but broomball continues in January, along with men’s and women’s Intramural basketball.

The spring semester will conclude with co-ed leagues of softball and dodgeball.

But the leagues offered September through May are not the only events Intramurals offers to students on campus.

There are 13 tournaments that stand alone and offer sports that are not organized as full-fledged leagues, including kickball, floor hockey, badminton, golf and sand volleyball.

Intramural sports are offered to all interested students, whether they live on or off campus.

Five years ago there were on-campus and off-campus leagues, making it simple to judge how many students living in each place participate, but now the leagues are combined, Sagan said.

He hopes that more off-campus students get involved.

“Primarily, students just pick their sport and play with whatever team they can,” Sagan said. “But at every event there are usually about 20 to 30 students.”

Intramural events at UWRF are currently limited to just athletics, but as in the past, more passive recreational activities are on the list to be offered in the future.

Other schools around the country, including UW-Madison and UW-Eau Claire, have expanded their intramural activities to include events like Texas Hold ‘em and chess.

“It’s definitely something that I want to do more of,” Sagan said. “Those passive recreation sports

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Both offer a fair amount of fun and competition, but the competitive league allows more aggression and serious play.

Sagan and Parker, along with the recreational staff, have put a lot of effort into e-mailing the campus about events and strategically placing signs throughout campus for everyone to see.

“Intramurals are amazing because there’s so many different sports offered,” Parker said.

This fall, Intramurals has offered co-ed Ultimate Frisbee and soccer, as well as an all-male league of flag football.

Sagan said women’s and co-ed flag football have been offered on numerous occasions, but the interest has not been great enough to get a league started.

Being played this month is co-ed volleyball, as well as separate leagues for men’s and women’s broomball.

The volleyball season is short, ending at the end of the academic semester, but broomball continues in January, along with men’s and women’s Intramural basketball.

The spring semester will conclude with co-ed leagues of softball and dodgeball.

But the leagues offered September through May are not the only events Intramurals offers to students on campus.

There are 13 tournaments that stand alone and offer sports that are not organized as full-fledged leagues, including kickball, floor hockey, badminton, golf and sand volleyball.

Intramural sports are offered to all interested students, whether they live on or off campus.

Five years ago there were on-campus and off-campus leagues, making it simple to judge how many students living in each place participate, but now the leagues are combined, Sagan said.

He hopes that more off-campus students get involved.

“Primarily, students just pick their sport and play with whatever team they can,” Sagan said. “But at every event there are usually about 20 to 30 students.”

Intramural events at UWRF are currently limited to just athletics, but as in the past, more passive recreational activities are on the list to be offered in the future.

Other schools around the country, including UW-Madison and UW-Eau Claire, have expanded their intramural activities to include events like Texas Hold ‘em and chess.

“It’s definitely something that I want to do more of,” Sagan said. “Those passive recreation sports



Submitted photo

The 2006 Intramural Ultimate Frisbee champions, Team Up and Win, pose for a team photo following their victory. Combined, the team scored 24 points during the season.

are a part of students’ lives outside of campus, so I’m sure they would draw students to participate on campus as well.”

“Intramurals offers healthy, active recreation in both team and individual sports, and it’s a great way to relieve stress.”

Vicki Hajewski,
director of Student Life

Intramural sports at UWRF have been offered for 29 years. The organization was initiated by Vicki Hajewski when she was the recreational coordinator.

Hajewski is now the director of Student Life, and still passionate about Intramurals and student activities on campus, Sagan said.

“I attribute the popularity of the program in those early days to the fact that there really were not very many other things to do both on and off campus,” Hajewski said.

Broomball and volleyball were the student favorites in the very beginning, and that tradition has continued to today drawing in the largest crowds. At its peak, volleyball had 150 participants.

“Intramurals offers healthy, active recreation in both team and individual sports, and it’s a great way to relieve stress,” Hajewski said. “Except for those competitive few who take things too seriously.”

All current UWRF students, faculty and staff can participate in any Intramural activity, as long as a UWRF ID is presented at sign-up.

“Students need to have fun and to just play sometimes,” Hajewski said. “Intramurals provides a safe and structured environment for that.”

Volleyball and broomball are now underway, but a three-on-three basketball tournament is coming up Nov. 20.

The deadline for registration is Nov. 17, and it costs \$10. There are separate brackets for men’s and women’s teams.

“I really encourage everyone to come out for leagues or tournaments,” Sagan said. “Intramurals are definitely not just for students living on campus. It’s a great way to meet new people and have a lot of fun.”



Submitted photo

UWRF student Justin Eloranta catches a touchdown pass for his team, Showstoppers, in an Intramural flag football game on Oct. 9. Bryce Bonow, back right, watches the action. UWRF has eight different intramural sports and nine leagues, with a total of 13 tournaments.

TO THE POLLS



Kenny Yoo

Poll worker Steve Zalusky watches as voters cast their ballots in Rodli Commons during the mid-term elections on Tuesday. Students took time out of their school schedules to vote between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Election Day.



Kenny Yoo

Student Matt Butler selects his candidates on the monitor of the electronic voting machine Tuesday.