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Murals in University Center showcase history of UWRF

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Study tour expands UWRF's leadership abilities and international options

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Junior forward leads by example on the ice



STUDENT VOICE

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Army proposes to add military science minor

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Any UW-River Falls student hoping to minor in military science has to register through UW-Stout or wait until at least September. Eleven UWRF students participated in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) last semester along with students from UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire.



In order for UWRF students to participate in the ROTC, they must register through another institution and take military science courses. At this time, UWRF does not have a military science program, but the Army has gotten the ball rolling to change that. "ROTC Programs ... train qualified young men and women to become officers in those services upon graduation from college," according to

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FAN promotes political activism

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If the words "public policy" or "budget deficit" are said to a university student, they will most likely be met with indifference or a lack of interest. Unfortunately, it is a challenge today to motivate college students to be aware of the political climate, much less get them involved in changing it. UW-River Falls has decided it is time for this to change by introducing the Falcon Action Network (FAN). The basic purpose of FAN is to keep the public informed about what is happening in the Wisconsin legislature and get them involved. Mark Kinders,

public affairs director for UWRF, is very enthusiastic about FAN and said he is confident that it will do just that. "The legislature expects to hear from the chancellor, the Faculty Senate and the Student Senate, but they need to hear more than that," Kinders said. "The intent [of FAN] is to have a lot of voice in speaking to the legislature." Kinders estimates that in each state legislative session, there are between five and 10 bills introduced that have some kind of impact on the University. It is important to raise awareness of these issues and what they entail. Recently, the state legislature dealt with controversy related to females on campus having access to the morning-

after pill. Kinders said there was also an issue in which a faculty member could have been potentially liable for a student accident that happened while working in an on-campus lab. A small percentage of students on campus were aware of these issues, and an even smaller percentage took action. With the introduction of FAN, the University hopes to increase the number of students who participate politically. "The reason we need this is because in the last five to six years we took a real beating in the legislature," Kinders said. "\$345 million were cut

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New law requires passport

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With new laws being implemented, it could mean less traveling over spring break for many students. A new law passed on Jan. 23 makes it harder to travel out of the country. According to the U.S. Department of State, beginning Jan. 23, everyone including U.S. citizens who are going to be traveling by air between the United States, Canada and Mexico, will be required to have a passport. Also, beginning Jan. 1, 2008, persons will need to obtain a passport to travel by land or sea in addition to the already-implemented law. The new laws could cause difficulties for students planning out-of-country, warm getaways. A passport costs \$67 to process. There is also a \$30 application fee which includes a \$10 fee for a photo. The passport will be mailed to you within six to eight weeks. Roberta Mollet, a worker at the Stillwater Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), said it is recommended that people apply early for any passport.

With the new law being enforced, it makes receiving a passport a little more time-consuming. If there is a need for a passport quickly, the process can be sped up. For an extra \$30, the passport will be rush-delivered to your home. Expedited passports generally take about three to three and a half weeks to receive, but with so many people applying for passports now, it could take longer. When applying for a passport, one will need to go to the local DMV with two photographs of themselves, proof of U.S. citizenship, such as a social security card and a valid form of photo identification, according to the U.S. Department of State Web site.

DMV's are not held responsible for how long it takes the government to send a passport to a person's home. Amie Dibba, a junior at UW-River Falls, said she is not going anywhere for spring break and already has a passport. "I have had my passport for years," Dibba said. "I think it is a good rule that they have implemented." Whether or not people are going to be traveling a lot or not much at all, it is a good idea to have a passport handy. "It will help the government keep track of their own people," Dibba said. UWRF senior Angela Reagan recently traveled to Mexico. Getting a passport was something she said she had thought about doing for a while, but only recently went out and got one. "It took about two to three

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Submitted Photo
Standing with the horseshoe trophy they won at last year's Rodeo Round Up are, left to right, Brandon Berg, Ryan Schumacher, Dan Sitz and Derek Waldera. A cash prize was also awarded to the winners.

ROUNDIN' UP CAMPUS

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To some, a rodeo, or something that even resembles one, may seem like a crazy idea. Even though weather conditions here are not perfect, the UW-River Falls Rodeo Club is organizing the annual, indoor Rodeo Round-Up. While this is the third year of the Round Up's existence, questions still come up as to what the event actually is. "It's a representation of a rodeo," rodeo club member Dan Baugh said. "It's a chance for students to participate." Besides allowing students to take part in the different events, it also gives students a chance to familiarize themselves with rodeo activities. "It was started with the intent to get people involved and get the name out there," senior club member Mitch Whyte said. "It also gets people into the different sports of rodeo." Baugh said one of the biggest differences between the Round Up and a rodeo is the fact that the Round-Up will not use horses. All the events that take place in the Round Up will be done by people. Junior Amanda DeCesaro hopes to attend the Round Up this year after attending the past two years. "It's really exciting," DeCesaro said of the event. "It's twice as exciting as a regular rodeo. It's more challenging; there are no horses, so people have to do all the stuff. It's also funny to watch the people run around like animals." While the Rodeo Club has close to 40 active members, Baugh and Whyte are two who have been working hard plan-

ning the Round Up since January. Round Up teams are compiled of five members who compete in six different events and work to obtain points for their team. The teams receive points for their completion of the each activity and at the end of the competition. All the events are timed to see who gets the points, Baugh said. The more time used, the higher amount of points earned. The team with the least amount of points wins a cash prize. Just a few of the events taking place on Thursday night include goat tying, wild cow riding, barrel racing and steer wrangling. The cash prize won't be determined until the night of the event when the number of teams is finalized and the audience has paid admission. Whyte has been in attendance for all of the past Round Up's, while Baugh only went for the first time last year. "It's pretty funny," Whyte said of the events. "Everyone is out there just trying to do the best they can." The past Round Up's have had been successful with a large number of participants and fans watching and enjoying the performances. "It went pretty good," Baugh said of last year's event. "There was a pretty good turn out of teams and a bunch of people that watched." The first Round Up was started by a former UWRF student and now the Rodeo Club is working to run the event annually. The Rodeo Club members will be working to put together a well-run, entertaining evening for all in attendance. While Baugh would like to be able to compete in the event, he is just going to focus his efforts on making everything run smoothly. The Round Up is on Feb. 15 at Lab Farm 1. The events are scheduled to get underway at 6 p.m. and costs \$2 for students.

Facebook group raises awareness, support for Darfur

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Over the course of three years, Facebook.com has taken the social world by storm with nearly 16 million registered users. The Web site is a means of communication for workers, students and anyone with Internet capabilities throughout the United States and globally. Users of Facebook are able to create groups based on a variety of topics ranging from beer drinking to sports. Others choose to use the vast network as a way to create social awareness about global issues. Jeremy Riddell-Kaufman, a student at California Polytechnic State University, is one of the people in the latter category. Riddell-Kaufman is the creator of "400,000 Faces," a group dedicated to raising support for Darfur, a region in western Sudan where conflict has been occurring since 2003. The conflict started when non-Arab, anti-government rebel groups in Darfur began attacking various Sudanese government entities, including the police and military. The rebels believe that the Arab government is oppressing the non-Arab population.

Soon after the fighting began, the Sudanese government retaliated using ties to the Janjaweed, nomadic cattle herders from the region. According to the Coalition for International Justice, an estimated 400,000 casualties have resulted from the conflict, many of whom have been civilians. The death toll is heightened by the fact that Darfur is an arid region, making famine a significant contributor to the fatalities. Various atrocities have been committed on civilians, including rape, torture, burning of homes and murder. The U.N. Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan, Mukesh Kapila, has labeled the conflict as a humanitarian crisis, while others consider it genocide. The United Nations has yet to label it as genocide under their terms. Despite repeated attempts by the international community to end the conflict, the Sudanese government has constantly opposed intervention. In his junior year of high school, Riddell-Kaufman spent a semester in Israel. While he was there he went on an informational trip about the Holocaust. "At the concentration camp of Terezin,

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facebook

home search browse invite help logout

400,000 Faces

Global

Information

Group Info

Name: 400,000 Faces

Type: Organizations - Advocacy Organizations

Description: In the movie "Paper Clips" students collected several million paper clips to show how many died in the Holocaust. 400,000 Faces is a similar concept.

The goal of a membership of 400,000 was achieved at 1:31 AM (West coast time) on January 9th 2007. The photos were collected January 15th 2007 of all members at that time. The Lay down will be on April 28th in an expected 200 schools.

Each person in the 400,000 represents 1 person that has died in Darfur (400,000 is an average of statistics). The pictures will be printed 100 per a page at every participating school (on recycled paper). On April 28th 2007 all 4,000 pages will be laid out over public areas at each school during a rally for Darfur. A picture of the display will be taken and sent to senators, representatives, UN officials, local and major news stations, and those whose influence matters. The resulting packets of 4,000 pages will be sent to the officials that have the best chance in creating change.

The goal of this group is to help raise support for Darfur and we are not stopping just because our quota has been met. THIS GROUP IS NOT LIMITED TO 400,000. This group was created as a venue for advocacy, not just to achieve a certain number of people for a couple of days, and the more support that can be gathered the better. CONTINUE TO INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND SHOW

400,000 Faces

Students for Darfur

View Discussion Board

Join this Group

Report Group

Screen Shot
A Facebook group, "400,000 Faces," raises awareness and support for the deaths of citizens during violent conflicts in Darfur, a region in Sudan.

VOICE SHORTS

LOCAL

Commencement deadline is here

The deadline to apply for Spring Commencement is Feb. 9. Students who will be graduating in the spring or summer may participate in the Spring Commencement ceremonies. Applications are available in the Registrar’s Office located in 105 North Hall. A \$40 application fee will be added to each student’s UW-River Falls account once the application is filed. Students participating in commencement must provide their own cap and gown, which must be black. Caps and gowns may be purchased at the UWRF Bookstore beginning April 1. For more information, contact Linda Matzek at 425-3342 or check the commencement web site at <http://www.uwrf.edu/commencement>.

SENCER conference promotes civic enment

The National Science Foundation is funding the Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities regional conference, to be held Feb. 9 and 10 at UW-Parkside. The conference is a comprehensive national distribution project, and seeks to strengthen student capacity to become engaged citizens. It will include workshops, presentations and panel discussions, and will provide an opportunity to meet and discuss ideas with colleagues interested in civic engagement and the work done by SENCER and Campus Compact. SENCER 101 will be offered for new participants. Registration information will be available soon.

Monday night basketball party held in UC

A college basketball gathering is held every Monday night at the Falcon’s Nest Entertainment Complex located in the University Center. The event begins around 7:00 p.m. with games, prizes and free food. ESPN college basketball is viewed on a 35-foot screen.

Professor takes trip to South Pole

The average person realizes it takes a huge, sophisticated telescope like the Hubble Space Telescope to begin mapping the universe. What might take more explaining is being told by UW-River Falls Physics Professor Jim Madsen that another telescope of universal exploration isn’t in orbit or even aimed at the heavens. It’s buried deep in South Pole ice. Madsen belongs to an extended team of scientists who labor for the IceCube Project, spearheaded by UW-Madison. Madsen returned from a trip to Antarctica on Jan. 13. The fascinating aspect of the massive IceCube telescope is what it looks for: ghostly specks called neutrinos. Those subatomic particles are produced in space by decaying radioactive elements. Invisible to the eye, they pass unseen in straight lines at close to the speed of light through solid matter and collide with molecules and atoms. Madsen said neutrinos are born by spatial disruptions, like the collision of two stars or from black holes found in the center of galaxies. Billions pass unseen through the Earth. Reading data of the icy neutrino wreckages could reveal patterns about the universe possibly its origins, the mysterious dark matter and dark energy, gamma ray bursts, black holes, Einstein’s Theory of Relativity and more. Madsen has now made two trips to Antarctica’s South Pole. His first was six years ago to assist with preparations for building the current IceCube telescope.

Briefs Compiled By
Amber Jurek

RIVER FALLS
POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

Beth Dickman
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Dec. 20
• Nicholas Simonson, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Grimm Hall.

Jan. 20
• Benjamin Yoder, 20, was fined \$375 for second offense underage consumption in Prucha Hall.

Jan. 26
• Alison Lund, 18, was fined \$172 for underage consumption. She was seen stumbling across East Cascade Avenue with her boyfriend, Zachari To, 18. She submitted to a preliminary breathalyzer test which resulted in a .20. To admitted on the scene that he was underage and had consumed alcohol. He was given a citation for second offense underage consumption. He was fined \$298.

Jan. 29
• Kirk Steineck, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Grimm Hall.
• Brandon Neeck, 18, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Grimm Hall.

Feb. 03
• At approximately 3:27 a.m. Paul Winkels, 22, was arrested for trespassing. Winkels, who was intoxicated, entered an apartment on North Lewis Street and went to sleep in a chair. The owner of the residence called the police. He was fined \$172.
• Jonathan Burns, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Prucha Hall.

Plus/minus system being debated by faculty, staff and students

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Almost two years after the plus/minus system was first implemented at UW-River Falls, many students, faculty and staff remain confused and frustrated with the inconsistency of its use. Junior Naomi Tomaszewski said she doesn’t mind the plus/minus system, however, it is

weird to have two grading options. “It’s not standardized and is confusing,” Tomaszewski said. The decision to use the plus/minus grading system passed through Faculty Senate during spring semester 2004 and was implemented at the beginning of fall semester 2005. Faculty Senate Chair Wes Chapin said the official policy of

Another player decides to focus on studies

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During the past two weeks, some prominent faces have been missing from the ice and hardwood for the Falcons; as of Monday that was no longer the case. The hockey team lost the services of junior defenseman Jim Jensen for six games and the basketball team was without junior Courtney Davis for four games. Athletic Director Rick Bowen was notified Monday that both the athletes have now regained their academic eligibility. At about 5:30 p.m., Jensen was called to the rink where Head Coach Steve Freeman told him the news. Jensen said he was one of the last people to know about his recent reinstatement. “There are no negative feelings, except toward myself,” Jensen said. “I’m very appreciative of the school.”

During Jensen’s absence, the Falcons amassed a 3-2-1 record. “I knew that it was my mistake,” Jensen said. “It was a lesson learned, a valuable lesson.” Jensen played with the Falcons on Jan. 13 in Winona, Minn., against St. Mary’s University. The last game that Davis played was Jan. 20 at UW-Stevens Point.

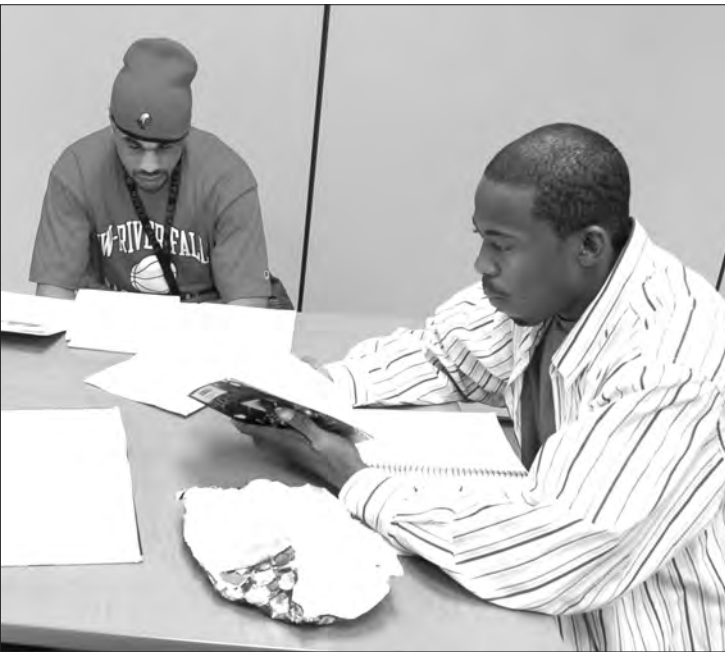
The UW-River Falls athletic department and registrar’s office could not give any specific details regarding individual academics due to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects every student’s right to have their academic records remain private. “There’s all kinds of things that affect the eligibility of our student athletes,” Registrar Dan Vande Yacht said. Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Commissioner Gary F. Karner also said that he could not comment on any academic matters. WIAC rules are more stringent than those maintained in the

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and even some institutional rules. One such rule states that student-athletes must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA during each semester of participation, two full-time terms or 24 semester hours. Another includes earning a minimum of nine credit hours during their first full year at an institution prior to the second regular term of attendance in order to be eligible to compete during their second term. “They didn’t do anything wrong,” Bowen said. “They just had a bad semester.” Bowen was notified of Davis’ reinstatement by the registrar’s office and of Jensen’s from Brad Caskey, the associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “We came to a resolution that seemed fair for everyone involved,” Caskey said. “There was no preferential treatment given because the student was an athlete. A procedure was followed and everyone was satisfied with how it ended.” Jensen spent much of his J-term going through the appeal process and taking it all the way to the highest level. He started with his professor and finished with Caskey. “I’m so happy and so proud to be a student at River Falls,” Jensen said. “The school didn’t turn me away. Everyone was so helpful in making my appeal. The compromise we made was just so just.” Jensen also received as much help as he could from Freeman, but Freeman had to be careful not to overstep his boundaries. Freeman and his wife helped by writing reference letters for Jensen. The reinstatement process is left solely up to the individual student-athlete. “The athletic department does not get involved in that,” Bowen said. “There’s no rule about it; it’s just bad business.” Everyone in the athletic department stressed a hands-off approach when a student-athlete attempts to regain their eligibility or dispute a grade. “This is one of those interesting things that is not uncommon, and completely done by the athletes

flyers posted around campus. Betz said the trip will combine international issues with leadership development, which are both important skills for students to have. “You don’t come back the same person,” Betz said. Last year Betz led students on an expedition in Scotland. “It was fun and nice to get to know the chancellor on a more personal level since he seems so high up,” junior Carissa Williams said. She attended the Scotland trip and is already registered to participate in the China expedition. “I think it will also be interesting to compare and contrast the things we learned in Scotland to



Submitted Photo
Students will stay at the China Exploration and Research Society Center in Shangri-La Yunnan Province.



Kenny Yoo/ Student Voice
Men's basketball players Courtney Davis and Maurice Baker take part in a study symposium during fall semester.

themselves,” Bowen said. Jensen said that watching the games from the sidelines wasn’t easy for him. “It was so hard to go to the games and dress up in the suit,” Jensen said. “You just try to blend in. Everyone tries to ask you what happened.” Besides the difficulty of not being able to play, Jensen also has to deal with other repercussions, including pushing back his graduation date and delaying his financial aid. Davis is second in two major categories for the Falcons this season, averaging 14 points per game, and 5.2 rebounds per contest. “It’s tough when you’re talking about a guy that’s in your rotation and doing well for you,” Berkhof said of losing Davis for a four-game stretch. “We’ve had some guys step up and have done well.” Freshman basketball player Maurice Baker was also named ineligible around the same time that Davis was, he decided not to play for the rest of the season and focus his energies on academics, Head Coach Jeff Berkhof said. Baker didn’t get much playing time this season, logging 26 minutes in eight games played out of a possible 18. Berkhof didn’t think the loss of

Baker and Davis had affected the team’s play on the court despite their 1-3 record without the two players. Of the three losses, one was an 84-78 overtime contest at UW-Stout and another was a 65-64 defeat at UW-Platteville. Even though Berkhof has a lot of confidence in his team, he’s said he’s excited for Davis’ return. “Obviously bringing him back in the rotation will help,” he said. Davis returned to action on Wednesday coming off the bench to score 12 points in the Falcons 68-66 victory over UW-Eau-Claire. There are regular grade checks of athletes conducted by all UWRF coaches, Bowen said. Coaches also keep in close contact with professors when necessary. “There are a lot of caring instructors on campus,” Berkhof said. “They let us know when our guys aren’t going to class.” Bowen was the men’s head basketball coach for 20 years and knows that these issues sometimes arise. “If you’re going to take a chance on any type of student you have to offer support to those students,” he said. “I think we do a better job than most.”

See Athletics, page 8

China study tour encourages leadership

what we will have learned in China,” Williams said. “I strongly encourage everyone to apply; it is definitely an experience that you wouldn’t want to pass up.” Senior Liz De La Torre is another student who attended the Scotland trip and is also traveling to China. “I think that leadership is something that students want to learn about, but not necessarily in a classroom setting,” De La Torre said. “China is a place that I am very much looking forward to seeing, especially given its political and economic stance.” One of the stops the students will be making is to the China Education and Research Society. Wong How Man, a UW-River Falls alum, began this organization to search and study parts of China that have been left unnoticed. “An added bonus is being able to visit Wong and seeing his impact on China. It is just a piece of the whole experience,” Greene said. Students will have the opportunity to learn at the research center for almost a week. “They will learn the international issues revolving around East Asia as well as the issues that are facing Tibet,” Betz said. Recently, China constructed the highest train in the world that runs through Asia and into Tibet; it will open a whole new world for both countries in terms of

travel and the economy. The \$4 billion train was just completed within the last six months, and students will be able to travel through the landscapes of the Asian continent for four days. The program didn’t exist before last year, and there are already plans for another colloquium following the China tour, Betz said. “I will try to bring as much as I can to the table for both students and faculty,” Betz said. “The chancellor is a great person with a lot to offer this campus. The opportunity to learn from him this way is the chance of a lifetime,” De La Torre said. “Don Betz has done wonderful things for this University and for our international programs.” Besides Betz, Turner and Greene are two additional faculty members leading the three-week exploration. They both took part in the Scotland study tour and will be making the trek to China as well. “It is the most life-altering experience from multiple perspectives, being able to study abroad and spend concentrated time with Chancellor Betz,” Greene said. “To become a global leader one day, you need this knowledge.” The cost of the study tour is

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ROTC: New program awaits approval from administration

from page 1

ing to todaysmilitary.com. “The good news is, ROTC is available in more than 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the U.S.”

The U.S. Army may soon add UWRF to their list.

Faculty Senate Chair Wes Chapin said the Army has sent a formal proposal to the University asking for the program to be held.

“The Army would like to get the program approved as soon as possible,” Chapin said. “However, it has to go through an approval process.”

The ROTC program would be voted on by the Student and Faculty Senates and the academic staff. Chancellor Don Betz would then decide whether to sign the proposal or not.

If the program is approved, the military science minor would be submitted through a different approval process.

It would need to be approved by the College Curriculum Committee, the Student Senate, the Academic Policy and Program Committee and finally, the Faculty Senate. Before being approved by the Faculty Senate, the Academic Policy and Program Committee is asked to make a recommendation to the Senate.

“At any university, there will be people who oppose and who are in favor of the ROTC,” Chapin said. “Personally, I think there is an advantage to training officers in a liberal arts environment.”

Chapin said a problem with approving the proposal is UWRF does not know where to place the program.

“It is not clear where military science would be home to,” Chapin said. “It’s hard to say which college it belongs to — College of Arts and Sciences, for example.”

Besides the undecided future placement of the minor, some critics are finding faults in the promotion of the ROTC program itself.

Harvard, for example, banished ROTC in 1969 during the Vietnam War. Several other schools, including Yale, Dartmouth and New York University did the same. Harvard also stopped funding the program in 1995, saying the military’s “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy toward gays violated its non-discrimination policy.

“The main concern that faculty and staff have is that UWRF is supposed to be inclusive,” Chapin said. “The Army would be violating that with the ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ policy.”

Another concern is if the University promotes the ROTC, they are promoting the expansion of the military and more war.

UWRF Veteran Service Officer David Till said he thinks it is good the ROTC program is getting a lot of interest.

“I think that the program is important,” Till said.



Wes Chapin

“It’s a good way for those who are interested in the military. Credits go towards your minor for service you are already doing.”

Till said though the ROTC program is rigorous and challenging, both mentally and physically, it is a great way for a person to spend their life.

“Having military knowledge is helpful,” Till said. “It will better someone’s career and give them scholarships. Doing a program like this will better your life.”

Junior Xou Thao said he didn’t know if the ROTC Program would be offered when he came to UWRF, but he joined 10 others last semester in the program. Thao said he started as a cadet in the ROTC, but was unable to continue in the program this semester due to a busy schedule. If he had remained in the program, Thao said he would have had the chance to advance in the ranks.

Thao also said the ROTC Program on campus is being well received unlike during the Vietnam War.

“During that time, a lot of people had negative feelings towards the troops and the war,” Thao said. “I think that from what we learned is to not think so negatively towards the troops even though people may have different opinions about the war.”

“When I volunteered to go to Iraq, I was broke and needed money. Now, I’m doing OK money-wise, but I still think I made the right decision.”

Chris Aeschliman, student

In President Bush’s Jan. 10 State of the Union Address, he outlined a new strategy on Iraq.

“... America will provide forces and support necessary for achieving these goals. Our commanders had estimated that a troop level below 115,000 would be sufficient at this point in the conflict. Given the recent increase in violence, we’ll maintain our troop level at the current 138,000 as long as necessary ... Our nation appreciates their hard work and sacrifice, and they can know that they will be heading home soon.”

Freshman Chris Aeschliman is a member of the U.S. military and a student at UWRF.

“When I volunteered to go to Iraq, I was broke and needed money,” Aeschliman said. “Now, I’m doing OK money-wise, but I still think I made the right decision.”

Aeschliman said he thinks his deployment of doing convoy security will be a yearlong stint. After his return, he said he will come back to finish school at UWRF.

“I love this place,” Aeschliman said. “I’ve made some really good friends and I will definitely come back.”

Travel: Passport procedures require ample time, care

from page 1

months from the time I filled everything out,” Reagan said about getting her passport.

Traveling to Mexico with her family, Reagan said she experienced what it was like traveling with a passport.

“It makes traveling a lot easier because then you don’t need your birth certificate and license,” she said. “You just have your passport and it’s just easy.”

Billy Tait, a senior at UWRF, said he is thinking about going to Mexico for spring break. Tait has not yet gotten a passport.

“I didn’t know that it would take that long to get a passport,” he said. “I thought that they could be rushed and that we could have it within a couple of weeks.”

Now that he needs to get started on applying for a passport, Tait is going to the DMV soon.

“I have to tell my friends so they can get on top of that too,” he said.

The closest place to UWRF for someone to get

a passport is either in Hudson at the Office of County Clerk or the Pierce County Clerks office in Ellsworth.

Mollet said it is necessary for people to check over their newly-purchased passports.

“There have been a lot of mistakes with typos, and each person should be aware of them when getting a new passport,” Mollet said.

When going to get a passport one should allow ample time for paperwork.

“My paperwork for my passport is already filled out because I got it offline,” Tait said.

Another tip is to arrive at the DMV at least a half-hour before they close.

On the Web site www.travel.state.gov information regarding passport renewal and any other questions one might have concerning the new laws is available.

If someone is in need of a passport very quickly, they can get a passport the same day that they apply for one. Chicago, Washington D.C. and Seattle are the only places in the United States that offer same-day passports.

FAN: Network informs members about political issues

from page 1

from the University, and although some of that was made up through tuition increases, we still suffered a net loss.”

Because issues have a direct effect on students in many areas including tuition, it’s extremely important that they understand that being aware is only the first step, and taking action is a critical part of the process.

While most of the action is centered around the state legislature, FAN will also inform its members of significant federal issues.

Anyone can become a member of FAN; it’s available to UWRF students, faculty, alumni and friends. To become a member, register at the Web site <http://www.uwrf.edu/fan> and clicking the “register” link.

Most likely, FAN members will receive information through different avenues. Kinders said that there is the possibility of a newsletter, as well as e-mails that persuade students to take action. These e-

mails are what UW-Madison has deemed “action alerts.”

“If we see certain legislature and take a strong position on it, we’ll send out something asking members to take action — for example, the Minnesota and Wisconsin reciprocity issue,” Kinders said.

As previously stated, FAN is a network, meaning that UWRF works with UW-Milwaukee’s Panther Advocates and UW-Madison’s Alumni for Wisconsin (previously known as the Badger Action Network). With the help of these other, more established networks, Kinders said he anticipates that FAN will continue to expand its membership base.

“There are many others who want to join and who will want to stay informed,” Kinders said. “Now it’s just a handful, but in a month or so, maybe 100-150 people.”

With over 100,000 students in the UW System and 26 campuses spread around the state, issues constantly arise that students need to hear about.

“[The goal of FAN is to] pick

issues carefully and explain them thoroughly,” Kinders said.

Although students were unaware of FAN when first approached, some agreed after learning about it that this was just the thing to motivate students politically.

“Up until now, they couldn’t care — they didn’t have a reason to care,” senior Amanda Grey said.

Faculty Senate chair Wes Chapin recently joined FAN and said he believes it is a good way to get information across to concerned individuals, as well as potentially influence the decision-making process in Madison.

“Ultimately, FAN should help to increase the chances that the governor and the legislature will work to strengthen higher education in Wisconsin because politicians respond to contacts from potential voters,” Chapin said. “Anything we can do to send messages to politicians that we are concerned and that we are demanding action should help move the UWRF agenda along.”



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EDITORIAL

Energy emergency: students unaware, not able to help

The temperatures reached a seasonal low of minus 21 degrees Fahrenheit on Monday. Students and faculty alike bundled up from head to toe only allowing a space to see out of to be unshielded from the blistering wind.

Now that the temperatures outside have officially become unbearable, the amount of energy being used inside has increased a significant amount.

Banks of lights were turned off in academic buildings and rumblings were heard on campus about an “energy emergency,” but besides faculty and Falcon Daily readers, people were left unaware of the reasons they were walking in darkness or advised to turn off their TVs when not watching them directly.

On Feb. 6, the River Falls Municipal Utility (RFMU) department was notified by Wisconsin Public Power Inc. (WPPI) that an “emergency level three generator notice” was in effect.

According to WPPI’s Web site, a level three means that any available generators should be used and any area that has the ability to conserve power should do so.

UW-River Falls constitutes as one of WPPI’s larger customers and therefore was notified immediately to do what they could to conserve energy on campus.

This begs the question then, why weren’t students notified of this call to action through an e-mail or by professors at the start of class? This way, we also could have conserved energy and understood why we were walking in darkness in certain areas of the new University Center.

With only the faculty, staff and Falcon Daily readers being informed of the energy alert, the University alone saved 3 percent of the normal amount of energy used, according to Chancellor Don Betz.

Just imagine how much could have been saved if students turned off the Christmas lights adorning dorm rooms, or shut off computers while at class.

High emergency generator levels are more common in the summertime when people have air conditioning cranked on high and fans are plugged into every outlet in the house, Jan Lorenz of RFMU said.

The recent cold spell, storms in the South and the surge of energy that occurs every Monday morning when businesses reopen helped cause the higher emergency level.

UWRF is no longer in a level three warning; actually we are back down to level zero, but students, faculty and staff are advised to save energy where possible.

So, since no one else let us know the facts, here they are, now we all can do our part in conserving energy.

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

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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 afternoon.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sweatpants are acceptable attire

In defense of all women wearing sweatpants:

First off how could Kris Evans possibly have his eyes hurt when seeing women in sweatpants if he is blind. He would have to be blind considering there is far more to women than what they wear.

Sweatpants are something a woman can be comfortable in, which is probably the same reason men wear sweats. Not to mention, Hello!! We live in the Midwest, and it’s wintertime. Has this guy never heard of keeping warm? Has he ever worn tight jeans in the winter? It gets cold.

Don’t get me completely wrong. I’m not just trying to point out how incredibly wrong this guy, Kris Evans, is, but also let him know why he is wrong.

Yes, first impressions do make a difference. Yet, and I believe the ladies of UWRF would agree with me here, who are we trying to impress? Some snooty nose, stuck up, chauvinistic jerk who claims we should not wear what we are comfortable in? Honestly, if a guy only will speak to you because you are dressed skimpy or revealing your curves, is he really worth even wasting your time on? I don’t think so.

I don’t understand where this guy gets off saying, “Everybody wins,” when women wear clothes that flaunt their curves. How can everybody win if women are not allowed to wear what they so choose to wear, all because some creep says it is not suitable for a woman to dress a certain way?

I know plenty of women, including myself, who are extremely confident and have a positive self-image of themselves, as well as very attractive no matter what they wear. Sweatpants, or any other outfit for that matter doesn’t make the woman, it is who she so chooses to be that makes her the way she is.

Just because she, or he, for that matter, wears sweatpants doesn’t make her, or him, lazy or an old bag or any other name Kris Evans decides to call us.

As far as being single goes, has this guy ever even stopped to think some women choose to be single and don’t need some pathetic loser in order to live her life. Most women are strong enough to stand on their own two feet.

I’m not saying it is just single women agreeing with me here, but women who have significant others agree as well.

Personally I wear sweats quite a bit, and my boyfriend actually enjoys me wearing them. Considering it beats work clothes, which consist of jeans, I wear the dairy and horse barns.

I’d like to leave everyone with one thing in Evans’ entire article that actually contains truth:

“Wear something that works for you.”

Perhaps he should take his own advice and not give criticism to people on what is working for them.

Lindsey Frandrup
Student

Reaction to Evans’ column unnecessary

I am astounded at this utterly unnecessary controversy surrounding Kris Evans’ sweatpants article. Since last week, hordes of women on campus have been parading around in sweatpants in defiance of the article in question.

The reason I am astounded is this: why does one guy’s opinion matter so damn much? Because he wrote an article? I don’t agree with his opinion, but I will defend his right to share it. Remember that this country is founded on the virtues of free speech, and since Kris is a student journalist, part of his job is pissing people off. Ever read a real newspaper?

Now about his petty, unimportant topic: I challenge the women of this campus to find one other guy that discriminates against sweatpants so harshly. The women of UWRF should realize that the rest of us (well, more or less) appreciate a girl with intelligence, humor and personality. I personally think that this controversy was artificially created by high-maintenance, insecure drama queens looking to assert their self-worth through arguing a useless non-issue instead of fostering real progress with something more important. Instead of banding together to protest ONE guy’s silly opinion, why can’t all these women protest something that’s actually damaging, like the Iraq War?

In the context of the supposed maturity of our age group, this entire controversy seemed tired out, unimportant, and juvenile from its very birth. Grow up.

Joe Hager
Student

Sweats are no better on guys

In response to your “Sweatpants” article, yes, guys are just as guilty of wearing sweatpants to class as the women, if not more so. And why not wear them if they’re comfortable? So you’re saying it’s acceptable for guys to wear them because they don’t look frumpy? I beg to differ.

Sweatpants aren’t especially flattering on guys either. But why is this even an issue in the first place? Who really cares, besides you Kris, about how we

look at class? Did it ever occur to you that a girl in sweatpants maybe forfeited her “getting ready time” in the morning because she needed extra time to prepare for classes?

Second of all, which guys are actually spending their time in class choosing which girls they will or will not talk to? I’d like to tell them that they’re shallow to judge only by appearance, especially when there are certainly other qualities more important to admire in a classroom setting. Maybe these guys should consider the fact that these “bag ladies” are serious students, and at class for the right reasons. When necessary, we women do dress for the occasion, and that’s our prerogative.

In response to your questions, yes, I am single, and I do wear sweatpants to class sometimes. Your claiming that I am alone because of it is ridiculous. Don’t plan on my coming to class looking like a beauty pageant contestant. If I did so, and treated the classroom like a singles bar, the only jerks I would attract are the ones who are looking for “curves, bells, and whistles.” And a word of advice: for checking out women, I would suggest paying cover at a local club instead of tuition. It’s much cheaper.

Ashley Severson
Student

Emotions stirred from column

My thoughts on “Sweatpants are the reason women are single” ranged from disbelief to complete disgust. While this article may be merely a ploy to generate controversy (as rumors speculate), I found it difficult to believe that anyone could be so completely tasteless and lacking in respect, not just for women but for the average reader.

The article is flawed on many levels. For instance, the author makes a correlation between learning in a classroom and working for a corporation like General Motors. A corporate job involves performance of skills obtained, a classroom requires absorption of skills yet unattained. The two are not comparable.

I also found it strange that Mr. Evans made a point of saying he doesn’t “want to single out the women” and yet chose to begin his article in exactly that way. “Hey ladies.” Females in my classes responded by saying, “We’re here to learn, not to impress,” and, “I’m not here to get an MRS degree.”

But the most offensive point of all was this ridiculous emphasis on women dressing to impress men. If a woman is single, is she less of a woman? Is this author saying that men are so absolutely shallow that sweatpants are their measure by which to judge women? The

men I talked with were also offended in that this article was meant to speak for all men when it clearly does not.

Finally, I was surprised that this sweatpants issue was the one on which Mr. Evans decided to make his literary stand. He didn’t seem to take into account that the written word never dies. As a wise woman I know said, “Perhaps you should be more careful how you look in print, than how you look in sweatpants.”

Alison Woodford
Student

Gratitude shared for fashion advice

I am writing in response to the article “Sweatpants are the reason women are single.”

I want to say thanks for bringing my appearance to my attention. I could not go on with life if I had known that wearing sweatpants was distracting you from your schoolwork.

I’m sorry that I’m not wearing jeans so you can critique my every flaw (notice sarcasm).

I must be a horrible person because I like being comfortable and I don’t give a shit what anyone else thinks. I never would have thought that someone would be complaining that women are dressing too conservatively!

Why not complain about the women that leave nothing to the imagination? Does it turn you on so much that you can’t have some values or even respect for your fellow classmates?

What position do you serve in today’s society that gives you the nerve to stand up and say that women are ugly and single because they wear comfortable clothes to class? Did it ever occur to you that some people can’t afford to buy clothes to meet your visual needs?

I appreciate the decent men out there that don’t judge us by our looks because as you used the word “we” in your article you inferred that all men agreed with you, which is very insulting. I know for a fact that there are men out there that look at our own unique personalities rather than our so-called “bells and whistles.”

I have one thing to say to all the women out there: wear what you want, be who you want to be, and don’t let some lame hormone-crazed college student change that.

As for the men who feel that we (women) are distracting you with our comfortable appearance, get your head out of your ass and if you devote as much time and energy to your schoolwork as you do to what women are wearing, you will succeed.

Amanda Conrad
Student

Class should be cancelled due to dangerous temps

As I ran to class Monday morning to escape the unbearably frigid temperatures of 15 below zero and a wind-chill of minus 25, I could only think of one thing — why was class not cancelled? After removing two pairs of gloves and waiting



Blair Bengs

for my hands to thaw, I checked the UW-River Falls Web site to see if they had anything posted about the dangerous weather. Not only did the Web site have no information posted, I was greeted with a cheerful statement, “We act with an optimum quality of life,” which at this point of being a human ice cube, I had to scoff at my computer screen. I was so miffed by the University’s lack of consideration for students’ health that I decided to check into UWRF’s policy on bad weather. While I found one, the Inclement Weather Practice, the policy itself was nothing other than a dismal failure. According to the administrative policy, the University can cancel classes but there is this clause. “In spite of inclement weather, it is unrealistic to close a campus. There are numerous vital services that must be maintained such as security services, food services for residential students, power plant operations, snow removal, etc. However, if inclement weather is severe enough, class can be cancelled, the campus can be closed to the public, and all non emergency personnel can be directed to leave university property.” While I understand the part about food for students in dorms, the second sentence is where this policy is screwed up. What is severe? According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the word severe as defined in the sense

of “severe winters” means “inflicting physical discomfort or hardship.” Perhaps the over 70 schools in the region that closed Monday read this definition and had this thought: Since a windchill warning, which, by the way, means the air feels colder than -25, was issued by the National Weather Service throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin that it was in the best interest of their students to cancel school and not expose them to the three degrees of frostbite.

I am sure that anyone who has suffered from either frost-nip, superficial frostbite and deep frostbite would tell you that these conditions are very severe to the point of physical discomfort or hardship as your skin tissue actually freezes and in the most extreme cases turns black and needs to be removed. While my Monday adventures on campus did not cause me to lose any fingers or toes, I am quite positive that the first stage of frostbite, frostnip, did pay me a visit. According to the weather portion of the Kare 11 Web site, the beginning symptoms of frostbite can occur in only minutes in temperatures such as those we had on Monday. Myself being one of hundreds of commuters to UWRF, the jaunt from my car to class was one that I don’t want to relive anytime soon, even though I was bundled up to the point that only my eyes were exposed to the elements. While this cold snap has been the only real taste of a Midwest winter this season, the University should not have ignored it. If the goal of UWRF is truly to “act with optimum quality of life,” the welfare of the student body should have been a greater concern in dealing with these potentially devastating temperatures.

Students are selfish, apathetic

Now that I have your attention, I want to be serious. The majority of students on this campus, and perhaps young people across America, are selfish. We are selfish in our outrage, and we are selfish in our apathy to the world around us, which will lead us into a future that is not our own. The *Student Voice* has had a problem lately, inasmuch as we don’t get many letters to the editor. Occasionally, a professor will write something, but typically the student voices are silent. Last week’s article was an attempt to change that. But why does it take a personal attack to incite outrage in a populace of young and opinionated people? The answer is selfishness. If I had written an article about how men think with their penises, I would have received much different hate messages on Facebook (cheers from women, and jeers from men). It is the fact that we are selfish that keeps us from crying out for someone else’s pain, from doing what is right. Instead, we turn to an old friend: apathy. If it isn’t about us, our appearance, or our lifestyle choices, we’re not concerned. One need only look to last semester’s “Letters to the Editor” page. The *Voice* has published some decent articles over the last semester on some interesting and controversial topics, yet there was no public discourse on the editorial page. How many must die in Iraq before we say stop? Does anyone care that 20 percent of Americans don’t have health insurance? Or that we may lose reciprocity because of administrative posturing? Here’s one that is close to home. Has anyone gone further than griping at the dinner table about how hard it is to get food in our new \$34 million dollar building? I suspect not, and it’s a shame. We paid the bill for that building, and there are people who want

to know what we think of it. In some way or another, we’ll all pay the price for the list above, but if we never speak up for ourselves and for others, we’ll never see the change we want, and we will have forfeited our most cherished right as Americans. All it takes is a letter to the editor, or to the chancellor, or to the



Kris Evans

dean of students or a senator. A letter to the editor will get your voice heard by the entire student body and many people in town. In fact, (and this is not commonly known) they can be written about any topic you like, though they have a better chance of being published if they are in response to an article. Finally, and on a personal note, inform yourself about the issue you want to debate. There is nothing more hurtful to me than people spouting off some crap they heard from Sean Hannity or Keith Olbermann without looking for themselves. Knowledge gives power to your argument, and turns the discourse on campus to what I always thought college debate would be: intelligent. So write to the *Voice*, create a blog, advertise yourself, stand on a rock in front of the University Center with a megaphone, be outraged, and not just for yourself. I don’t want to hear, “what can one person do?” because if last week can teach us anything, it’s that one person with an opinion can affect a lot of people.

Alternative candidates desired for president

As a direct response to Keighla Schmidt’s column last week, I would like to say, you’re right. Ms. Schmidt was correct when she spoke of America not being ready for a black president or a female president. I share her “selfish” sentiments, seeing as I want the Democrats to take the House, Senate, and executive branch in a high-stakes game of political hold-em; therefore, I would like to offer two candidates that might be more fitting for the American public. I think the democratic nominee should go to PC and Mac from the Apple Computer television ads. Here you have two recognizable white males who would be perfect for the job. For the seat of president, I nominate PC. Our country is ready for a change, but let’s not be too radical; PC is not the brightest



Michael Pearson

political icon, but we all know you don’t have to be a genius to run for president. Borrowing from former presidential hopeful, Ross Perot, PC has a real niche for spreadsheets and graphs. According to their ads, PC also does a great job telling time and adding thanks to his “clock” and “calculator” applications. Here we have a candidate who possesses the equivalent to a third grade education; at least we’re moving forward. Vice presidential candidate, Mac, is very “hip” to our generation. His style, ability to network and trendsetting is just what the Democrats need to secure the 18-24 vote. John Kerry on a snowboard didn’t work in 2004, but Mac’s modesty and charisma is just what we need in office. After all, the Democrats need an icon the youth of the country can actually look up to. We need a candidate who is young, will-

ing to shake things up, and ready to take control of this wounded country. I feel that Barack Obama would be great for this position, but until the day America is finally ready to have a black president, I put all of my chips in front of PC and Mac. This is our turn to make history. Think about that. We actually have the ability to shape our country’s future. Our generation grew up with the notion that every person in the country is created equal. We were also told that every vote can make a difference, and we have proven that to be true. Voters between the ages of 18 and 24 came out in record numbers for this past mid-term election and look at what we accomplished. Democrat or Republican, the election lies in our hands. Ms. Schmidt was right in her call to action; this is our time. Our country needs a president with integrity, someone who will shake things up; we need a Gerald Ford in response to this Richard Nixon. Black, white, male or female, our country is ready for something radical.

The loss of old buildings brings new uses

Like many, the aspect of the grand opening of the University Center had me tingling with anticipation. Watching it built in the place of the old, demolished Ames with bittersweet glee, I was counting down the days until school would finally start in January. However, the excitement bubbling out of me through the first week of classes turned to a shallow boiling rage when I discovered that the campus had sacrificed my beloved Sandella’s and discontinued the deep-frying of my favorite breakfast: French toast sticks and hash browns at Char’s. I felt the need to proclaim war against the University Center with a vengeance, so fierce food services would be forced to return my stubborn breakfast and lunch habits.

The Student Center and Rodli were both a sore spot for frugal college students like me. Set in my traditional ways, I was ready to rant and rave in this column to revive the two buildings full of sentimental value for me and many other “old” students. I heard in place of eating establishments and seating, the campus would flaunt offices and storage spaces. My determination to save campus services from making the biggest mistake in the history of this University was further reinforced and my quest, “Operation: Save UWRF,” was pushed full-speed ahead. Before publishing a column completely uninformed and biased by nostalgia-induced arguments, I did some research regarding the recent campus building costs and accumulate a

firm base to my complaints. I was pleasantly surprised with my findings and felt a desire to share the “real” story. Hagestad Student Center and Rodli Commons are not being transformed into offices. The newly named Hagestad Hall is tentatively to become the home of textbook services, FredNet, and in the very distant future, the parking, registrar’s, financial assistance and the admissions offices. Rodli’s plans are much more up in the air, but “recreational components” and classrooms seem to be the forerunners. The research proves that the

campus is making a huge investment in prospective students. With an estimated \$10 million renovation of Ramer Field under way, the future of UWRF looks bright and promising. The new field will help to guarantee continued Kansas City Chiefs publicity and will hopefully raise a bigger community interest in the sporting events as well. Investments in the future result in the loss of something older, a reminder of what the campus was before it became a popular university choice among high school students.



Laney Smith

DON’T LIKE SOMETHING YOU’RE READING? WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR AND VOICE YOUR OPINION. DON’T BE AFRAID TO BE HEARD.



Nick Carrow, sophomore

“I don’t object to what women wear. It’s just one of those things I stay out of. I’m a guy.”



Amber Cordes, sophomore

“People can wear whatever they want to wear; it’s not a big deal. It’s college; no one cares.”



Ashley Van Doorn, senior

“I don’t see it as a problem. Not [something to wear] everyday, but once in a while on a Friday or a Monday. It’s more relaxing wearing sweatpants.”

STUDENT voices

What is your opinion of female students wearing sweatpants?

Caryn Whipple, sophomore

“I personally wear them all the time. It’s more about comfort for me than style.”



Trevor Sande, junior

“Sweatpants are cool. If you’re comfortable, go for it.”



Travis Engel, senior

“Sweatpants in general are good because it is very cold out, it’s like 11 below. However it’s their decision really. If I had sweatpants and had [the word] team on my butt I would wear them, but I do not for I wear blue jeans.”



Scanlon grows into her role as playmaker

Junior forward has been catalyst for Falcons' ascension into first place in the NCHA

Jude Harder
jude.harder@uwrf.edu

Like most freshmen athletes, Jenna Scanlon spent her first collegiate season learning the ropes and being passive in her approach to the game. It didn't take long for her to shed her nervousness and become a dominant force for the Falcons.

Head Coach Joe Cranston played a significant part in turning Scanlon into the player she is today and helping her get over the freshman hurdle.

"My freshman year I was very timid and used to hold back a lot, but he pushed me to reach my full potential as a hockey player," Scanlon said.

Scanlon started to bloom late in her freshman season to finish with six points in 25 games played. Last season she recorded a team-high 13 goals, good for eighth in the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA). She recorded three goals in a game for the only hat trick of the season for the Falcons, and she received honorable mention on the All-NCHA team.

Her abilities as a player have grown even more this season. She is currently second on the team in goals with 9, assists with 8 and total points with 17. She is tied for seventh in the NCHA in goals and eighth in total points. Among her nine goals she has two game-tying goals and one game-winner.

This season, she has grown from being primarily a goal scorer to being an all-around offensive threat. Great athletes add a new weapon to their arsenal each season. This season Scanlon has made it a priority to get her teammates more involved and her statistics prove it. As a sophomore she tallied three assists. This season she already has eight assists with five games still to play in the regular season.

"I get just as excited when I set up one of my teammates for a score as I am when I put the puck in the net myself," Scanlon said.

"She uses everyone on the ice to make things happen," teammate Kacie Anderson said. "She is a leader by example out there when she is playing."

Scanlon said she feels one of her greatest strengths as a player is her ability to pass and set up her teammates for goals, and her coach agrees.

"She battles as hard as any player I have ever coached."
Joe Cranston, women's hockey coach

frustrate the other teams in the offensive zone; and because of that, I take a lot of physical punishment," Scanlon said.

Scanlon's blue-collar work ethic and commitment to the team are what makes her a great leader in a young group that recently graduated three of its top scorers during the off-season.

"I realized that this season I needed to step up my game and show leadership on the ice through my play," Scanlon said.

"She battles as hard as any player I have ever coached," Cranston said. "She sets a great example as to what it takes every time she steps on the ice."

Keeping the puck in the offensive zone and winning the battles in the corners and in front of the net has been a very integral part of the Falcons' success this season. Scanlon has played a significant role in making that happen for the first-place Falcons.

She is an example of how far hard work and determination can take you in life. Her play has been a pleasant surprise for her coach, who never knew that she would become this kind of force.

"She is an awesome kid who is very dedicated to the success of our team," Cranston said. "She has been one of our most improved players over the past two and a half years and that is a direct result of hard work."

Scanlon attended Apple Valley High School in Minnesota. She made varsity as just a seventh-grader, giving her six years of high school eligibility. As a junior she helped lead her team to a third-place finish in the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament and was named to the all-tournament team.

Scanlon was also named to the all-state team, all-conference team and was her team's most valuable player her junior season.

Much of her influence to play hockey came from her three brothers and father.

"My dad has always believed in me and always told me to shoot, go to the net and just have fun," Scanlon said.

Her brother, Andy, played goalie for the Falcons men's hockey team from 2003-

In a game against Bethel on Jan. 6, Scanlon made an assist that got rave reviews from her coach.

"[It was] the nicest pass ever set up by a player wearing a women's hockey uniform," Cranston said.

Scanlon plays a very exhausting position that requires size, strength and the guts to absorb some hard hits.

"With my size, strength and reach, I



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

UW-River Falls junior forward, Jenna Scanlon, is second in scoring for the Falcons this season with 17 points and nine goals. Last season Scanlon lead the team with 13 goals.

06. He was named the team's most valuable player during the 2003-04 season.

Choosing to attend UW-River Falls was an easy decision for Scanlon. She said she loves the hockey facilities, the campus and the small class sizes. She is majoring in speech communications with a minor in professional writing.

Scanlon has hit her stride at just the right time for the surging Falcons. Last weekend they battled to a 2-2 tie against the then-conference leader Superior. The next night they beat Finlandia to move ahead of Superior and take first place in the NCHA. Scanlon enjoyed one of her best weekends as a Falcon, tallying five points in the two games. She has twice been named the Falcons Player of the Week in January.

The Falcons stand at 11-5-4 overall and 7-2-2 in the NCHA with five games to go in the regular season. The conference title should come down to the last weekend of the regular season when the Falcons host second-place Superior for two games.

"Our team has really come together this last half of the season," Scanlon said. "We all have our hearts set on winning our conference and making it to the Frozen Four, and we believe in each other."

Basketball team seeks revenge against Whitewater

Mark Haley
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If Saturday's rematch between the Falcons men's basketball team and UW-Whitewater is anywhere near as exciting as the Jan. 6 meeting between the two teams, those at UW-River Falls will be talking about the game for weeks.

Over a month later, people are still trying to figure out how the last game ended up going into overtime, ending with a 91-86 loss for the Falcons.

"People have referred to it as just being unbelievable and can't understand what happened," Falcons head coach Jeff Berkhof said.

With 0.4 seconds left in the game, the Falcons held a 71-69 lead. Before Whitewater put the ball in play to attempt a miracle shot, a technical foul was assessed to the Falcons. Whitewater's Anthony Mlachnik, who finished the game with a game-high 22 points, made the two technical free throws to force the game into overtime. "It's very hard to explain," Berkhof said. "Basically, it's a situation where we had some miscommunication on our part. The officials at that time said they were going to assess us a technical foul for having a guy leave the floor during the course of action."

Before the play began, the Falcons had six players on the court. After junior forward Scott Kelly realized this, he left the floor, but Berkhof was still under the assumption that too many players were on the court. This led to some confusion in which Berkhof tried to get Falcons guard Ryan Thompson off the court. Amidst the confusion the officials gave UWRF a technical foul.

"We've been told that that is not a reason to give a technical foul," Berkhof said. "We probably got a game taken from us."

The Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) conference office told Berkhof that the Falcons were assessed a technical foul that should not have been given, and even Whitewater head coach Pat Miller agrees that the wrong call was made.



Jeff Berkhof

Berkhof and Miller are close friends. The two coaches are very similar in a lot of ways.

"We do have a lot in common," Miller said. "We were assistants for a long time, and we both coached women's golf at points in our career when we didn't have extensive golf backgrounds. Now, getting head coaching jobs from very, very experienced and well-respected, established coaches. There are a lot of similarities, and he's done a great job up there this year."

Berkhof said he enjoys competing against Miller, who led UW-Whitewater to a WIAC conference championship last year.

"It's fun to play against him," Berkhof said. "It would have been nice to be 1-0

against him, but now we're 0-1 and we have to get it back to .500 at our place on Saturday."

The biggest difference between this game and the last meeting may be the absence of Whitewater forward Rob Perry. Perry, who was leading Whitewater in scoring this year with 12.6 points per game, was shut down for the season after the team's loss on Jan. 10, due to a preexisting injury involving a bone surface abnormality. Losing Perry has been part of the reason Whitewater is having a disappointing season after being picked as the preseason favorite to win the WIAC title by the league's sports information directors.

"One of the problems we've had this year is we don't have a go-to guy per se, and [Perry] was probably as close as we had," Miller said.

Perry, who scored 18 points against UWRF on Jan. 6, is known for his strength and physical play.

"The last two years I've guarded him and he's been an inside force," Falcons forward Tim Pearson said. "He's been very consistent. He's a very strong rebounder, and they're definitely going to miss him for this next game."

Pearson, who began the season as a starter, is now back in the starting lineup for the Falcons after being on the bench for eleven straight games.

"Tim's played great as of late, providing great leadership, knocking down shots, and he's one of our better rebounders," Berkhof said. "I really like what Tim's doing for us. Tim's back in that starting role, and he's played great since, so I think Tim's probably there to stay the rest of the year."

Without any seniors on the team,

Pearson is one of the juniors that has accepted a leadership role on the team. Fellow junior Ryan Thompson leads the pregame warm-ups, and didn't find the shift into leadership hard at all.

"It wasn't too difficult because there are so many freshmen, and freshmen are looking for people to lean on, so it was an easy situation to step in and lead," Thompson said.

One of those freshmen is Thompson's pregame warm-up partner, Jontae Koonkaew, who has allowed Thompson to slide over to an off-guard position on some possessions.

"I think last year we just didn't have any other point guards and now Jontae's really stepping up and playing well," Thompson said.

Saturday's rematch between UW-Whitewater and UWRF is also Alumni Day, a setting that Berkhof said the Falcons usually play pretty well in. After the debacle during the last meeting, Berkhof said not a day goes by that he doesn't think about the technical foul that cost UWRF a win on Jan. 6, and he said he wouldn't feel bad if a controversial call went the Falcons' way to even up the season series with Whitewater.

"I'd love to see that happen," Berkhof said. "Whatever it takes to get the W. Hopefully we're up enough that it doesn't come to that, but we take Ws any way we can."



Pat Miller

Brett Favre is the real Super Bowl MVP



Paul Winkels

You saw the commercial. It depicted fans of teams unrepresented in the Super Bowl as they dejectedly endured Super Sunday.

The caption read "It's hard to say goodbye." What happened next wasn't a borderline miracle, it literally WAS a miracle: a two-second clip of Favre throwing the ball up to himself and catching it. The NFL made sure the real big story of the week didn't get lost in the shadows of the Super Bowl: Brett Favre is back!

Now I know what many of you are thinking.

'Paul, you're a Vikings fan. You've said Favre is mediocre at best. You've even said you want to write a dry, sarcastic article praising the man. Come to think of it, this is that article!' Sorry guy. Like Brett and his thoughts of retirement, I've had yet another change of heart. On the surface, his last two seasons have been just a step below superhuman.

Sure he threw as many touchdowns as interceptions, and sure, he had a QB rating just north of 70. We know he's going to break the career record for interceptions next season, but let's stop looking at stats that actually exist.

He completed the first pass of his career to the greatest player ever to play the game. That's right, he threw it to himself.

You have to factor in BFI's, Brett Favre Intangibles. This season, Brett led the league in BFI's with 12, which is 12 more than anyone else in NFL history. Take the Dec. 17 victory at home over the Lions. In that game, Brett Favre threw no touchdowns and three interceptions, and yet the Packers won. How is this possible? BFI's. One of his interceptions was thrown in the end zone, resulting in a touchback as opposed to a go-ahead TD return. These are the things that box scores just can't do justice. Brett Favre Intangibles takes into account things like where you should throw a pick, when you should take a sack and when your arm should go forward but somehow the ball goes backwards. Like a chess player, each move is calculated. Sure you took out my pawn, but BOOM, there goes your horse guy. John Madden understands BFI's; Joe Theisman understands BFI; even Rayovac understands BFI's. That is why I was so excited this week. When I heard the news of Brett's return, I couldn't help but celebrate and try to spread the news. It's true! Check the police report! Brett has meant so much to the NFL. He completed the first pass of his career to the greatest player to ever play the game. That's right, he threw it to himself. In the Nov. 3, 2003 game against the Vikings, he became the first quarterback in NFL history to throw a block.

He's also been known to be one of the most charitable players in the NFL, generously giving Michael Strahan the single-season sack record late in the final regular season game against the Giants in 2001.

If you were disappointed by the game Sunday, I can't blame you. The game itself was not worth re-watching. But nothing warmed this old codger's heart like knowing the legend will return, and seeing him back where he will be most fondly remembered: the Superbowl ... commercials.

SPORTS WRAP

Men’s hockey wins with third period firepower
The Falcons scored three third-period goals en route to a 5-3 win over UW-Superior on Feb. 2 at Hunt Arena. Tyler Kostiuik got the Falcons on the board first when he scored his seventh goal of the season, beating the Yellowjackets’ goalie on the short side. UW-Superior took a 2-1 lead at 12:31 when they scored a power-play goal. The Falcons took the lead for good at 0:32 of the final period when Derek Hansberry scored his team-leading 17th goal of the season. The next day the Falcons took their fourth loss of the season versus St. Scholastica. The Saints jumped out to a 2-0 lead after one period, but the Falcons closed the gap in the second period when Cory Baldwin scored his third goal of the season, making the score 2-1. After another St. Scholastica goal, Pat Borgestad scored with just 26 seconds left in the period. The Saints scored once more in the third period to seal the victory. The Falcons take on UW-Stout Friday at Hunt Arena at 7:05 p.m.

#6 UW-River Falls 5, #7 UW-Superior 3 (Feb. 2, 2007 at River Falls, Wis.)	15:02 RF - Sailer (Harstad, Henkemeyer)
UW-Superior..... 1 1 1 - 3	Third Period
UW-River Falls..... 1 1 3 - 5	00:32 RF - Hansberry (Dahl)
	09:22 RF - McIntyre (Kerns)
	12:17 SUP - Reda (Turville, Clark)
	15:44 RF - Harstad (Sailer, Kostiuik)
First period	
07:22 RF - Kostiuik (Harstad)	
10:05 SUP - Palliser (Berry)	
Second period	
12:31 SUP - Gaulrapp (Turville, Berman)	Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves)
	RF - Bucchina (60:00-30-27)
	SUP - Beiswenger (60:00-36-31)

Schmitz, Schmidt lead women’s hockey to victory
The Falcons defeated UW-Eau Claire 4-1 on Feb. 3 in Hunt Arena. Stefanie Schmitz started the scoring with a goal at 13:54. Penalties plagued the Falcons in the second period, but strong defense held the Blugolds scoreless through the power-play opportunities. Jenny Schmidt scored at 13:57 of the third period to give the Falcons a comfortable lead, but UWEC kept the game close with a goal at 14:38. At 19:03, Schmitz scored her second goal of the night, her tenth of the season, to push the lead out of the Blugolds reach. The Blugolds pulled its goalie to put one more scorer on the ice, but the empty net resulted in one last Falcon goal by Abby Sunderman at 19:15, securing the win. The Falcons’ next match-up will be Feb. 9 at Lake Forest at 8:00 p.m.

UW-River Falls 4, UW-Eau Claire 1 (Feb. 3, 2007 at River Falls, Wis.)	13:57 RF - Schmidt (Jensen, Scanlon)
UW-Eau Claire..... 0 0 1 - 1	14:38 EC - Alioto
UW-River Falls..... 1 0 3 - 4	19:03 RF - Schmitz (Schmidt)
	19:15 RF - Sunderman (LeBlanc, Dyslin)
First period	
13:54 RF - Schmitz (Juvén)	Goalkeeping (min-shots-saves)
Third period	RF - Lindner (60:00-20-19)
	EC - Jobman (59:43-31-28)

Men’s basketball team thwarted after late rally
The Falcons fought hard on the road, but were unable to close out UW-Platteville as they lost 65-61. Jontae Koonkaew hit a three-pointer with 37 seconds left in the game that inched the Falcons to within one point at 62-61, but they were unable to score again. The first half of the game was a see-saw battle consisting of 10 lead changes and six ties. The Pioneers went on a run late in the first half to take a 39-33 halftime lead. Platteville doubled their lead to 12 points with 10:43 left in the second half. The Falcons battled back with a 19-8 run, capped by a Koonkaew three-point-er that put them behind by just a point with 37 seconds to go in the game. Three free throws by the Pioneers closed out the game extending the Falcons losing streak to three games. The Falcons host UW-Whitewater on Feb. 10 at 1:00 p.m.

February 3 results	
UW-Platteville 39 26 - 65	
UW-River Falls 33 28 - 61	
UW-Platteville (pts-rebs-assist)	
Gossens 19-6-1; Lohoff 16-5-2; Shaw 9-5-3; Jamerson 8-2-1; Hanson 7-1-0; Tetschlag 4-7-2; Richter 2-2-3; Kamps 0-1-0	
UW-River Falls (pts-rebs-assist)	
Robertson 13-7-0; Olson 12-2-0; Koonkaew 10-2-3; Kelly 7-8-4; Pearson 7-6-3; Thompson 6-4-2; Elling 6-2-3	

Women’s basketall secures big win at Platteville
Melanie Preiner helped the Falcons to a victory over Platteville with 18 points, and seven rebounds on Feb. 3 at UW-Platteville. The Falcons jumped ahead early with eight unanswered points with 17:55 left in the first period when Preiner made a layup. UWRF maintained the lead through the half, hitting its largest lead of 15 (33-18), when Traci Reimann sank a three-pointer with 5:20 left in the half. UWRF went into the half with a comfortable 12-point lead (36-24). During the second half, the Falcons kept up the lead and jumped to the teams biggest point advantage of 19, (54-35) when Krystal Parr scored from behind the line, with 6:51 left in regulation. The Pioneers came within 11 points when Lisa Grantman hit one from the field at 2:28 remaining bringing the score to 58-47. The Falcons take on UW-Whitewater on Feb. 10 at 3:00 p.m.

February 3 results	
UW-Platteville 24 24 - 48	
UW-River Falls 36 25 - 61	
UW-Platteville (pts-rebs-assist)	
Grantman 12-3-1; Wubben 11-5-1; Nemitz 10-3-0; Tesch 7-8-0; Wisdom 7-7-0; Guernsey 1-1-2; Schneider 0-2-1; Stotmeister 0-0-1	
UW-River Falls (pts-rebs-assist)	
Preiner 18-7-4; Reimann 12-13-2; Cordes 11-2-1; Lindman 6-4-1; Sorenson 6-3-5; Parr 5-0-0; Hilt 2-3-1; Melgaard 1-2-3; Flanscha 0-2-0	

Sports Wrap Courtesy of UW-River Falls Sports Information

STANDINGS

Women’s Hockey				Men’s Hockey			
NCHA Standings	W	L	T	NCHA Standings	W	L	T
UW-River Falls(11-5-4)	7	2	2	UW-Stout (19-2-2)	10	1	1
UW-Superior(15-4-2)	7	3	2	UW-Stevens Point(17-4-2)	8	3	1
UW-Eau Claire(10-8-2)	4	5	2	St. Norbert (18-3-2)	8	3	1
Lake Forest(8-4-5)	3	2	4	UW-Superior (17-5-1)	7	4	1
UW-Stevens Point(12-5-1)	4	4	1	St. Scholastica (13-8-2)	6	5	1
Finlandia(4-15-2)	0	10	1	UW-Stevens Point (6-15-2)	2	9	1
				UW-Eau Claire (8-11-4)	1	8	3
				Lake Forest (3-17-3)	0	9	3
Women’s Basketball				Men’s Basketball			
WIAC Standings	W	L		WIAC Standings	W	L	
UW-Stout(19-4)	12	2		UW-Stevens Point(19-2)	12	1	
UW-Whitewater(16-6)	9	4		UW-Oshkosh(18-4)	10	3	
UW-Eau Claire(15-7)	9	4		UW-Lacrosse(15-7)	10	4	
UW-River Falls(14-9)	8	6		UW-Whitewater(14-8)	7	6	
UW-Stevens Point(15-6)	7	6		UW-Platteville(12-9)	7	6	
UW-Lacrosse(13-10)	7	7		UW-Stout(12-10)	5	9	
UW-Oshkosh(8-12)	4	9		UW-River Falls(10-13)	5	9	
UW-Platteville(9-13)	3	10		UW-Eau Claire(10-12)	3	10	
UW-Superior(7-15)	1	12		UW-Superior(6-16)	1	12	

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

SHOWCASE HOME GAME

UWRF	vs	UW-Stout
Men’s hockey		
7:05 p.m. Friday		
at Hunt Arena		

This is the first game of a home and home series against the Blue Devils. If the Falcons sweep the series they will win the NCHA regular season title.

Men’s lacrosse team preps for season, including exhibition game at the Xcel

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The UW-River Falls men’s recreational lacrosse team has progressed quickly since its inception three years ago thanks to the diligence and dedication of its team members and president Blake Ashley. Their hard work will pay off with the opportunity to play in an exhibition match at the Xcel Energy Center on Feb. 18. “It gives us an opportunity to create some excitement within our school,” team captain and coach Ben Wilson said. “We don’t get a lot of fan support traveling to places like Platteville and Madison.” Adding more excitement to the exhibition at the Xcel is the fact that the Falcons will be going up against their rival UW-Stout. The opportunity to play on the big stage is especially sweet for Ashley. “Playing at the Xcel has exceeded every expectation I have had for this organization,” Ashley said. “Excitement is an understatement.” The team is part of the Great Lakes Lacrosse League (GLLL). River Falls had a 2-8 record in their first season in the GLLL. Ben Wilson and assistant captain Matt Ribar expect improvement during their second season of conference play. “Last year we wanted everyone to play,” Wilson said. “This year our mentality is to play to win.” When the Falcons faced UW-Stout last year, they applied their win-first strategy resulting in an 8-2 victory. “When we play to win we pretty much dominate,” Ribar said.



Submitted Photo
Team President Blake Ashley defends a UW-Eau Claire attacker as Nate Jacobson looks on. UWRF was defeated 4-3. The Oct. 21 game was part of the Brew City Classic exhibition tournament held in Milwaukee, Wis.

The regular season begins March 24 at St. Mary’s University in Winona, Minn., but the Falcons play year round in multiple exhibition matches and an annual tournament to gear up for conference play. UW-Stout is also part of the GLLL accumulating a record of 8-10 in two seasons of conference play. The rivalry between the teams is caused due to geographic reasons. “They’re the closest school to us that we play in every sport,” Wilson said. “They’re defiantly the team to beat no matter how good they are.” There isn’t any bad blood between UWRF and UW-Stout, but things have naturally gotten heated during their previous clashes. “It’s a rough sport,” Ashley said. “During a game anytime you play there’s going to be hostile actions.” The sport of lacrosse itself has come a long way since it was played on the open plains of North America by Indian’s over 500 years ago. Back then, matches consisted of at least 100 players on massive boundary-less playing fields. Today’s game is played on grass, or turf, with 10 players on the field for each side including a goalie. The field is 110 yards long and 60 yards wide. The scoring format is basically the same as hockey. Even though lacrosse is a very old sport those who play it say it is best described as a hybrid. “It’s a combination of soccer, hockey and basketball,” Wilson said. “It’s fast like hockey, spread out like soccer [same size field] and has off the ball movement like basketball.” The popularity of lacrosse is growing quickly nationwide. It’s the fastest growing National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) sport over the last five years, according to lacrosse.org. “When I started playing lacrosse [seven years ago] nobody knew what it was,” Ribar said. Ashley would have to be considered the founding father of UWRF lacrosse.

Falcon swim, dive team prepares for tough WIAC meet

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On Feb. 15 the Falcon swim team will compete in the WIAC meet at UW-Stevens Point. The team finished the regular season on a high note, with the women’s team beating St. Mary’s 149-111 on Jan. 27. The men didn’t do quite as well, falling to St. Mary’s by the same score. They were helped by the swimming of sophomore Matt Banz, who was ineligible for fall semester. “[He] showed that he is a big factor for our men’s team,” Head Coach Bill Henderson said of Banz. The season began on Oct. 28, with the Falcons hosting Macalester. Macalester won both the men’s and women’s events, but Falcon Michael Brudzinski took the 200-yard individual medley and Mikhael Keyser, Brudzinski, Anthony Orlando and Jacob Moe won the 200-yard medley relay. On the women’s team Danielle Mandich won the 100- and 200-yard freestyle. Following a loss to UW-Eau Claire in the second week, the Falcons traveled to Lawrence University for the team’s first away meet. They had a strong showing, but both the men’s and women’s teams couldn’t pull out a win. The women won seven events, led by Sara Cannady and Mandich who won two each. Jill Lambach, Tracy Crane and diver Jaynell Feider also contributed wins. For the men Orlando won two events and Tyler Ormson one. On Dec. 3, the Falcons competed in the St. John’s December Invitational. The men’s team came in fourth, but the women beat the University of North Dakota 706-139. The women swam well across the board, with Mandich, Crane, Ashley Swenty, Joanie Aube and Martha O’Brien each winning one event and Cannady winning two. The next week the Falcon women won

again, beating Augsburg 95-66. Lambach, Mandich, Crane and Alyssa Adair all won an event with Cannady again winning two. The Falcon men and women continued to swim well the following week, but both lost to Hamline University in very close matches. The men were defeated 135-110 and the women fell 148-135. The men had second place finishes in seven of the events and two wins, by Brudzinski and Ormson. The women did similarly, finishing second in six events and winning six others. At the St. Kate’s Invitational on Jan. 20, the Falcon men placed second out of three while the women placed fourth out of seven. Banz led the way for the men winning the 200-meter butterfly by a margin of seven seconds and placing second and fourth in two other events. Mandich again swam well, giving the women their only win in the 50-meter freestyle. At the last meet of the season, the St. Mary’s Invitational, the women took away a win and the men took second. Banz and Keyser finished the strongest for the men with Banz winning three events and Keyser winning two. Brudzinski also contributed a win in the 400 individual medley. In the women’s winning effort, Cannady won the 200-meter breaststroke and Lambach and Mandich won two events



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice
Sophomore Martha O’Brien prepares for the WIAC meet at Tuesday’s practice session in the Karges Center pool.

each. Also winning two events was Feider. “[She has been an] outstanding addition to the team,” Henderson said of Feider. The Falcons are now preparing for the conference championship Feb. 15-17 at UW-Stevens Point. Brudzinski said that it has been a great season overall “[We are] definitely going to make an impact at this year’s conference,” Brudzinski said. Cannady said she feels that the season went “extremely well” and that the results at conference will reflect all the hard work they’ve put in over the course of the season. Henderson said he is hopeful as well. “Banz, Mandich and Feider should all have excellent chances for making the finals and just about everyone on the team has a good chance for a second swim,” he said.

Coming Next Week
conference playoff previews:
men’s and women’s basketball and men’s hockey

Tune in to 88.7 WRFW
for live
Falcons sports action

Get active for the 2nd Annual Wellness Challenge

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The 2nd Annual Wellness Challenge is getting students and faculty excited about physical activity and healthy living. Student Health Services is once again hosting the challenge. The challenge is a four-week program, starting Feb. 5 and running through March 4. According to the Student Health Services' Web page, the program encourages "healthier living through physical activity, nutrition, safety and overall wellness."

"[It's a time for] college students to be sedentary," Student Health Services Stacy Dekkers said of winter.

The program is a great way for students to get active and learn more about "overall wellness," Dekkers said.

The challenge consists of a set of incentive points based on a chart, located online through the Student Health Services' Web site, which determines the

amount of points earned based on different activities. These points can be earned individually or through groups. There are several groups involved with the program, including all eight residential halls, South Fork Suites, off-campus students and faculty and staff academic buildings.

At the end of each week, participants add their point totals and submit them online. Prizes will be given to the top individual each week and the top team. A final prize will be presented to the first place team and highest-scoring individual.

Because this is the 2nd Annual Wellness Challenge, some changes were made from last year to make this year's challenge more appealing for students. The challenge is in February instead of April. The earlier program allows the event to have a new set of reasons to participate.

According to the flyer, reasons to participate are to "keep your New Year's Resolution, feel and look good for spring break 2007, stay motivated to workout

in the winter."

"I am not as healthy as I would like to be and know I could be. So I see potential to develop new and healthier habits that would stick with me long after this activity is over," participating freshman Alyse Good said.

Good also said this is a great opportunity for students to teach themselves how to acquire healthier habits "that could impact their family, friends and even future generations."

She said she enjoys the incentive point system because it gives people more reasons to be healthy and adopt overall wellness.

With students' busy schedules, exercising and eating healthy is difficult, so awarding prizes allows students to have "something they can hold on to," Good said.

Prizes include pedometers, stress balls, Quizno's Subs, Subway gift certificates, free passes to the YMCA, free semester passes to the Body Shop and the Strength and Conditioning Center and a \$15

gift certificate to Laurie's Day Spa. All the prizes are donated by individual businesses. The pedometers and stress balls were donated by Student Health Services.

"It shouldn't be just one month of the year. Fitness is part of your life," said Jason Samens, last year's challenge individual number five all time winner.

Samens is a senior who is actively involved with intramurals in order to keep himself as healthy as he can.

In order to get involved and to obtain overall wellness one should "encourage someone to find someone to be active with for enjoyment," Dekkers said.

She said that it is easier to be active if you have someone in your life that is also willing to be active, which makes exercising fun.

Student Health Services gives great tips for healthier eating habits and physical activity pointers, which is an excellent place to start to obtain overall wellness.

Athletics: Study groups help students

from page 2

Bowen made a point to emphasize the student in student-athlete.

"Our athletes are here to go to school," Bowen said. "Playing sports is just the icing on the cake."

Bowen thinks that some higher-level programs may not hold the same set of values.

"We're not in the business of giving away degrees," Bowen said. "That's one of the big problems I have with athletics at the division-one level."

To help athletes that may be having difficulties with their studies, some teams work closely with the UWRF Academic Success Center

"I know that Jeff Berkhof and Steve Freeman monitor their athletes," Bowen said. "I know these kids were going to the study symposium."

The study symposium is offered through the Academic Success Center and is run by Academic Advisor Justin Hauer. Baker and Davis have been

regular attendees to the symposium and use the Academic Success Center's resources.

"Both those guys were real sincere in their intent not just to play ball, but earn degrees," Hauer said.

The symposium is twice a week and offers all students an opportunity to focus on their studies.

Davis was present at the very first study symposium offered this semester, Hauer said.

Jensen is thankful that he had so much support throughout this entire process. Without his teammates and coaching staff he said he would not have been able to make it through this difficult experience.

"If something happens, don't give up," Jensen said. "There is help out there."

Neither Davis nor Baker could be reached for comment.



Jim Jensen

Darfur: "400,000 Faces" will bring problems in Darfur to U.N. officials' attention

from page 1

we were honored with a Holocaust survivor who spoke to us," Riddell-Kaufman said. "At the end of the talk I approached her and promised that I would do everything in my power to never let such a horror occur again."

During his senior year he attended a presentation at his high school about the situation in Darfur.

"There was a picture of refugees standing in line for food that hit me really hard," he said. "I saw just how similar that picture was to the pictures of the holocaust. It was then when I decided I had to do something."

Riddell-Kaufman then started a Web site called studentsfordarfur.org.

"The idea of the Web site originally was to be a hub for the activism work for Darfur done by students throughout the nation so that all of the little local voices would come together with one voice, Riddell-Kaufman said. "The other function of the site was to be a catalyst for campaigns nationwide."

That particular Web site didn't receive the kind of attention he had hoped for, but shortly after he joined Facebook he realized there was potential to reach a larger audience.

"I launched "400,000 Faces" on Facebook, and it became an unbelievable success," he

said.

Since the inception of 400,000 Faces, schools and students across the nation have joined, including several students from UW-River Falls.

"A friend invited me, and I have done some light research on the topic. I am glad to be in the group and support it," UWRF freshman Kelsey Anderson said.

The idea behind "400,000 Faces" was to gain 400,000 members, and then have each member send in a picture of themselves. Each picture represents one person who has died in Darfur. The goal was achieved in early January.

On April 28, an expected 200 schools will print out the pictures, 100 to a page. Students will lay the pictures out at public areas in their schools. A picture will be taken of each display, and all of the resulting pictures will be sent to U.N. officials, news organizations and other influential parties.

According to the description of the group on Facebook, "The resulting packets of 4,000 pages will be sent to the officials that have the best chance in creating change."

"400,000 Faces" is also in partnership with Amnesty International, a global organization dedicated to promoting human rights.

Stephen M. Revis, vice president of Students for Darfur, spoke of Riddell-

Grading: +/- is still causing concerns

from page 2

higher end of a B and at the lower end of a B."

Alan Tuchtenhagen, professor and assistant vice chancellor for enrollment services, uses pluses and minuses to grade his students. He said faculty members like to be able to decide which system they prefer.

"Faculty feel it is their prerogative to decide a grading scale," Tuchtenhagen said.

Provost Charlie Hurt disagrees with faculty being able to choose between two grading systems.

"My preference would be to have one system or another, not both," Hurt said. "It's confusing for this institution to have both."

Chapin said there is only one grading system, which includes pluses and minuses.

"[The University] can't guarantee that there will be an A or A minus in a class, but the policy is that students should expect to have pluses and minuses in their classes," Chapin said. "Whatever the grading system is, it needs to be applied consistently."

Tomaszewski agreed.

"If a policy is put into effect, it needs to be enforced," she said. "If students have to follow poli-

cies, so should faculty."

It is the responsibility of both faculty members and the administration to enforce the policy.

"It is the mutual responsibility of the administration and faculty members to implement the policy according to the language that was approved," he said.

There is no way to ensure consistency, Hukai said.

"Any grading system is inconsistent unless there is some way to enforce what percents are grades, but that interferes with the faculty members' freedom to decide their own grading scale," Hukai said.

Along with several administrators, faculty and students, Faculty Senate has recognized this.

"We have requested that the Academic Standards Committee clarify the language of the grading system," Chapin said.

The Academic Standards Committee chair, Kurt Leichtle, said the request is on the committee's agenda.

"The committee is working through the agenda, and I suspect we will get to the plus/minus issue in late February or early March," Leichtle said.

Faculty Senate will then have to approve it.

China: Application deadline for enrollment in program quickly approaching

from page 2

\$3,995 plus tuition for three credits. This cost includes airfare, ground transportation, lodging, field trips, the international program fee, insurance and meals.

Financial aid is available to those who qualify.

All students must have a valid U.S. passport by April 1. The enrollment is limited to the first 20 applicants, and the deadline is Friday, March 23 at 4:30 p.m.

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Employment

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Fall Out Boy’s new album fails to impress



Jenna Lee

Back when I was in high school, I remember being one of the first girls to jump on the emo, pop punk bandwagon. I bought a pair of Chucks, dyed my hair hot pink, wore too many plastic bracelets, and bought Fall Out Boy’s first album, *Evening Out With Your Girlfriend*. From then on, I was entranced by the way they could make a whole room jump up and down (ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR). They had venomous lyrics that spoke to the jaded ex-lover (“Stop burning bridges and drive off of them/so I can forget about you”). Unfortunately, Fall Out Boy’s new album *Infinity on High* falls significantly far from any of their previous releases. The spirit of the Chicago punk rock scene that they emerged

from is obviously absent. Perhaps I’m growing up and my tastes in music are changing. But its more likely that lead singer Patrick Stump is too busy stuffing his face with food and beer to come up with any new riffs and lyrics. (Seriously, have you seen him? He’s gained like 60 pounds.) The band’s first single off the album, “This Ain’t a Scene, It’s an Arms Race” (I don’t even know what that means) tries to recreate the pop success of “Dance, Dance” from their sophomore release *From Under the Cork Tree*. But the breakdown in the middle where the chorus is just repeated as if a whole crowd is chanting with them is pathetic. For all of you kids who are too embarrassed to admit that you like this band, it’s not even a good song to secretly jam out to in your car. A couple songs later, we hear Stump’s attempt to be a better singer/songwriter with the piano ballad “Golden.” He sings, “I saw God cry in the reflection of my enemies.” What the hell, man? Hey, Fall Out Boy, just because The Fray and Snow Patrol put out a song like this, doesn’t mean

that you can. So just stop it. You can’t even pretend to be punk anymore. I always thought that one of Fall Out Boy’s best qualities was their ability to take witty and ironic lyrics and carry them through to their song titles. For example, “It’s Not a Side Effect of the Cocaine, I Am Thinking It Must Be Love.” But on *Infinity on High*, it seems that all the band’s creative juices could come up with was “Carpal Tunnel of Love.” If this is the direction the band plans to keep going, the only carpal tunnel syndrome he’ll be getting won’t be from playing the guitar. I am thoroughly disappointed in the way Fall Out Boy has been whoring themselves out to a “Laguna Beach” generation. Their original fan base, including myself, is dwindling, and they have no one to blame except themselves. Listening to *Infinity on High* made me immediately go to LimeWire and download all the better songs they put out years ago. Just because I like pop punk doesn’t mean I’m a moron that will gobble up anything this band spews from its record label.



Fall Out Boy members Peter Wentz, Andrew Hurley, Joseph Tronman and Patrick Stump released their highly-anticipated junior album, *Infinity on High*, Tuesday.

Students get ready to party all night long

Jennie Oemig
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The second annual All Night Party will be held this Friday in Hunt Arena and Knowles Center beginning at 9:00 p.m., and will continue into the wee hours of Saturday morning. “The All Night Party was originally to try and keep students here on the weekends,” said Kia Amundson, a UW-River Falls senior and chair of the All Night Party. “We are sometimes known as a “suitcase campus” and we wanted to get people involved.” During the festivities, which is free for students who present their student ID, those in attendance will be allowed to participate in many different events. For those UWRF students who have friends or family members from out-of-town visiting on Friday, Amundson said the

event is completely free for everyone. “... Students are welcome to bring friends from on or off campus,” she said. “Last year [we] were hoping that 200 or so students would attend,” Amundson said. “That number was completely beaten when over 500 students showed up.” Playing BINGO, rock climbing, ice skating and blow-up boxing will be just some of the activities that will keep students entertained during the All Night Party. Amundson also said that there will be a DJ and the first 100 people through the door will receive free T-shirts. Students can enjoy free food, get their faces painted and get a picture taken with Freddy Falcon throughout the night. The event is coordinated by numerous campus organizations

and due to the success of last year, Amundson said they wanted to continue the tradition. “[The All Night Party] is put on by the residence halls and [supported and] sponsored by the Recreation Committee, Area Council, NRHH (National Residence Hall Honorary), other campus committees and community businesses.” “There were so many activities, people and good food, too.” Rob Nichols, senior Amundson said that hall managers, resident assistants and students voluntarily work during the All Night Party. May Hall Manager Rebecca Prybilla will be attending the

event this year, but will not be able to stay the entire night. “I am volunteering until 1:00 a.m., playing a couple games, and then I am coming back to hold the fort down in May Hall while my other staff members are enjoying the fun,” she said. Some of those who helped coordinate the event last year will be helping out again during this year’s All Night Party. “I helped organize the event last year and again this year,” senior Nick Lauer said. “I was there the whole time last year, and I really enjoyed seeing all of the people and seeing them have fun.” Students don’t necessarily have to stay the entire night, but those who volunteer usually have to stick around to make sure everything goes off without a hitch. “I will be there [the entire time] running around trying to

keep everything organized,” Lauer said. UWRF sophomore Kirsten Farrar was one of the students who did not stay for the entirety of the event last year. “Although there was a lot of things that myself and my friends could do there, I don’t think that there was enough for us to stay the entire night,” she said. “We did everything that interested us, so we left.” Others who attended the event last year said they had a fun time and are excited about this year’s All Night Party. “I attended the All Night Party last year and I enjoyed it a lot,” senior Rob Nichols said. “There were so many activities, people and good food, too.” Although he will not stay until it is over, Nichols said he is not looking forward to one specific aspect, but to the entire event. “I don’t plan on staying the

whole night because I don’t want to sleep the entire Saturday away, but I still should be up until early hours of the morning having fun,” he said. This will be Farrar’s second All Night Party and she said she is excited, especially with the increase in first-year students on campus this year. “Since there seems to be a lot more first-years here [I look forward] to seeing how many will show up,” she said. “I look forward also to seeing friends that I haven’t ran into so far on campus this year.” Farrar said she was impressed with last year’s event, so she has no qualms about showing up at the All Night Party this year. “I went to the all night party last year as a freshman,” she said. “I thought it was well put together and a lot of fun. There was something for everyone to do.”

‘Pan’s Labyrinth’ a hit with reviewing duo



A.J. Hakari

After “The Chronicles of Narnia,” “Eragon,” and “Lemony Snicket’s A Series of Unfortunate Events,” I thought I’d had just about enough of fantasy movies featuring kids going on grand, epic adventures. But leave it to Guillermo del Toro, the twisted mind behind “Blade II” and “The Devil’s Backbone,” to revitalize the genre with his own darkly unique touch. Brimming with atmosphere and spooky imagery to spare, “Pan’s Labyrinth” comes across as a fascinating feature with a story just as absorbing as the visuals. The time: 1944. The place: Spain. Young Ofelia (Ivana Baquero) is traveling to a military outpost in the countryside to live with her mother (Ariadna Gil) and new stepfather, cruel fascist sympathizer Captain Vidal (Sergi Lopez). As Vidal plots to lure out rebel troops hiding in the woods, Ofelia begins to explore the world of the ancient stone labyrinth. A faun (Doug Jones) emerges to tell our young heroine that she’s actually a princess from a vast, underground kingdom, and that she must complete three tasks to prove her worthiness of reclaiming her title. Ofelia sets about fulfilling her goals, facing monstrous creatures below the ground while confronting the brutal

Vidal on the surface. It’s a bit of a downer that “Pan’s Labyrinth” has been slapped with a “fairly tale for grown-ups” label. But to give it some credit, it’s still a pretty accurate description of the flick’s basic outline. “Pan’s Labyrinth” boasts weird creatures, a (in this case) wicked stepfather and a wide-eyed innocent at the plot’s center. But del Toro makes the film about so much more than that, creating depth by way of connecting the fairy tale structure to a story that comes equipped with tragic overtones. Del Toro draws more than a few parallels between wartime atrocities (including Vidal’s sadistic treatment of a captured rebel) and the perils Ofelia faces on her quest, crafting a film with the music of a childhood fable and the words of a dramatic tale much more stepped in darkness and woe. “Pan’s Labyrinth” gets emotionally heavy at times. One can tell that when a fairy’s head gets eaten off and spills blood that this flick isn’t going to be all rainbows This proves to be one of the film’s main flaws, as del Toro ends up spending a little too much time in the real world and not enough time exploring the world of the labyrinth. A grim aura isn’t enough to cast aside the refreshing depth del Toro brings to the characters or the funky visual imagination he displays on the screen. Baquero gives one of the better child performances in recent years. Maribel Verdu lends solid support as a secretary with a secret, and Lopez takes the standard, “Evil McBadGuy” role and turns Vidal into a deeper, scarier villain than is seen these

days. Doug Jones also deserves credit for acting through mountains and turning out great physical performances. Not perfect, but not without a strong imagination. “Pan’s Labyrinth” pulls all of the elements it has to form an experience more memorable than most multiplexes fare these days.



Teresa Aviles

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.

Guillermo del Toro brings fantasy in the form of film once again with an imaginative, yet historical, “Pan’s Labyrinth.” With fairies, fauns, and a Franco-era darkness, young Ivana Baquero, who plays center-stage Ofelia, brings the adult viewers back to a world of fairy tales. When Ofelia and her mother go to live with her new stepfather, Captain Vidal (Sergi Lopez), she is visited by a fairy that guides her to the world in which her soul had previously belonged. By completing the necessary tasks to prove her worthiness of the immortal world, the audience is wowed with the creatures of the dark tales. The memorable Faun, the ghostly Pale Man (both played by actor Doug Jones) and the disgusting Giant Toad were a step up from a Lord of the Rings creature. Though the evilness stemmed from the Captain’s Spanish Civil War was necessary for the portrayal of the “good versus evil” theme (among many themes) I hoped for more fantasy and more dreamy creatures to flood the big screen. Maybe that was just my inner-innocent child seeking more fairy tales. On the other hand, I enjoyed picking at the film’s parallels between the fantasy world and Ofelia’s reality. The audience is presented with a child-killing creature with a feast of treats he bears for no one but himself in the fantasy world; in the real world, a military leader who will kill anyone who dares to dip into his supply of rationed goods. Another theme, bravery versus sacrifice: Ofelia gathers up courage at her most crucial

times to fight against evil, as also shown in the characters of the soldiers of the war in the other world Ofelia’s peers might call “reality.” It seems as though Ofelia seeks a certain type of grim refuge in her fairy tales from her real, cruel and evil world. To incorporate these themes into the film, the performers did an exceptional job to provide a dark mood. If not for the cinematography work, the movie would be nothing more than a simple fantasy flick. The swift, gothic-like movements of the adorn creatures added to the dreamy-ness of the visuals. Even the geography of the film made a viewer, such as me, a bit more interested in the Spanish culture. Or maybe that was just the spoken language that provided an exotic feel. With a tagline like “Innocence has a power evil cannot imagine,” it is hard not to be intrigued by “the fairy tale for grown-ups.” This movie made me hate particular characters. It made me creep to the edge of my seat in anticipation and excitement and it made me cringe while covering my eyes with my hands...then sneaking peeks through my fingers. Trust the winnings and nominations for Best Screenplay, Best Actress, etc. because they are all true. No matter your preference in movies, “Pan’s Labyrinth” has it all: romance, history, fantasy, and horror, it’s all there. Girls, skip the Jennifer Garner and Mandy Moore junk, see a movie worth your money. One tip of advice: subtitles are hard to read when there is a tall guy sitting in the seat in front of you.

A.J. is a junior-year transfer student studying Journalism and Film Studies. He mostly digs horror movies and documentaries.



Teresa is a junior-year transfer studying Journalism and Geography, and enjoys dark comedies and documentaries.

A masterpiece 132 years in the making

Murals in University Center show off UW-River Falls history; logos displayed date back to 1900s

Jennie Oemig
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Setting foot onto the main floor of the new University Center for the first time, students may notice the modern architecture as well as the retro-color schemes, the numerous flags from around the globe and wonder if they’re still on the UW-River Falls campus.

Such bewilderment quickly subsides once in view of the mural of several architectural landmarks that have been part of the UWRF landscape at some point in time.

Walking down the stairwell to the retail dining area, another mural, this one of all of the UWRF logos dating back to the 1900s, adorns the south wall.

Rita Zawislak-Brandt of Student Services is the artist responsible for the murals.

She said Gregg Heinselman, director of Student Services and Programs, came up with the idea for a mural of UWRF logos “to promote University pride and spirit of our campus.”

Heinselman already had some experience in designing murals to cover large spaces.

“I did a project like this at a previous institution in their student union,” Heinselman said, adding that that particular piece had received positive feedback.

After the walls went up and the décor was in place in the University Center, Heinselman said he noticed something was amiss.

“Ok, there’s a big flat wall,” he said of his reaction to the building during a walk-through.

Heinselman said he knew the dining area downstairs was going to be a popular place for students, faculty and staff and there needed to be some artistic touches made.

“We wanted it to be a fun, active zone in the building,” he said.

Before committing to the task, Heinselman said he wanted to recruit Zawislak-Brandt and get her on board before proceeding with plans for the spaces.

“I had approached Rita and asked her if she could do it,” he said, to which she agreed.

When the plans began, Heinselman said they had originally wanted to incorporate the UWRF seals and logos into the building mural, formally deemed the Heritage Hall Mural.

Due to the obscure location where the Heritage Hall Mural was to be, Heinselman said the decision to gather data about the seals and logos and



Students go down the staircase in the game room of the new University Center Jan 22. Photos on the wall showcase student involvement throughout the past decades.

create a separate mural was made.

Heinselman said he had mentioned the idea to some students and senior Jim Vierling told him he had written a paper on the history of Falcon logos for a class, which was a big help.

The design for the logo mural changed several times during the planning stages, Heinselman said. Finally, Zawislak-Brandt came up with a spherical display for the logos, which was the most aesthetically pleasing of all the designs.

The center of the mural was originally going to be just left white until Heinselman came up with an idea to make use of the space.

“I added [the Pledge Song] to the center layout because Gregg said [it] would be nice,” Zawislak-Brandt said.

The painting of the logo mural took nearly 70 hours for Zawislak-Brandt, along with some help from her family, to complete during Thanksgiving break.

“My daughter, Colette, was home from school, so I put her to work on Friday and Saturday,” Zawislak-Brandt said. “[It] took me until Tuesday to complete.”

Students can appreciate the hours Zawislak-Brandt put into the murals to make the University Center a more pleasant environment.

“Rita did an excellent job with the murals,” senior Katie Bollig said. “I know she put in a lot of hard work.”

Zawislak-Brandt completed the Heritage Hall Mural during winter break. She said that some students and staff members may not be familiar with some of the buildings depicted in the mural since a couple of them were demolished or destroyed.

Buildings depicted in the mural are the Normal School, Hathorn Cottage, Ames Teacher Education, Hagestad Hall, North Hall and South Hall.

Zawislak-Brandt said plans are underway for the installation of a plaque which will identify each of the buildings in the mural and include a brief description of the historical significance of each structure.

Walking through the hallways or up and down the stairwells of the University Center, one will notice a number of black-and-white photo prints hanging on the walls.

Heinselman said Zawislak-Brandt came up with the idea to decorate the corridors with old photographs. “You don’t see them in a lot of student centers,” Heinselman said, adding that historical photos are generally found in a library environment.

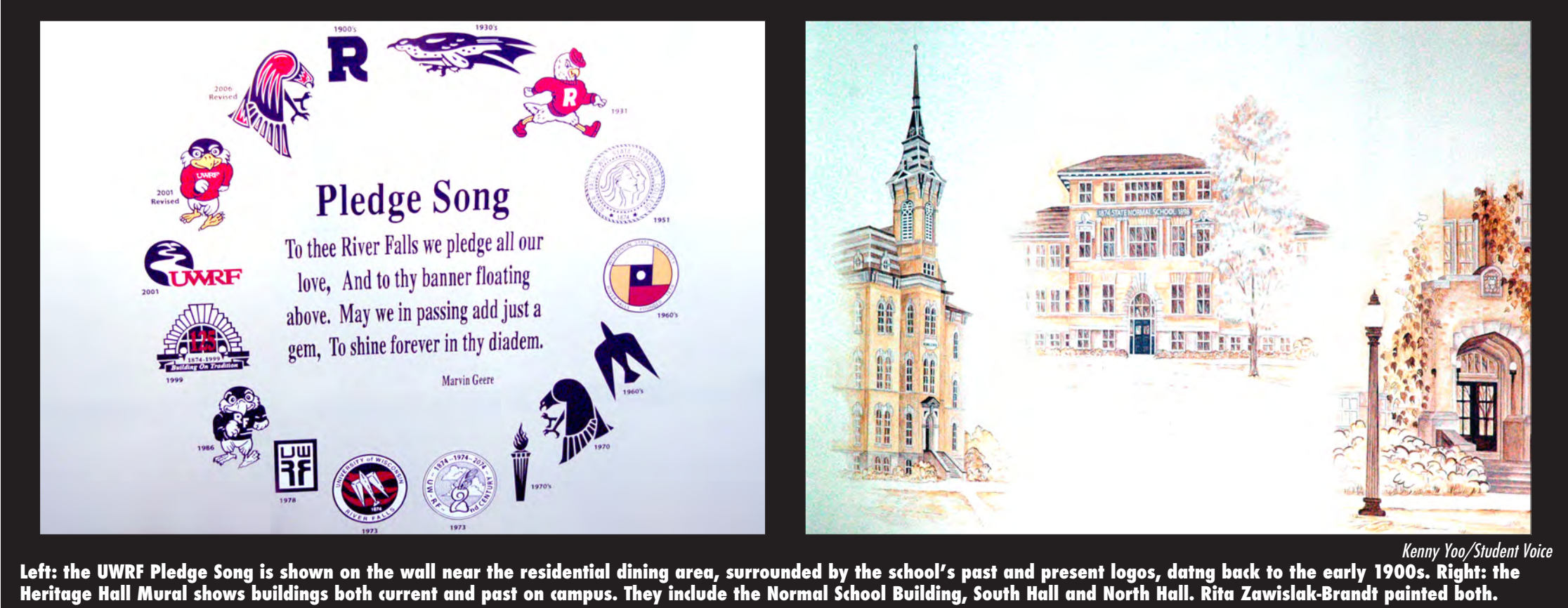
When deciding on which photographs to use in the building, Heinselman said they tried to find ones that made a statement.

“We wanted to show student involvement throughout the years,” he said, referencing the athletic photographs.

Other photographs were enhanced to make them more artistic. On some of the pictures of dance theater, Zawislak-Brandt reversed the negative to make it less of a photo and more of an artistic print, Heinselman said.

Heinselman said the most important aspect of the University Center is the welcoming nature of the space. Most people grow up living in a house in which the walls are covered with family photos.

“We want students to feel very much at home,” Heinselman said. “This is your living room.”



Left: the UWRP Pledge Song is shown on the wall near the residential dining area, surrounded by the school’s past and present logos, dating back to the early 1900s. Right: the Heritage Hall Mural shows buildings both current and past on campus. They include the Normal School Building, South Hall and North Hall. Rita Zawislak-Brandt painted both.

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