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**Program raises money to build schools in Africa**



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

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## Jubilee engages young pupils with agriculture

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The annual Farm Day Jubilee brings in more than 800 elementary students to the UW-River Falls campus every spring. This year's Farm Day Jubilee will be held Friday, April 20.

"It is a cooperative effort with the entire department of agriculture," Alpha Zeta President Nikole Cisar said.

Alpha Zeta is an honorary agricultural fraternity whose purpose is to promote agriculture while developing and encouraging actual and potential leadership. The organization shares responsibility of organizing Farm Day Jubilee with the University's Future Farmers of America chapter, organizes and makes arrangements for the event.

Other organizations involved with the event include Dairy Club, Horticulture Society, Poultry Club, Agriculture Education Society and the Crops and Soils Club.

"This is a service activity for the UWRF students involved," faculty advisor Tim Buttles said. "Those in leadership positions learn how to organize an event involving over 500 people. The students who present activities have another chance to improve their communication skills."

Many events will be held during the event, as in previous years.

"There are demonstrations given ranging from ag. jeopardy to dairy story time to egg candling," Alpha Zeta Publicity Chair Jeffrey McNeely said.

According to the Alpha Zeta Web site, "elementary students are treated to a day of agricultural fun and learning."

The students who attend Farm Day Jubilee have the opportunity to learn a lot about agriculture.

"This is a very hands-on and educational experience for the kids," McNeely said.

Alpha Zeta drafts a letter and information cards, inviting about 40 area elementary schools to the event. Cisar said the group invites between 800 and 1,000 first, second and third graders to the event. Some schools will bring an entire grade as a field trip and others decide to only bring certain classes.

"Creating the schedule of events is one of the most complicated parts. The schedule must accommodate all the schools and provide a rotation so each group attends each station," Buttles said.

The event consists of daylong activities put on by student organizations. As in previous years, Cisar said the organizations usually bring the same activities every year. The Poultry Club will be providing egg candling to the students. Egg candling is the process of determining the grade of egg and to ensure the egg does not contain a chicken. This is done by placing an egg in front of a candle, which allows viewing of the inside

See Jubilee, page 3

## Marching for peace



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

**Left to right: marchers, economics professor Jackie Brux, community member Marco Sherve and student Nick Shillingford, walk along Cascade Avenue bearing signs April 2.**

## RF community, campus members aim for peace, justice

Josh Dahlke

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Every Monday at 6 p.m. people meet at Hagestad Hall to march down North Main Street and back, in an effort to promote peace and justice.

The marches, led by the River Falls Campus and Community Peace and Justice Group, formed under a different name prior to the United States invasion of Iraq. They were originally called the River Falls Campus and Community Peace Group, but changed their name as their cause grew to encompass social justice and peace issues.

Jackie Brux, one of the leaders of the group, began working with the UW-River Falls student Amnesty International group several years ago. In an e-mail she discussed the group.

"We decided to hold weekly peace marches, and I advertised these both campus- and community-wide. There was wide-spread campus and community support for this," Brux said.

Brux said campus and community opposition to the war expanded, so the group began more activities such as candlelight vigils, community discussions, campus debate and potluck dinners. At the dinners, which are still held on the first Monday of every month following the marches, the group holds discussions regarding war and social justice related issues.

The group now has over 100 members, and Brux said community support continues to grow.

"During our peace march yesterday [March 19], so many of the people who were driving and walking by us were honking and waving and giving us

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## EXPECTATIONS IN EDUCATION

## College gives students edge

Jennie Oemig

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Everyone has different reasons for enrolling in college and the importance of acquiring degrees to meet the expectations of prospective employers and society will have a direct impact on the future of academia.

"The college degree is one gateway to further opportunity," Chancellor Don Betz said. "And in this age of globalization, a formal college education assists us in comprehending the dynamic changes underway worldwide which will impact our families, our occupations and our futures."

More and more today, employers are looking for candidates with post-high school training, College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Brad Caskey said.

Caskey said liberal arts universities, like UW-River Falls, allow for graduates to be more flexible, making them more marketable to employers.

"People love that," he said.

Along with the plentitude of doors that open in the job market, those who obtain at least a four-year degree can reap the economic rewards as well.

Caskey said a major reason people seek a higher education is the monetary advantage.

"There's a demonstrable economic benefit to having a degree," he said.

It is typical for someone with an associate or bachelor's degree to acquire a higher-paying job than an individual with a high school degree and no other formal education.

"I've seen numbers ranging from \$1.6 to \$1.9 million dollar in additional lifetime earnings for people with college degrees versus people with only high school diplomas," professor and Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences Bob Baker said.

Senior Paul Erdmann agrees that most people seek a college education for the money.

"I think ... people pursue degrees to escape the lower middle class, although this doesn't always pay off in the end, or right away," he said.

Though money is a determining factor, Erdmann said he has realized that following a career path that is enjoyable is most important to him.

"I often think that if I would have stayed working in customer service, I would be making more than I am about to, if I even find a job. But I wouldn't be happy," he said. "For me it is about pursuing a dream and doing something I want to do and enjoy doing."

Caskey made note of the changes in people's views of education over many years. He said that when he graduated, a high school degree



Don Betz

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## Athletic dept. finds temp. home

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In early March a move was approved that will place the UW-River Falls Athletic Department under one roof at the former site of the Leadership Center in Hagestad Hall.

No specific date has been set for the move to take place, but the goal is sometime in May.

While the proposed new health and human performance (HHP) facility is moving its way through various stages of approval, this new site should be a solid temporary fix for a department that has long been scattered around campus.



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

**The old leadership center will be a temporary home for athletic department.**

ment that has long been scattered around campus.

"We've never really had a home," Athletic Director Rick Bowen said. "This provides us an opportunity to have our own space."

The athletic department is currently sharing Karges Center with the health and human performance department, so this change will also fulfill HHP's need for more room.

"It's a win-win situation for both of us," Bowen said. "It frees up space for HHP, it gets our head men's basketball coach out of our basement and it brings over our football office," Bowen said.

Head men's basketball coach Jeff Berkhof said he has had to hide in the Karges Center's basement since joining the staff and now has his opportunity to see some sunlight.

"It will be nice to get out of the basement," Berkhof said. "We're too spread out and this will let people know where we're at."

Berkhof said he feels having a centralized location will provide the department with an identity it didn't previously have.

With this move, the football office also gets their opportunity to move out of the basement.

Senior Falcons offensive lineman Nathan Tenut said he believes it will be a positive move because it will bring things closer together and be a nice, professional place for potential recruits to visit.

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## Red Cross holds annual blood drive

### UWRF ranked among top five schools that donate blood

Lee Ann Bjerstedt

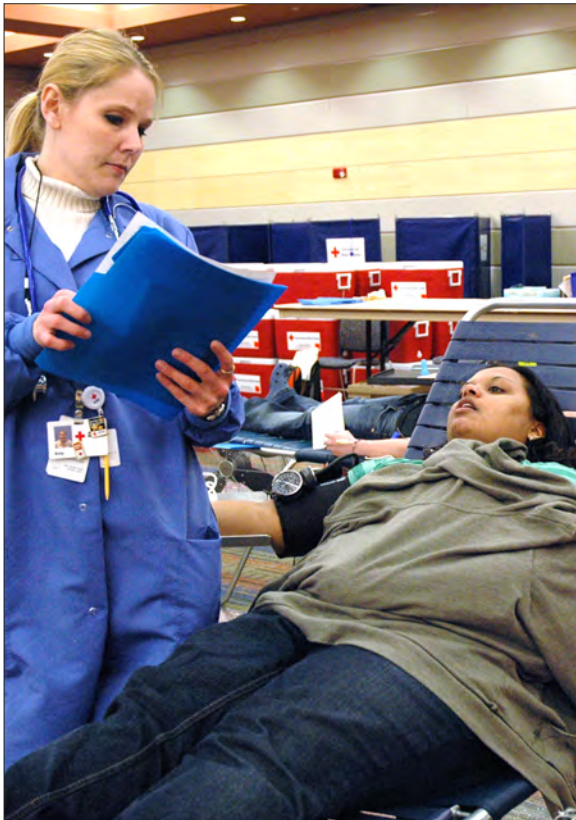
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Every day, blood and blood products are used to help people in serious medical need. Thanks to the Red Cross and students at UW-River Falls, enough blood is provided to save hundreds of lives.

Every few months, the Red Cross holds a Blood Drive on campus, giving students, faculty and interested community members the opportunity to donate. Students are notified through posters, residence hall staff members and campus-wide e-mails. Interested individuals are also needed to volunteer their time if they aren't eligible to donate.

To be eligible, donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health, meaning not suffering from a cold or recovering from surgery. It's also important for donors to get a good night's sleep, drink plenty of fluids and eat a good meal within two to three hours of donating, according to the Red Cross' Web site.

Many factors can disqualify a person from donating blood. Traveling to certain countries overseas, depending upon the amount of time spent there, types of foods consumed or diseases that could have been potentially contracted, can disqualify a



Niki Paton/Student Voice

**Student Anjali Ranieri lays in a reclining chair, waiting to donate blood April 4 in Karges Center during the Red Cross blood drive.**

See Red Cross, page 3



VOICE SHORTS

Psychiatrist to speak about depression

Dr. Henry Emmons will speak at 10 a.m. April 6 in the University Center Ballroom A. Emmons has studied natural and mindfulness therapies within the field and is a consultant to seven counseling centers in the Twin Cities area. He will speak about his first book, “The Chemistry of Joy,” which discusses how to holistically overcome depression. He will also speak about how to create personal resilience using nature and wisdom to sustain a healthy mood. The event is free. For more information, contact Jennifer Elsesser at jennifer.elsesser@uwrf.edu.

Author discusses homosexuality at forum

Chad Thompson, author of the book “Loving Homosexuals as Jesus Would,” will speak at 7:30 p.m. April 10 in the Entertainment Complex in the University Center. He will speak about his story, his book and address questions in an open forum. Thompson’s book attempts to bridge the gap between the evangelical world and the gay and lesbian community. It also tries to show LGBT people that Christians who oppose them politically are not always motivated by hatred or homophobia and to challenge conservative Christians to put aside their differences and treat them fairly. The event is free and is sponsored by Campus Crusade.

Health Fair offers free, discounted services

The UW-River Falls annual health fair is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 11 in the University Center Ballroom. The event is open to students, faculty, staff and community members. The fair will include many services, such as cholesterol testing, massages, blood pressure checks, body composition analysis, hair up-dos, hearing screening and spinal exams and consultations, for free or at a reduced cost. For more information, contact Justine Benzen or Keven Syverson at Student Health Services at 425-3293.

Times discussion focuses on farmland

A Coffee with *The Times* discussion on farmland preservation will be at 2:30 p.m. April 11 in the University Center Falls Room. Alicia Acken Cosgrove, UW Cooperative Extension, will lead the discussion. *The New York Times* will provide free refreshments. The event is free and is sponsored by the American Democracy Project and The New York Times Readership Program at UW-River Falls.

Director speaks about environment issues

John Cronin will speak at 7 p.m. April 12 in the University Center Ballroom as part of the American Democracy Project North Central Regional Conference, hosted by UW-River Falls. Cronin is the executive director of The Beacon Institute and the director of the Pace Academy for the Environment at Pace University. He is a writer and an award-winning documentary filmmaker and co-authored *The Riverkeepers* with Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Cronin has frequently written about environmental policy to the Op Ed page of The New York Times, and wrote and co-produced *The Last Rivermen*, which was named an outstanding documentary film of 1991 by the Motion Picture Academy Foundation. He has dedicated himself to protecting the American environment for more than 30 years and has spent most of his career on New York’s Hudson River as an advocate, lobbyist, legislative aide and commercial fisherman. Cronin’s presentation is free and is open to the public. For more information, visit [www.uwrf.edu/adp/conference](http://www.uwrf.edu/adp/conference).

Students perform in Anne Frank play

“The Diary of Anne Frank” will show at 7:30 p.m. April 13-14 and 19-21 in the Blanche Davis Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors and \$7 for the general public. For more information, contact the UW-River Falls box office at 425-3114 or visit [www.uwrf.edu/scta](http://www.uwrf.edu/scta).

UWRF volunteers to help community

UW-River Falls 10th annual volunteer day is scheduled for April 14. Volunteers must register online and will meet at 8:30 a.m. on the University Center lawn. They can choose where they want to volunteer. Some options are: Turning Point, Lutheran Home Nursing Home, River Falls parks, Have a Heart Farm and Adopt a Highway. Volunteers will receive free pizza and a t-shirt.

Students express interest in RACE Exhibit

Students can participate in a free bus trip to the RACE Exhibit at the Minnesota Science Museum April 17. The first bus trip scheduled for April 9 is already full. April 17 was added due to the overwhelming response from students. There is a limit to the number of students that can participate, so they are advised to sign up as soon as possible in the Academic Success Center on the first floor of the Chalmer Davee Library. The event is sponsored by the UW-River Falls Ethnic Studies Program and Campus Diversity funds. For more information about the exhibit, visit [www.smm.org/race/about/](http://www.smm.org/race/about/) or contact Njia Lawrence-Porter at 425-3531.

Swedish composer performs on campus

The UW-River Falls 41st Annual Commissioned Composer Concert will be at 7:30 p.m. April 12 in the William Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The concert will include the world premiere of a composed work by renowned Swedish jazz pianist and composer-in-residence Lars Jansson. Jansson is one of Sweden’s premiere jazz musicians. He has performed around the world and released several albums. Jansson will also perform with UWRF music faculty David Milne, Craig Hara and Eric Graham at 7:30 p.m. April 14 in the University Center Falcon’s Nest. Both performances are free and open to the public. April 9-13, he will be on campus to provide workshops for students. The Commissioned Composer project began in 1967. It has established UWRF in the international music scene and introduced students to contemporary music trends. The project is sponsored by the UWRF Musical Arts Committee.

Briefs compiled by Amber Jurek

Correction

• In last week's front page article, "Student Senator steals, burns Voice newspapers," Stephanie McPherson was labeled as a party-goer. While she admitted to being at the party beforehand, McPherson was not present at the bonfire.

SENATE

Senate members down, not out

Beth Dickman  
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With last week’s paper emphasizing the events of one student senate member, a motion was put on the table for Tuesday’s meeting. The motion to “officially condemn the actions of Tory Schaaf and Jason Schultz” passed by unanimous oral vote. Both Schaaf and Schultz prepared written statements to present to the members in attendance at Tuesday’s meeting regarding their actions in respect to the theft of newspapers on campus. Schultz was not present at the meeting, “due to personal issues,” but President Joe Eggers read his statement aloud. In it, Schultz apologized not only to the *Student Voice*, but also Theta Chi fraternity, Student Senate and the student body. Schaaf read his statement to the group. He also apologized to each organization. “We did not take them with the intention of vandalizing them,” he said. “... I accept full responsibility for my actions.” “We felt that Student Senate as

an organization has a duty to help students grow and develop,” Student Senate Vice President Derek Brandt said. “His actions were probably not the best choice, but everyone makes mistakes.” Schultz has chosen to step down as Student Senates Ethics Chair, though he remains an active member of the group. Though two members of the UW-River Falls community were in attendance to discuss the motion regarding Schaaf and Schultz, other motions garnered more time and attention. A motion was introduced last week by Adam Koski, finance director, to have funds from the University reserve account allocated to fund the on-going film series. By approving this motion, Senate has allowed \$12,000 to be re-allocated by the Leadership Development and Programming Board (LDPB) to student organizations that took cuts during budget discussions. The chart created by LDPB showing where the money will go shows relatively even increments being given to seven different student organizations.

Diversity Issues Directory Ashley Olson’s motion for Student Senate to fund the “Unity in the Community” event was resolved Tuesday after being introduced at last week’s meeting. The motion asked for Student Senate to allocate \$1,500 to fund two projects that are part of “Unity in the Community,” and annual diversity event. “Faces of UWRF” and an interactive art project are the two projects that require funding. In an e-mail, Olson emphasized the importance of Student Senate being involved in “Unity in the Community.” However, she said that the event is not about Senate’s involvement, but rather it’s about UWRF students and getting them more involved in diversity. The motion passed with a unanimous oral vote.



Ashley Olson

Housing situation gets breathing room

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UW-River Falls campus housing seems to be a popular commodity for both new and returning students, to the point that demand severely outweighs the supply. Residence Life grappled with possible solutions all year that would appease students and ultimately solve the problem. Through many meetings, their goal is slowly being accomplished. A new contract is responsible for alleviating the issue of overcrowding. There are four phases in the new contract that are designed to provide housing for all students who plan on residing on campus next year. Phase one took place March 26-27. During this phase, current students were able to reserve a space in their present room online. Phase two took place March 29-30. In this phase current students had the option to reserve a different space in their present hall online. Phase three, which took place April 2-5, allowed students the option to reserve any space in any residential hall online. The final phase will begin April 16 and run last through May 1. A current UWRF student living off campus who has completed a housing contract and paid the \$125 deposit may reserve any available residence hall space online. After May 1 off-campus students applying for University housing



Terry Willson

will receive assignment consideration in contract date order with all new and transfer students. Setting up phases with a strict window will allow Residence Life to have a clear idea of how many current students plan on residing in residential halls next year. Then they can plan accordingly for new and transfer students, Director of Residential Life Terry Willson said. “The phases make sense to me,” sophomore Abbey Gutbrod, who resides in Grimm Hall, said. “I guess they needed to do something.” Willson said students who have left on-campus housing to reside somewhere off campus have always had the option to come back. In fact, they received priority over new students seeking housing. There seems to be a misunderstanding: some students were led to believe the policy changed from not allowing students who left to come back and live on campus to suddenly allowing them to do so, Willson said. “The new contract gives students who want to come back and live on campus a smaller window to do so,” Willson said. “Whereas before, there was no window at all.” That window is April 16 to May 1. After May 1 they will be placed on a waitlist with all new and transfer students. “Many may be upset after May 1, but we have made this clear to students and they have a responsibility to secure housing arrangements,” Willson said. Willson said what causes many students to return to on-campus housing is the option to move out when they finish their last semester, student teaching or whatever the case

may be. Most landlords in the area require a 12-month lease with the exception of a few that allow six-month leases. Senior Josh Mattson said it was weird living in Prucha Hall last semester. He said he had no choice because he didn’t want to get roped into another lease at his former residence in Hudson. He plans on leaving the state upon graduation. “It seems to be a fall semester problem,” Willson said. “Right now there are vacancies for on-campus housing.” One solution would be to accept fewer in the fall and more in the spring, but that is easier said than done, Willson said. This was the first time in over 15 years the University was forced to make resident assistants (RAs) share their space with a roommate. The situation was stressed as temporary so RAs gradually adjusted to the change. RAs having roommates is not uncommon. Both UW-Lacrosse and UW-Eau Claire have had such a system in place for quite some time, Willson said. This year marked the highest population in the history of the University of students living in on-campus housing communities.; 2,444 students lived on campus. There are currently more than 6,000 students enrolled at the UWRF. Residence Life strives to house 40 percent of the population. Out of all 13 UW System universities UWRF is the most residential campus due to the small size of the community. The expansion of South Fork Suites, resulting in double its occupancy, will add 240 beds for students. “We are excited,” Willson said. “... We think that this is a positive step in the right direction.”

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

Beth Dickman  
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- March 27**
- A bike was reported stolen from the Grimm Hall bike rack at approximately 4 p.m. The bike was last seen on March 8 when it was locked to the rack. No one was given permission to take the bike, according to reports.
- March 28**
- James E. Meredith, 21, was cited \$56.60 for a bicycle violation. He was riding his bicycle on the sidewalk of North Main Street at 11:45 p.m., according to reports.
  - Jill S. Morley, 23, and Christian R. Munger, 19, were cited by UWRF Public Safety for illegal use of parking permits. Morley apparently received the permit from Munger, but did not register the new vehicle, Morley was fined \$50 as well as forced to pay the charges for towing. Munger was also fined \$50 for displaying the permit registered to Morley’s vehicle and incurred a \$130 towing cost.
- March 29**
- At approximately 2 a.m., Tyler J. Souter, 22, was taken into custody by a River Falls police office for obstruction while his friend was being arrested outside the Ground Zero bar on Main Street. Souter was repeatedly asked to leave the area to avoid being arrested, but continued verbally interfering with his friend’s arrest, according to reports.
  - He was fined \$235.
  - Jonathan J. Hill, 23, was cited \$109 for public urination in an alley off South Main Street.
  - Elizabeth R. Dickman, 23, and Keighla D. Schmidt, 22, reported to Public Safety the theft of approximately 2,000 copies of the *Student Voice* newspaper by Tory M. Schaaf, 19. “A value of the stolen newspapers could not be estimated at this time,” according to reports.
  - Graffiti was found on the west side of the sidewalk bridge north of Hathorn Hall, on the west side of Hathorn Hall, in the N parking lot and on the south side of the library. No witnesses or suspects have been located, according to reports.

- Graffiti was found on the west side of Hagestad Hall at approximately 2:30 p.m. No witnesses or suspects have been located, according to reports.
  - Sara A. Ahlfs, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in Stratton Hall.
- March 30**
- Bruce P. Baillargeon, 22, was cited \$172 for disorderly conduct. At approximately 2 a.m., River Falls Police Department arrived at the Library Bar on North Main Street upon hearing a disturbance from outside. Baillargeon was intoxicated and arguing with the owner, according to reports. He was later released to a sober friend.
  - Lucas A. Kramer, 22, was cited \$172 for retail theft. He was also forced to pay 99 cents in restitution for the sausage, egg and cheese muffin that was taken.
  - Amanda J. Sandmire, 19, reported that someone “keyed” her Ford Explorer in the E parking lot at approximately 12:45 p.m. An approximate cost of damages was not available, according to reports.
  - Benjamin P. Vinar, 18, reported that his vehicle was broken into at approximately 11:30 a.m. in W lot. Nothing was taken from the vehicle, according to reports.
  - Brianna C. Robb, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
  - Lindsey M. Mike, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
- March 31**
- Paul M. Bartlett, 21, was cited \$109 for public urination on South Main Street.
  - At approximately 2:40 a.m., David J. Robelia, 25, was cited \$83 for open container.
  - At approximately 1:15 a.m., Cory M. Rondeau, 22, was cited \$83 for open container.
  - Jenna M. Bauer, 19, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in Crabtree Hall.
- April 2**
- Public Safety received a report that the green utility box located behind Karges was “ripped apart with wires out,” according to reports. There was no internal damage to the wiring.



Jubilee: Students learn through experience

from page 1

of the egg.

The Dairy Club will be informing students about cows, milk and cheese through a trivia or Jeopardy-style format.

The Rodeo Club will be using hay bales to demonstrate proper roping and riding techniques. The event is deemed the rodeo school.

In addition to the booths and activities the student organizations bring, there will be a professional sheep shearer. Cisar said the sheep shearer explains to the young students that the shearing process does not hurt the animal, but is similar to receiving a haircut.

The River Falls Petting Zoo will also be present at the event.

“Some of the animals the petting zoo is bringing includes birds, baby ducks, sheep and goats,” Cisar said.

She said Alpha Zeta is in charge of getting donations for

the event. The fraternity uses a part of the organization’s savings in order to pay for what is not covered by donations. Cisar said Farm Day is worth spending the money from their savings because it allows young students who may have never had any experience with agriculture the opportunity to explore agriculture.

“The event provides a chance for the students to gain first hand experience with the source of their food and fiber. With less than 2 percent of the US population living on farms, fewer and fewer kids experience agriculture,” Buttles said.

Cisar said the fraternity participates in this event every year because it is a great way for college students to teach the younger generation about agriculture.

The Farm Day Jubilee event will be located at Lab Farm 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Marches: Community ‘speaks out’ against war, the president’s decisions

from page 1

the peace sign,” Brux said, “I think this strong show of support confirms what the media has reported, that the public wants this war to come to an end.”

In January 2007 President Bush announced the United States was going to send an additional 20,000 or more troops to Iraq in an effort to stop a surge of violence that had been occurring.

“We have felt a strong need to ‘speak out’ strongly once again after the president announced the ‘surge’ and it became obvious that this strategy would not work,” Brux said.

She also said she believes Bush is avoiding direct negotiations with the rest of the world, and she is frustrated that legislators put politics over “the need to take a strong stand against the war.”

On Monday there were about 12 people at the march, mostly community members and one UWRF student.

Doug Holden, a River Falls resident, historian and Vietnam veteran, had a lot to say about his views on the war and United States

**“We have felt a strong need to ‘speak out’ strongly once again after the president announced the ‘surge’ and it became obvious that this strategy would not work.”**

Jackie Brux,  
economics professor

foreign policy in general.

“I’ve been involved with peace movements for 45-50 years,” Holden said, “I think there are other ways to approach things other than armed conflict.”

He said he believes keeping Americans in Iraq will only lead to more violence, and that the United States entered the war for reasons beyond the promotion of peace in Iraq.

UWRF student David Till is a veteran of the war in Iraq. He said the people of Iraq need the United States, and that he has no doubt the military is there to help people.

“I know for sure you can’t just say, fend for yourself,” Till said.

UWRF senior Nick Shillingford, a founding member of the UWRF Socialist Alternative group, was the only student at the march.

“It’s not really a war in the interest of the American people or the Iraqi people,” Shillingford said.

He said that he believes there are selfish political and economic motives behind the war.

Brux said the group plans to continue the marches until the war is over.

“Our marches have always been lawful, peaceful, and respectful, and we have gained the respect and support of the community as a result,” Brux said, “All like-minded campus and community members are welcome to join us.”

For more information, Brux can be contacted at jacqueline.m.brux@uwrf.edu.



Jackie Brux

Education: Current trends continue to increase requirements for education

from page 1

was considered adequate.

“The majority of my friends did not go to college,” he said.

Baker said in his high school people were on two different tracks. One track was for those preparing for college, while the other was for non-college bound students headed directly for the work force.

“In those days there was no stigma against the non-college track students,” he said. “Not going to college was perfectly acceptable.”

Betz said while a higher education was of importance then, college was not as standard as it is today.

“We considered a college education to be important, but not everyone went to college or completed the degree if they did attend,” he said.

Caskey said a middle school education was the highest education most people achieved 40 years prior to his high school experience, whereas today it is commonplace for the majority of high school graduates to enroll at a college upon completion of a high school degree to obtain a bachelor’s degree.

If the trend continues, Caskey said the requirements for education will continue to increase and more students be seeking master’s degrees in the future.

“It will be interesting to see how it plays out,” he said.

Erdmann said the cost of obtaining a degree may deter students from continuing their education.

“Something has to change with the cost of education,” he said.

Though future financial expectations may be one of the most obvious reasons, receiving a college education does not solely revolve around that goal.

“... The benefits of a college education and degree completion extend far beyond earning power to personal growth and development,” Betz said.

Junior Melissa Leiterman said that having a time in your life when you can learn and grow as a person is also an important aspect of enrolling in a university setting.

“It takes people away from home and puts them in new surroundings,” she said.

Aside from personal gain and experience, parental influence and support often plays a role in helping students decide to further their education.

“I think many people go to school because they don’t know what else to do, or their parents think it is a good idea,” Erdmann said.

Most parents understand what a college education may mean for their children’s futures or want them to experience something they never had the chance to experience themselves.

“My parents did not have the opportunity to attend college,” Betz said. “But they openly and consistently encouraged me to seek a college degree from the time I attended primary school.”

Leiterman said her parents, as dairy farmers, were insistent that she go to college since they never had the chance and also so she didn’t have to go through what they went through.

“It’s something I’m not going to regret,” she said.

For others, the importance of education is always present, regardless of when they choose to enter the college realm.

“I took several years off, saw part of the country and returned to school,” Erdmann said. “It was always my intent to go back, but sometimes life gets in the way ... I have always been interested in environmental issues, but to pursue a career in that field, it requires a degree.”

Home: Move brings department closer to unity

from page 1

However, he is quick to point out that privacy could quickly become an issue. The football team isn’t used to sharing space because they have had their own section of the South Hall basement.

“We get loud when we’re watching film,” Tenut said. “In South Hall we had a lot of privacy and didn’t have to watch our volume.”

Tenut said he thinks if there isn’t any noise complaints this will be a very strong step forward for the department.

“If we don’t bother anyone, then the move will be good,” Tenut said.

Bowen gives Mary Halada, vice chancellor for administration and finance, and Chancellor Don Betz a lot of credit.

Administration has made it a point to improve the facilities of the athletic department; this is another move in that direction.

“We wanted to bring the department into one cohesive unit,” Halada said. “It will improve communication between the coaches and the

athletic director and it will provide a lively place for athletes to come.”

Administration has also contributed greatly to the progress on the proposal for the new HHP facility. The proposal has currently passed two major hurdles in a four-stage process, showing some promise.

Sources of funding for construction of the new office in Hagestad Hall are not set in stone yet, but Bowen said he is confident that things will begin to fall in place.

“All I can say is that we will find a way,” Bowen said.

Bowen said he has begun to look at the design of the new offices and said that a firm has been brought in to begin looking at different layouts.

If the new HHP facilities are approved, construction should be completed in about four years, Halada said.

In the meantime, the move to a centralized location will be a major step forward for a department looking to create a strong and unified identity.

“It’s also a necessary move in us becoming a first-class department.” Bowen said.



Red Cross: Students exceed expectations when it comes to donating

from page 1

donor.

Recent tattoos or body piercing might also cause donors to be deferred, due to hepatitis concerns.

Student Sara Axelson was disappointed that she wasn’t eligible to donate.

“I just got a tattoo, and I have really low iron,” Axelson said. “But if I could do it, I would.”

Most deferrals, like Sara’s, are temporary. Potential donors can check the Red Cross’ Web site for a full list of disqualifications. At the beginning of a donation session, a Red Cross staff member will do a brief checkup, getting a brief medical history and taking blood pressure, temperature and a small blood sample to test iron levels. At this time, any other disqualifying factors would be discovered.

If everything seems satisfactory, the donation itself takes only a short time, depending upon how quickly staff members are moving people through. The most reliable way to guarantee a swift donation is to make an appointment; however, walk-ins are always welcome.

Kim Pliska, a student and habitual donor, said it doesn’t take long to donate and is fairly painless.

“It’s a fast, easy way to do something good,” Pliska said. “The worst part is at the beginning, when they prick your finger. It’s really the only part that hurts.”

After donating, whole blood is sent to a laboratory for testing and separation into its three components: red cells, which are proteins that contain iron and give blood its red color; platelets, which helps blood clot, and plasma, the liquid that carries blood throughout the body.

Each component can be shipped to hospitals as needed and used for different purposes. Accident victims can require four to 100 units of red blood cells, while severe burn patients generally need up to eight units of plasma. The amount of blood given in one donation has the potential to save up to three lives.

It’s the idea of helping people in need that prompted student Katie Besch to donate, despite her nerves.

“I think it’s a good idea ... because it is for a good

cause,” Besch said.

It’s this attitude that gives UWRF one of the highest participation rates out of all schools that work with the Red Cross.

Kurran Sagan, recreational leadership coordinator, works with the Red Cross to bring the Blood Mobile to campus. UWRF consistently turns out high participation numbers, he said.

“Usually all the volunteer staff is students for the check-in table, the canteen, general set-up and clean-up, and about 90 percent of all the donors are students,” Sagan said. “The Red Cross always counts on River Falls to have a high turnout rate and produce a lot of units of blood.”

Donor Recruitment Representative Joel Kramer has worked at the Red Cross for many years and has worked with Sagan at UWRF for nearly five. Throughout these years, UWRF has always been remarkable, he said.

“It’s an outstanding school with tremendous involvement,” Kramer said. “Out of the 40 or 50 colleges that the Red Cross works with, River Falls is at least in the top five.”

Back in November, a two-day drive for all blood types was held. During that drive alone, the units donated exceeded expectations, Kramer said. The goals were set at 100 units per day, but students at UWRF “blew those numbers away,” turning out 126 units the first day and 144 the second.

In February, a drive was held only for blood type “O” donors. Again, the goal was met and exceeded.

For this drive, the goals were bumped up to 125 units per day, and he is confident that the goal will be met and surpassed, Kramer said.

With 356 units already collected and an anticipated 250 on the way, that puts UWRF in the 600 to 700-unit range, nearly matching Winona State University, the University consistently ranked number one in blood donation.

UWRF students should be proud of their involvement, Kramer said. “It’s pretty impressive.”



Kurran Sagan

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**Expectations in Education:**  
The series continues next week with a story about reciprocity and respect between teachers and students in the classroom.



## Organization lacking, 'go-to-guy' unclear

Hopefully students will seek out the advice they need through their academic visors or the former dean of students, Blake Fry, at least until some of the proverbial kinks are ironed out in the administration.

# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STUDENT VOICE RIVER FALLS

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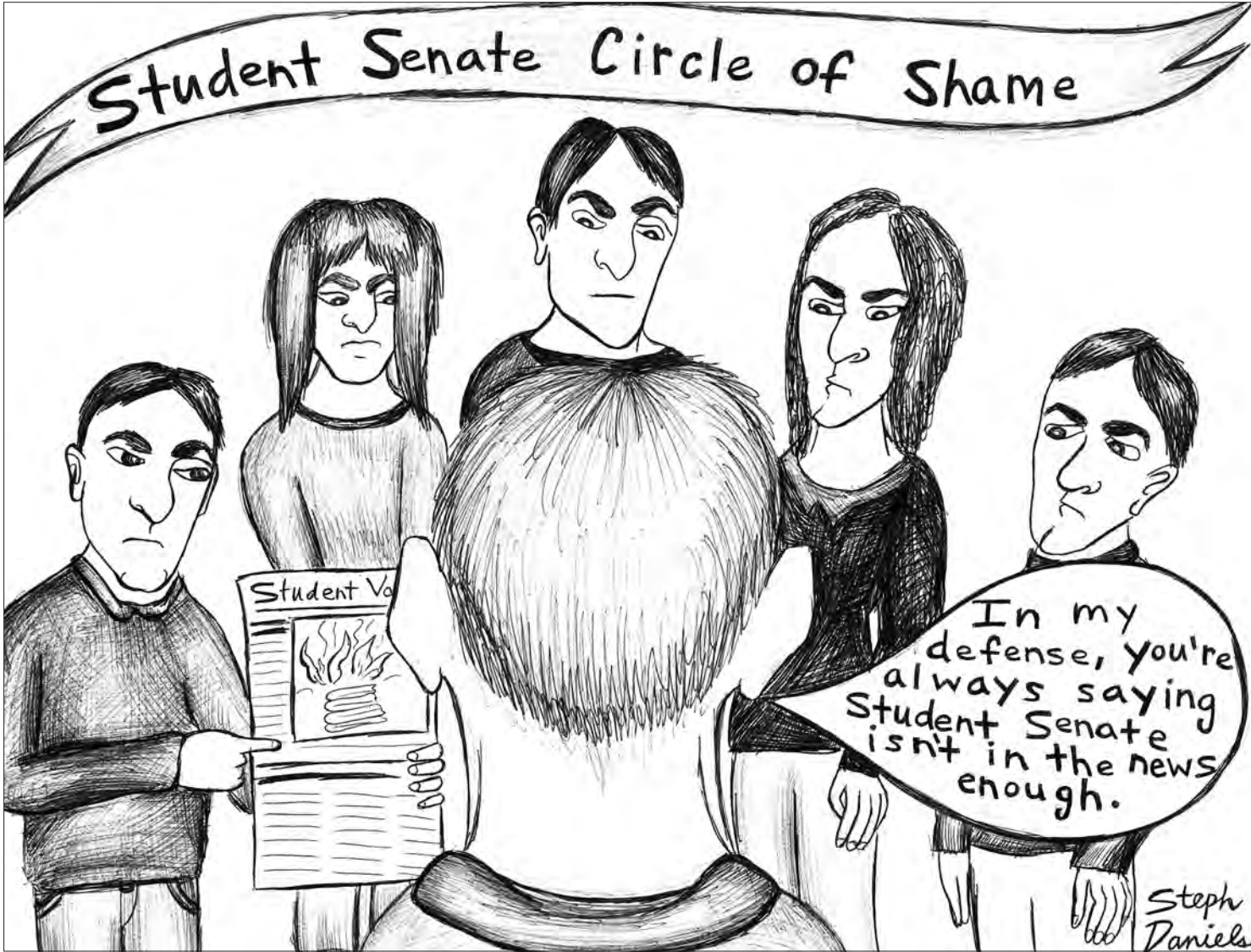
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All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

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



## Theft brings memories of similar incident

Now that it's all happened again, let me repeat some advice that a police chief in a small town of Wisconsin tells people who don't like what the newspaper puts in print.

## Financial book recommended

I have often mused about many of the issues that are covered in this book, and I am grateful for the information and

**Nan Lambert**  
**Student**

## Corrupt leadership to blame

If we continue down the road we are on, we will see: 1. Our economy quickly moving toward massive stagflation because of the gigantic deficit spending - without reform, millions of middle class citizens will suffer greatly; 2. Our culture is being balkanized by

The American people are responsible for the future of America and if we are to prosper, and/or survive, we need to enact these changes and improvements: 1. Bring the troops home now. Iraq is a brutal, costly and no win situation; 2. balance the budget now; 3. Protect our borders and institute immigration reform; 4. Bring jobs back to America - nullify NAFTA and GATT; 5. Institute a real energy policy based upon renewable energy and making America energy self sufficient.

**George Humphrey**  
**Austin, Texas**

## Entry level job hard to leave for new career

And while I know it's just a job, and there are amazing people everywhere, I think there's a concentration of the some of the nation's best people working at the movie theater.



# Keighla Schmidt

I hope the new employees will get to see the same sides of people I have while

**This week, I was offered a reporting position at a daily newspaper ... which will require me to leave my beloved movie theater.**

ater, I have a feeling I won't be back (much) to work there. With an end date in sight, and a new building for the theater on its way, good-bye is going to be good-bye, and even if I don't want to admit it, I'll be leaving, but looking back - fondly.

Have a gripe with the Voice? Tell us, not Facebook. Write a letter to the editor.



# Stealing on campus is not a new trend

As most of you know, one troubled UW-River Falls student felt the need to cover up a stupid mistake by making an even more stupid mistake of burning hundreds of copies of this newspaper.



Blair Bengs

I am not rehashing all of this to shame the student any more, but to point out a trend on our campus that is becoming a sad truth - it seems people are finding theft as a reasonable solution to problems. Remember Jenna Lee’s lack of a music column a few weeks back when she could not write one because someone had stolen her iPod out of her dorm room? I thought you were supposed to have a sense of camaraderie with people in your dorm, not steal from them. Now Mr. Ethics felt the need

**The fact that my lunch was actually stolen is not what is bothering me so much. More importantly, it is the meaning behind it. What happened to being a good person?**

to cover up his under-age drinking debauchery by burning all the newspapers he could get his hands on. Brilliant move; that really did great things for his personal credibility as well as the organizations he is involved with. What I am finding so frustrating about all this is the growing lack of conscience among our campus population. While my own personal example of this is not at all the same level of severity as Mr. Ethics or Lee’s iPod caper, the principle of it is just sad.

Honest to God, when I was reading the paper-burning article on the front page of last week’s Student Voice on Friday, I was eating lunch and left my half-finished cheeseburger and sugar cookie to get a drink of water. When I came back, some idiot had made off with the rest of my lunch. Isn’t that sad. If someone was so hungry they had to steal a half-eaten cheeseburger and nibbled on sugar cookie, ask for some help. Seriously, if I was approached by someone believably in need of food, I would have bought them a lunch. In all truth, if someone would have asked me for the rest of my lunch that day, I would have given it to them. The fact that my lunch was actually stolen is not what is bothering me so much. More importantly, it is the meaning behind it. What happened to being a good person? These incidents have raised questions for me about the future of this campus. What is next? Will students still take the easy or stupid way out to get something that they want or will these thieving people continue to act like children instead of the adults they supposedly are?

In the words of Jeffery Lebowksi, “Get a job, sir.” If you are that hard up for money that stealing is your only option and you have no job, it is your own fault. If you are working and still need to steal, manage your money better. But please, all of you thieves lurking around campus, grow up and get it together.

# UWRF men explained to help women

As soon as it was published, I regretted promising a “Types of Men” column. Not because I think men are exempt from reproach, but because I wanted to show the opposite side. Like FOX News, I try to be fair and balanced, but there are far fewer stereotypes to work off for men then there are for women. The only stereotype I could find was that “men are all the same,” so I’ve thought about it, and interviewed women, and I now present, “Types of Men.”



Kris Evans

We begin the same way as last week, with Mr. Sweet. He’s attentive and caring, jovial without ever being condescending, confident yet humble, he tips well and he’s never had a late charge at the library. When you’re with him, he makes you feel totally secure, both emotionally and physically, and the only thing that separates Mr. Sweet from Mr. Right is, in fact, the length of his penis. Unfortunately, this Prince Charming is a rare guy. The reason our only experience with this type is in fairy tales is because every guy has a vice. It is on this note that we proceed to Mr. D-B (Dream Boat / Douche Bag). He is a panderer and a philanderer. By every

appearance he looks like Mr. Sweet, but it’s all smoke and mirrors, an illusion that he projects to satisfy his master, the diabolical Mr. Winky. He wants you to think he’s sensitive, so he says his favorite movie is “Pretty Woman” or “Maid in Manhattan” or some other piece of manipulative tripe, and he invites you over to his room to watch a flick and play “Girl Talk.” When you get there, he has a guitar prominently displayed. When you ask if he plays, he sheepishly says yes, only to play one of the four Celine Dion or Marc Cohn songs he learned for such a moment. No heterosexual man enjoys “My Heart Will Go On.” I’m serious. Next, is a man who is much the same, he just isn’t a liar about who he is. His name is The Walking Wang, and he would best be described as cocky. His penis, like a divining rod, guides him to the nearest hole. This is a man who oozes profusely with sexuality - at least I hope that’s what it is (or maybe we’ve found a new category of Mr. Gland Disorder). Mr. Wang’s odor can be detected through a vault door. Is that Sex Panther? Nope. It’s the pheromones he’s been secretly harvesting from the animals on the lab farm. Strong enough for a

horse, P.H. balanced for a woman, but given this guy’s chances for success, the ability to attract and arouse sheep may come in handy. Luckily, there is a way to control him. The fact that he uses his penis as a guide can work against him. When you get tired of this game, hit the cancel button by mashing down the top button. Finally, there is Mr. Nice Guy. (aka MC Snoozefest) He lives by the mantra, “nice guys finish last,” and accuses women of going for brash, boarish boys instead of those who could treat them right. Yeah, that’s true, but those “bad boys” have something you don’t, a backbone (or possibly good looks). He never asks. He just waits. Ladies, please be encouraging. They don’t know you’d rather be doing something on a Friday night as opposed to nothing. They don’t get that you’re waiting for them, nor do they understand that flirting is natural. Please, save them from a future in their mother’s basement. I again find myself running out of space. Spring has sprung, and whether you are consciously looking or not, physiologically, it’s sexy time, so give these guys a look. I am all too aware of how seemingly shallow the dating pool on campus is; hell, it’s a freakin’ puddle, especially since it’s a 60-40 split on campus, but in the meantime, tread water until something big comes your way.

# Moving off campus, new responsibility

Living in the dorms is fun for a year or two. But too much sharing can wear on a person after awhile, and that’s when it’s time to move off campus. Besides having more personal space and control over the environment, and not banging your head on the ceiling every morning, courtesy of your lofted bed, off-campus living provides some experience in real world matters and is an opportunity to grow. There is rent to pay for every month, as well as the utilities, cable, Internet, groceries and other fees that come with independent living. Most college students have probably never dealt with these kinds of responsibilities before; I know I hadn’t before I moved out of the dorms. I want to take this opportunity to give you a heads up on renting so you can avoid finding out the hard way.



Cassie Rodgers

Possibly the most important factor you need to consider is whether you can afford to rent. Even if a place is \$300 per month, there are still monthly charges for electricity, heat and all those other charges that add on maybe another \$100. In reality, you have to pay over \$400 every month. Every landlord requires a security deposit, which can be half a month’s rent, a full month’s rent, but not more than two month’s rent. This is a check the landlord will cash, so you have to have that money at the ready. As long as you don’t destroy anything, you should get all of that money back, plus some interest. The landlord has used that money, so they owe you a little, just like the bank owes you for letting them use your money. But to get that money back, the place has to be in good shape,

with only some reasonable wear and tear. Holes in the wall and doors hanging on hinges will not get you your deposit back. When you move in, make note of all the flaws in the unit and take pictures too. Then you won’t be charged for repairs you weren’t responsible for. Movies like to show something bad happening to someone because they didn’t read the contract closely enough. Reading your lease is just as important. You can actually make your own changes to the lease if you want, and if your landlord doesn’t disagree, then they become a part of your lease. Some landlords do make unreasonable demands of their tenants. I lived at one apartment, named after a certain river, where the landlord charged an hourly rate while they clean the unit after everyone has moved out. This is not the tenant’s responsibility, and to understand what is or is not your responsibility, you might want to skim through the Wisconsin Landlord/Tenant Law, which, like everything and their mothers, is on the Internet. Although renting comes with a lot of responsibilities and sacrifices, it really is a great experience and I recommend it to everyone. Just make sure you are prepared for everything else that comes with renting, and don’t let landlords get away with taking advantage of naïve, young college students because landlords in a college town are usually not that interested in helping a student out. It might be a good idea to talk to other tenants to see what a landlord is like because you can never really understand who, or what, someone is when they want money from you.

# Media provides a false sense of human worth on Earth

Then again, does any of it really matter? I mean, you could try your best to end a war across the world; argue with your competing ethics about free-market economies until you ran out of breath. You could stand on your soapbox and try to tell the world what it needs. But what will that prove? If there’s anything our information-saturated, media-obsessed culture has taught us, it’s that it’s impossible to keep up with the constant barrage of triumphs, tragedies and endless statistics that make up every day life. The world moves so fast, the macro and the micro weaving their intricate systems of cause and effect in more ways than the human mind can fathom, and at

greater speeds than ever before. Initially, the torrent overwhelmed us.



Tyler Liedman

Today, this saturation has given many humans a false sense of worth in the grand scheme of things. For instance, we now know that our species is at least partially responsible for a massive climate change occurring across the globe; one that may drastically change the living conditions of our world. Though I’m sorry to say, for those of

you rooting for it, human beings cannot destroy the planet earth. True, we may very well eliminate our own species (and this is, I suppose, a valid argument for accepting and dealing with global warming; but beside the point). Earth has seen much higher, and lower, average temperatures and levels of carbon dioxide. Its natural systems have regenerative abilities that rival anything man-made. Make no mistake; Earth, and the life on it, will press on, even if humans don’t. Yet, we still vote to reinforce political systems with delusions of grandeur. We still take jobs to support ourselves through it all, believing that somehow our forty-hour weeks will matter in some tangible way. Every day, people are born, people die, they

fall in love, they create, destroy, stand up, back down, even evolve. But what does it get us? Freedom? Power? Significance? Imagine for a moment how many people know you right now. Then imagine how many will know you when you die. What about 100 years after your death? How about 1000 years from now? Will anyone remember your name or your accomplishments? Will any member of your species even exist in *one million* years? Keep in mind, the earth is 4.6 billion years old, and many say there’s a few billion left to go. Homo sapiens, including our closest genetic ancestors, take up only a few millimeters on that timeline. Finally, if that doesn’t squash your

self-importance, think about the Universe. Do you feel small yet? You should, because it’s true. You are, literally, a microscopic dot on a planet that is a dot in a galaxy that is a dot in some huge, unlimited chaos of existence. Next to the big picture, nobody really matters; we’re just made to think we do. If you can’t accept that, and you’re hell-bent on your life holding some cosmic significance, it’s liable to distort your priorities. If you place important on trivial, you might miss out on what’s really important in your insignificant little life. I mean, if this sliver of consciousness is all you get, and you’re going to die anyway – no matter how hard you try not to – why not just relax and smile and try to enjoy every second of it?



Jordan Thompson, junior

“Nope, I don’t use the advising week before registration. I didn’t even know there was an advising week before registration.”



Miranda Steinborn, freshman

“Without the advisor I wouldn’t know what classes to take anyways. She basically tells me what classes to take.”



Laura Harsdorf, junior

“I’m an education major. I have enjoyed knowing that my advisor knows what I need to have in order to graduate and will go to my DARS and make sure we are still on track. I’ve used it and it gives me confidence and peace to know I am in the classes I need to be in.”

## STUDENT VOICES

### Do you fully utilize the advising period the week before registration?

Leah Bender, junior



“As a freshman I used it a lot more. It was helpful to have the advice of an advisor, especially in my field.”

Clayton DeRemer, freshman



“I think it’s actually a big help, especially with my academic advisor. He advises what classes to take and when so you can the most out of your money and graduate.”

Dylan Martinez, junior



“No, I usually wait until the week after.”



# New coordinator eager to jump-start Falcons offense

Nick Sortedahl  
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The UW-River Falls football program went on the offensive Tuesday when former UW-Whitewater offensive coordinator Stan Zweifel became the newest member of the Falcons coaching staff.

Zweifel coached the Warhawks offense since 1991, winning the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association assistant coach of the year award in 1997.

“He is so highly respected all over the state,” Falcons head coach John O’Grady said.

Zweifel is also a UWRF alumnus.

“It is rare that an opportunity presents itself to hire a man of Stan Zweifel’s talents and abilities,” athletic director Rick Bowen said in a April 3 press release. “I am extremely excited to bring Stan back to his alma mater as UW-River Falls offensive coordinator. Stan’s ability as a coach and a recruiter will reap immediate benefits to our football program. This is an exciting time for our University and football program; a first step in our commitment to bring winning football back to UW-River Falls. I think Coach Zweifel will make an immediate impact. Falcon Coach John O’Grady and I are very excited to welcome him to UWRF.”

Zweifel played wide receiver for the Falcons

from 1970-73 and led the team in receiving twice and also in scoring during his senior season.

“I’m really excited about getting back to my alma mater,” he said.

Zweifel played with O’Grady during the 1972 and 1973 seasons. He also worked as a graduate assistant for the Falcons under former head coach Mike Farley in 1974 during O’Grady’s junior year.

“He and I have been as close of friends as I’ve had in my life,” O’Grady said. “He offered me my first full-time job [in coaching at Yankton College, SD].”

Their friendship had nothing to do with the hiring of Zweifel, O’Grady said.

Last year was the Falcons first season using the zone offense that Zweifel literally wrote a book on. The book, titled “Coaching Football’s Zone Offense,” was written in collaboration with recently-retired Warhawks head coach Bob Berezowitz and current defensive coordinator Brian Borland. Zweifel has also produced multiple instructional videos and DVDs on the zone offense.

The Falcons current offensive scheme put into place last season was a replica of the one Zweifel ran at Whitewater, O’Grady said.

Zweifel will take over a Falcons offense that averaged 13.1 points per game last season. Fans should expect that number to increase, he said.

“He’s got 16 years of experience running [zone offense],” O’Grady said. “We ought to be better.”

The Warhawks averaged 36.1 points and ranked ninth in Division III under Zweifel last season.

“It’s one of the reasons we installed the [zone] offense,” O’Grady said, regarding its effectiveness for the Warhawks.

Zweifel said one of his goals is to put more of an emphasis on the passing game and balanced out the run-pass ratio. Last season the Falcons’ ratio was more than 3-to-1 in favor of running plays.

“It will be a much more wide open offense than you’ve seen in the past,” Zweifel said.

The run-pass ratio for the Warhawks offense under Zweifel in 2006 was 1.3-to-1.

The offense will also utilize more one-back sets, which will spread the field and open up the offense.

Falcon junior wide receiver Josh Grover said he is excited about Zweifel joining the coaching staff. He has known Zweifel for a few years, having competed against his son in high school and against the Warhawks for the past three seasons.

“Zweifel’s well known because [his teams] put up numbers,” Grover said. “When it comes down to it, he wins games.”

The new wide-open attack could draw in a wider



Stan Zweifel

# Bertrand sets pace for Falcons’ success

Ben Brewster  
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The Falcons women’s softball season is now in full swing, with the team sitting in third place with a 13-5 overall record and only one game behind first place UW-Stevens Point.

The Falcons are just a month into the season and already have more than half the amount of wins they had all of last year. This turnaround has been helped in part by the pitching of junior Ashley Bertrand.

A graduate of Como Park Senior High School, Bertrand has been playing fast-pitch softball since she was 11 years old.

“I liked how much control I had over the game,” she said of her decision to become a pitcher. “Being a pitcher enables you to set the pace and the overall tone for the game.”

Coming out of high school, Bertrand said she chose to attend UW-River Falls because of the coaching staff and the proximity to home. A former mathematics major, she just switched to accounting because she plans on being an accountant after graduation and River Falls doesn’t offer a minor in the subject.

Since her freshman year, Bertrand has led the pitching staff in almost all statistical categories, including wins (31), strikeouts (285), games started (68), appearances (77) and innings pitched (317). She is already moving up the Falcons career leader boards in those statistics and could take over first place in strikeouts sometime this season.

“[She] developed a command of her pitches that puts her as one of the top pitchers in UW-RF history,” Head Coach Faye Perkins said of Bertrand.

She has a 0.97 ERA to go with her 7 wins this season and said the 10 games the Falcons played in Florida over spring break were “the best I’ve ever pitched.”

Bertrand’s success can be linked to her variety of pitches to keep hitters off balance: she throws a curveball, screwball, rise ball, knuckleball and change up.

“I would rather throw a pitch with movement so it’s more difficult to hit,” she said of why she does not throw her fast-ball.

Perkins said that Bertrand’s best pitch depends on the batter. “Ashley has a broader repertoire of pitches,” she said. “Other pitchers rely on one or the other.”

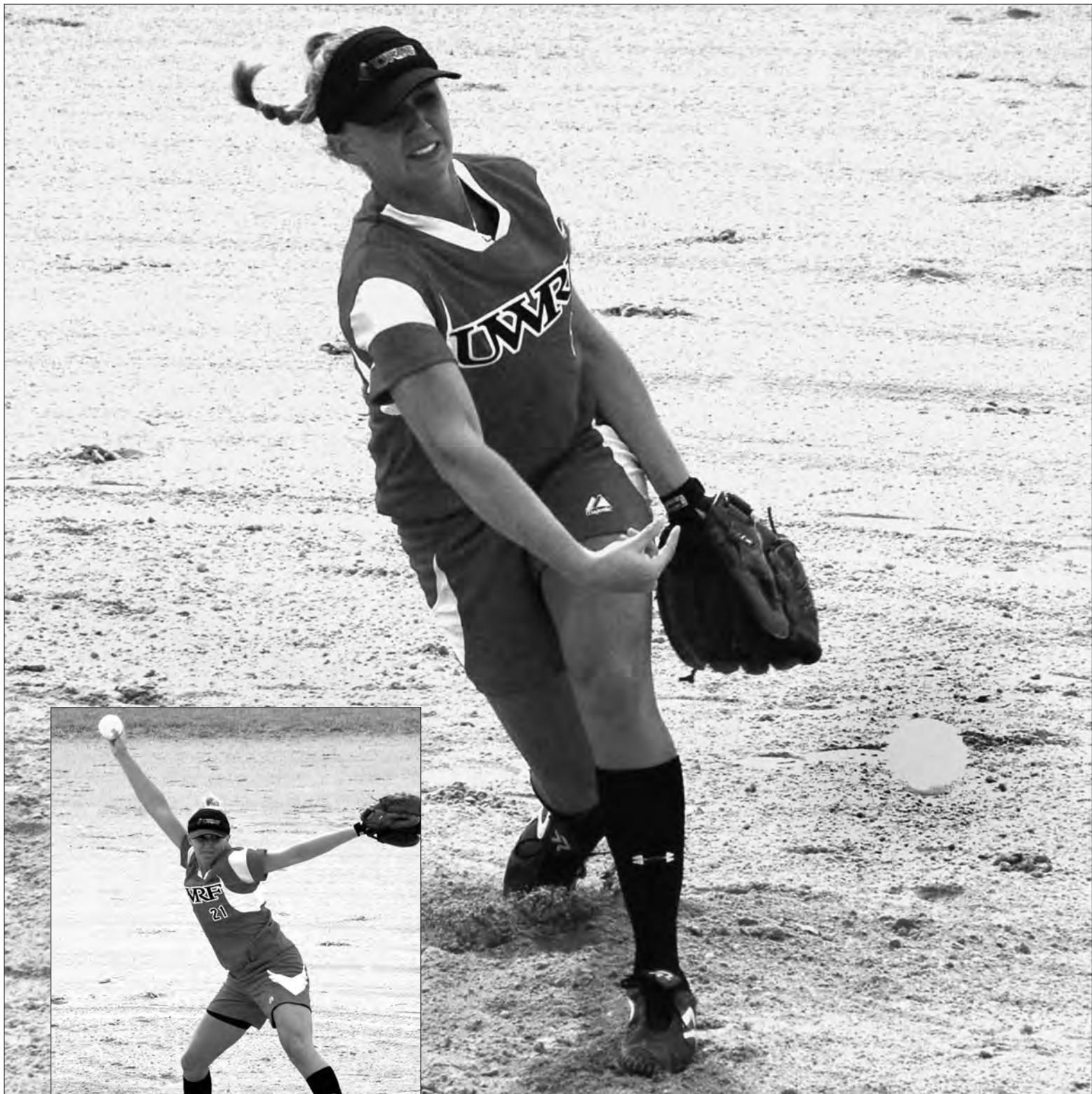
Her success is also helped by the pitching of fellow pitcher Brittany Rathbun. Rathbun, also a junior, has been pitching alongside Bertrand since they were both freshmen.

“We complement each other so well it’s insane,” Bertrand said. “I’m a rise-ball pitcher and Britt is a drop-ball pitcher, so when one of us relieves the other, the batters are so thrown off, they usually don’t have time to adjust and figure out how to hit us.”

Rathbun said she has also noticed the ways in which the two complement one another.

“It’s so nice being able to bounce ideas, different pitches and different ways to throw pitches off of each other,” Rathbun said. “It’s easy for teammates who play the same position to compete against one another, but she and I use it to our advantage to better each other.”

Bertrand has high expectations for the remainder of this season “lots of wins, few losses, and playing well together as a team.”



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

**Junior Ashley Bertrand delivers a pitch during the first inning of the Falcons 7-1 victory over St. Scholastica March 24 at Ramer Field. Bertrand is 7-2 with a 0.97 ERA, 78 strike outs in 64.2 innings pitched this season.**

# Angry Vikings fan cancels season tickets after lackluster offseason

After five years of owning Minnesota Vikings season tickets, I have decided not to renew. Believe it or not, this has nothing to do with the lack of excitement over the last few years, or the fact that the team has only made the playoffs once since 2002 (the 2004 victory over the Green Bay Packers at Lambeau Field). It has to do with one thing and one thing only: a horrible front office.

A year and a half ago when Brad Childress was hired as head coach, I was somewhat happy with the pick up, even though he looked more like he should be fixing my dishwasher than coaching football. He promised to bring discipline to the program and a winning tradition, something Vikings fans desperately wanted.

However, after one full season and part of his second off-season, I am already ready to throw in the towel on this guy. Last year, arrests of players did not go down from the Tice era. Starting safety Dwight Smith was arrested for indecent conduct with a 24-year-old woman in a club stairway. Plus, who could forget the Koren Robinson situation in which he was arrested on his way back to training camp and charged with a DUI, and later released from the team.

My disgust for the front office does not stop there. If you have not been following the off-season closely this year, let me shine some light on it. The Vikings top free agent pickups were Visanthe Shiancoe, Vinny Ciurciu, Bobby Wade and Mike Doss. Who? None of these guys have ever amounted to anything in their careers. In fact, they make a team that finished 6-10 last season even worse.

In four years with the New York Giants, Shiancoe racked up a whopping 35 catches with three touchdowns, none since 2004. Before the Vikings picked him up, nobody had ever heard of Vinny Ciurciu, and Bobby Wade has been the brunt of jokes for many years, especially when he played for the Chicago Bears. In four years with both the Bears and the Titans, he only had two touchdowns, one on a punt return, pathetic. The only decent pickup the

Vikings had happened this Wednesday when the Vikings picked up safety Mike Doss, an injured safety who blew out his knee last year after having a decent career with the Indianapolis Colts. If this sounds familiar to you it is. Last year the Vikings picked up safety Tank Williams who was just coming off of major knee surgery. Tank has set to still play a game for the Vikings, re-injuring his knee in training camp last year.

Now, I understand that it is impossible to get any free agent you want because of the increased salary cap, but this is disgusting. Even in what many consider a poor free agent class, you can easily do better than those chumps.

The funniest thing about this off-season involves the team’s wide receivers. Currently there are three wide receivers on the team who have had significant playing time in the NFL. They include Troy “No Hands” Williamson, Bobby “F’ing” Wade and Billy “Insignificant” McMullen. To top it off, the Vikings have been rumored to be interested in former Indianapolis Colts wide receiver Aaron Moorehead, a guy who has never had more than eight recep-

tions in a year. What makes me really mad about this whole situation is the fact that either Brooks Bollinger, Tarvaris Jackson or a rookie will be throwing to these guys. To me it is crucial for a young, inexperienced quarterback to have good targets, which none of these guys are. Throwing these young quarterbacks into battle with these wideouts will most likely make them worse then they are, and stunt their growth.

Just when I thought the front office could not get any more idiotic, many of them have come out over the last week stating their disbelief that Vikings fans are upset. Owner Zygi Wilf has asked for patience. No offense Zygi, but what do you know about being a Vikings fan. It seems all you care about is the dollars. Even self-proclaimed team leader Matt Birk came out stating he did not understand what Vikings fans are upset about. How can a guy with a degree from Harvard be that stupid? Believe it or not, I am not one of the only season ticket holders not to renew for the 07-08 season. Many friends of mine have decided to do the same for many of the same reasons. The Vikings have shown their desperation in keeping season ticket holders by random phone calls. One day before season tickets were due I got a recorded message from starting guard Steve Hutchinson almost begging me to renew. Honestly, I do not care what Steve Hutchinson wants, and I am sure nobody else did.

Now I don’t want people to think I am a huge bandwagon fan. I have followed the Vikings since I was in diapers and I will continue to support them through the highs, which we have had few, and the many lows. I just think sometimes you have to admit your mistakes and move on. Now is one of those times.



Nick Hassel



SPORTS WRAP

**Falcon Invitational canceled due to weather**  
The Falcons track and field invitational, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, has been canceled due to cold weather conditions forecast for this weekend.  
The Falcons’ next competition will take place on April 14 at the Blugold Open at UW-Eau Claire. Action starts at noon.

**Game against Hamline moved indoors**  
The UWRF softball team will play Hamline on Friday at the Rosemount Dome. Action will start at 11 a.m.  
The game was originally scheduled to be played at Hamline, but with the cold temperatures forecast for Friday, the game was moved to the Rosemount Dome. UWRF is 4-0 this year in games at the Dome. The Falcons defeated Carleton, 3-2 and 8-2, and St. Catherine, 9-1 and 12-1.  
After the games against Hamline, the Falcons are scheduled to play eight games in six days next week. On April 10 the Falcons open WIAC play, hosting UW-Stout at 3 p.m. UWRF will then host St. Scholastica in a doubleheader on April 12. Action starts at 3 p.m. On Saturday, April 14 the Falcons play a WIAC doubleheader at Platteville starting at 4 p.m., and on Sunday, April 15, the team will play another WIAC doubleheader at La Crosse with action starting at noon.  
The Falcons are currently 13-5 overall.

**Hockey players earn postseason honors**  
Falcons goalie AJ Bucchino (Jr., Bow, N.H.), defenseman Jim Henkemeyer (Jr., St. Cloud, Minn.) and forwards TJ Dahl (Jr., Burnsville, Minn.) and Derek Hansberry (So., Arvada, Colo.) have all been named to 2007 USCHO.com D-III West All-America teams. Bucchino played in all 29 games for the Falcons and finished with a 21-6-2 record. He had a 2.12 goals against average and a .933 save percentage. He recorded one shutout. Dahl scored 12 goals and 40 assists for 52 points to lead the Falcons. He scored eight power-play goals and four game-winners. Henkemeyer led all Falcon defensemen in scoring. He scored eight goals and 24 points. He scored seven power-play goals and two game-winners. Hansberry led the Falcons with 21 goals and was second on the team in points with 35. He led the team with nine power-play goals and five game-winning goals. Hansberry has 39 career goals and 68 career points. The Falcons finished 21-6-2 overall in 2007 and won the NCHA regular season championship.

Sports Wrap courtesy  
of UW-River Falls  
Sports Information

STANDINGS


Fastpitch			
WIAC Standings	OVR	W	L
UW-Stevens Point	13-3	0	0
UW-Whitewater	9-3	0	0
UW-Eau Claire	12-4	0	0
UW-River Falls	13-5	0	0
UW-Oshkosh	11-5	0	0
UW-Superior	10-8	0	0
UW-Stout	7-7	0	0
UW-LaCrosse	7-10	0	0
UW-Platteville	5-9	0	0

For complete stats check out the UWRF Sports Information Website at [www.uwrf.edu/sports](http://www.uwrf.edu/sports)


**Men’s lacrosse team remains undefeated**  
The UW-River Falls men’s lacrosse team defeated UW-La Crosse 12-9 and Winona State 14-2 in two home games on March 31. The Falcons record now stands at 4-0 and the team is currently ranked sixth in the Great Lakes Lacrosse League, according to the Web site’s computer rankings. The team is tied atop the western division with seventh ranked UW-Stout, who the Falcons defeated 14-7 in an exhibition match at the Xcel Energy Center Feb. 18. The team will travel to Northern Illinois University April 13-15 for a tournament and take on host school and fourth-ranked NIU in the first round of play. UWRF and Stout are set to square off in Menomonie on April 21 to decide the western conference regular season title.

SHOWCASE HOME GAME

Softball

UWRF

vs

UW-Stout

Doubleheader beginning at 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 10  
at Ramer Feild

The 13-5 Falcons open their conference season with a home doubleheader against the 7-7 Blue Devils. The Falcons will take on 7-5 Hamline University at 11 a.m. in the Rosemount Dome.

Apply now for fall sports  
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and dropped off  
at 304 North Hall.

Hockey coach stays humble despite success

Freeman passes on opportunities to move up coaching ranks, content coaching at UWRF

Paul Winkels  
[paul.winkels@uwrf.edu](mailto:paul.winkels@uwrf.edu)

NCHA regular season championship, 21 wins, an NCAA tournament berth, and a WIAC Coach of the Year award: Just another season in the illustrious career of Falcons men’s hockey coach Steve Freeman. After beating Lawrence in the second game of the season, Freeman also reached a career milestone by notching win number 200. Despite being celebrated by fans for this achievement, Freeman humbly downplayed the importance of the number.  
“It was an important milestone, only because it was brought up the year before,” Freeman said. “I was stuck on 199, and we got beat a few times at the end of the season.”  
The end to last season and the beginning of this season did cause a bit of a headache. After reaching win 199 at Stout in the last regular season weekend last year, Freeman and the Falcons lost three straight to Stout to end the season and then dropped this year’s season opener against Eau Claire. It matched Freeman’s longest losing streak as head coach of the Falcons, and was the team’s longest home losing streak during his tenure. But after Freeman won game 200, the team took off, amassing 21 wins and earning Freeman his fifth straight WIAC Coach of the Year Award.  
“It’s more of a team award. Your name may be on it, but it’s a team award,” Freeman said. “Your hockey team has to have success, and to do that you need to have good athletes and good players.”  
Freeman began his career at UWRF as an assistant coach under head coach Dean Talafous. As an assistant, Freeman did a lot of recruiting. It paid off with an NCAA National Championship in 1994, in the middle of four consecutive NCAA Frozen Four appearances between 1993 and 1996.  
“The responsibilities of recruiting can be overwhelming at times, and it’s very, very time-consuming,” Freeman said. “But I enjoyed it and there were a lot of rewards. You could see that if you could bring in the right players, you could win.”

“Steve maybe is recognizing some of the same things that I did when I was coaching. This is a pretty nice University and a pretty nice town to live in.”  
Rick Bowen,  
athletic director

Talafous became the head coach for the University of Alaska Anchorage after the 1995-96 season. Freeman had a choice to follow Talafous and continue as an assistant at the Division I level, or stay put and become the head coach for the Falcons. The allure of a head coaching spot kept Freeman in River Falls.  
“There have been opportunities [to move on], but the head coaching position is when you’re running your own show, and that’s a good place to be,” Freeman said. “As a younger coach, you get consumed with trying to make that next step, and going on and on.”  
In his eleven years as Falcons head coach, Freeman has become the winningest coach in Falcons history. In fact, with his 220 wins, he has double the amount of wins of Talafous, the next winningest coach on the list.  
Not one to take all the credit for the team’s success, Freeman makes sure to pass on



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice  
**Falcons men’s head hockey coach Steve Freeman has amassed a 220-91-21 record during 11 seasons with UWRF. This season the team earned its sixth WIAC title and first NCHA regular season finish during Freeman’s tenure .**

some of the credit to his own assistant coach.  
“Bob Ritzer has been very instrumental the whole time we’ve been here,” Freeman said. “Bob, right now, does a lot of the recruiting and helps bring in the players. He’s done just a tremendous job for us, helping this program be successful.”  
Freeman has won WIAC Coach of the Year honors, NCHA Coach of the Year honors, and is respected nationally. Yet, he does not seem to have any aspirations of moving up the ranks.  
“That’s part of the coaching life. You’re always looking, but it would have to be a pretty good position,” Freeman said. “Obviously, there are some high profile jobs, big salary jobs that are very attractive, but it would have to be a pretty nice offer to pull up roots here after being here for so long.”  
Athletic Director Rick Bowen coached the men’s basketball team from 1986-2006. He understands, from a coaching standpoint, why Freeman may have decided to stick around instead of continue trying to move up the ranks.  
“Steve maybe is recognizing some of the same things that I did when I was coaching,” Bowen said. “This is a pretty nice University and a pretty nice town to live in.”  
It doesn’t look like Freeman is headed anywhere anytime soon. With all of his attention on the Falcons program, he continues to try to make the team better each season. Sometimes that means dealing with issues that come up suddenly, like the recent departure of goaltender A.J. Bucchino. Bucchino recently went pro, signing a contract with the Augusta Lynx.

“The disappointing part is that he only had one year of school left,” Freeman said. “He could have played on a very good hockey team that has a chance to win a lot of games and have great success, and then go on. I do understand the draw and pull of being a professional athlete for him. Right now, it’s just a part of life dealing with college athletes.”  
Even though Bucchino’s departure is an early season bump in the road, Freeman will still have his main core of players returning. The players seem to support their coach and are appreciative of his directness with them.  
“If you’re not doing your job, he’ll let you know about it,” Falcons defenseman Jim Jensen said. “He lets me know about it, whether it’s in school or on the rink, and that’s what a good coach does. He’s strict when he needs to be, but he’s laid back when he needs to be, too.”  
While the players may not be certain who their teammates are going to be from year to year, Freeman has been the one constant and that looks like it will continue into the future. Bowen said he has never had to worry about the hockey program.  
“It’s very nice to know that you’ve got a good person running a program, keeping it at a high level, keeping it clean and not having to worry about it,” said Bowen.  
Though a national championship is still the main goal year in and year out, Freeman doesn’t measure the team’s success in the number of banners they hang.  
“If you can put yourself in that position year after year, where you are right at the top and considered one of the top teams in the nation,” Freeman said. “That’s real success.”

The worst March Madness ever ends with a yawn

And so ends the most predictable NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament of all time. Florida over Ohio State, in the BCS Championship Game déjà vu everyone penciled in on their brackets. This pot of mold was all that awaited us at the end of an uneventful road. If I would have known that earlier, I would have saved myself a month. If I can take some solace out of this, at least I was able to confirm some March Madness truths and identify some of the tournament’s myths. First and foremost, I learned once and for all what has become an absolute lock of every NCAA Tournament. One of the top two NBA Draft prospects WILL lead his team to a championship game: Greg Oden this year, Joakim Noah last year; Marvin Williams of UNC in 2005 (second overall pick after Andrew Bogut), Emeka Okafor of Connecticut



Mark Haley

in 2004 (second pick after Dwight Howard) and Carmelo Anthony of Syracuse in 2003 (third pick after LeBron James and Darko Milicic). Every other year the prospect’s team won the National Championship, but I guess having three lottery picks, including last season’s top prospect, outweighs having an Oden. The second March Madness fact is that a well-rounded team outweighs individual stars. This may seem to go against rule number one, but it really doesn’t. It’s this fact that explains why Kevin Durant lost in the round of 32, while Oden’s squad made it to the final two. The formula for a balanced team: a down-low presence, a ball-handling guard and someone who can light it up from behind the arc. For Ohio State, this is Oden, Mike Conley, Jr. and Ron Lewis. Florida hap-

pens to have about two of these guys at each spot, making them one of the most perfectly put together college basketball teams in recent memory. On to the myths ... First off, there doesn’t HAVE to be a power conference every year. These days, conference affiliation doesn’t mean all that much. In the end, good teams are good teams. This year, four different conferences made up the Final Four, and not one conference had more than two teams in the Elite Eight. Myth number two is that college basketball is a guard’s game. Not anymore. With the newly-implemented NBA age limit, size can’t jump straight to the pros as in years past. Instead, these monsters will make a stop at the college level and dominate the game. Next year should be an interesting one because, unlike this year, there won’t be an over-

whelming favorite going in. If Oden, Noah and Durant all leave for the pros, there won’t be a clear-cut top NBA prospect during next year’s college basketball season. I don’t know about you, but after reinforcing this trend during March Madness, I’ll be following Chad Ford’s top NBA prospects list diligently next season. (Chad Ford is the NBA’s answer to Mel Kiper, Jr.). If one of the top two prospects is a part of a well-rounded team, I’ve found my pick for the winner of the 2008 National Championship. Even though it seems like a long time until next March, the madness will be back before you know it. So grab a scissors, snip out this column, and tuck it into a safe place for a year before using it as a reference to win your bracket pool next year. Or better yet, toss this column into the trash and join mine.

**This pot of mold was all that awaited us at the end of an uneventful road. If I would have known that earlier, I would have saved myself a month.**



# UWRF seeks to improve retention

Amber Jurek  
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UW-River Falls is looking to improve the success of its students and increase the number of students who remain enrolled. To help achieve these goals, the University hired a consultant.

Tim Culver, a consultant and vice president of retention services for Noel-Levitz, visited UWRF at the beginning of March for a day and a half. Noel-Levitz is a company that helps campuses and systems meet their enrollment and marketing goals and student success.

Alan Tuchtenhagen, associate vice chancellor for enrollment services, said Culver spent a day talking with students, staff and faculty and gathered data about the University and its students to develop a report for the administration with recommendations.

“He confirmed some things we are doing very well and helped point us in a direction that can continue to make students successful here,” Tuchtenhagen said.

Provost Charlie Hurt said the consultant was asked to visit the campus because while UWRF’s six-year graduation rate is well above the national average, the University would like to increase that number. According to ACT Inc., UWRF’s six-year graduation rate is 55 percent. The national average is 41.1 percent for traditional, public institutions.

Hurt also said while the University’s retention rate is at the national average, it wants to increase it.

Freshman students Emily Steltenpohl and

Natasha Arnold said it was probably good that the University is looking at how it can improve the number of students who stay at UWRF.

“The University should be concerned about keeping students because our facilities aren’t good, such as the health and human performance building,” Steltenpohl said. “Students are paying about the same as other UW institutions with better facilities. Why not go elsewhere? I thought about it.”

Arnold said UWRF should be concerned about student retention only if it has to do with the University itself.

“Maybe it should be concerned if it has something to do with the school or the professors, but if students are transferring to a college that is better suited for what they are majoring in, the University shouldn’t be worried,” Arnold said.

A random survey Culver distributed to a small number of students living in UWRF residence halls revealed students are satisfied with many areas of the University.

Some key areas students said they were satisfied with are the comfortable living conditions in residence halls, the variety of courses offered on campus, the maintenance of the campus, the prompt response of security staff to emergencies, the new University Center and fair student disciplinary procedures.

An area students said they were unsatisfied with is the inadequate selection of food available in the cafeteria.

A few recommendations Culver presented to University staff in a PowerPoint presentation were to improve the advising program by helping advisors work more with students, continue to engage students in programs, such as the First Year Experience (FYE) program and gather better data about students because it helps give insights into the needs and expectations of students.

The FYE program helps UWRF students

be successful in college with programs, such as new student registration, weeks of welcome, academic day and family day.

Steltenpohl and Arnold said though they are first-year students at UWRF, they were not involved in FYE. Steltenpohl said she heard from other people that it helps students meet others, however, it doesn’t help them with areas, such as scheduling.

“I didn’t participate in the program, but from what people have told me, it hasn’t helped them at all,” Steltenpohl said. “They said the program doesn’t tell students useful information, such as how to add a class with a green card or scheduling at all.”

Steltenpohl said no matter what, student success should be more important than retention rates. She also said it is important to find out why students aren’t being successful at the campus.

This was part of another recommendation Culver made, which is to not focus on retention rates, but rather focus on student success and why students don’t finish college at UWRF.

“The retention rate from [students’] first to second years is 70 percent, but what happens to the 30 percent? Right now, [this percent] is counted as a failure,” Hurt said. “We need to be better at finding out why they are not here. We also need to look at what kind of students are here so we can target more of those students.”

Tuchtenhagen agreed with Hurt.

“We really want to focus on students who are not successful and help them be successful,” he said. “And if our enrollment is to grow at all, it makes sense to make students who want to be here stay here.”



Charlie Hurt



Alan Tuchtenhagen



Screenshot

The Facebook group “Hardcore Twins Fans” was created by junior Drew Hruska soon after he joined Facebook. Over 100 UWRF students have joined the group thus far.

# Twins dominate Facebook groups

Rachel Ogrodnik

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After spring training, the Minnesota Twins did not appear to be the same American League Central Champions from last season. The UW-River Falls students who created Facebook groups about the team are doing their best to keep the dream of winning another title alive.

The fact that UWRF students on Facebook have twice as many Twins groups as Milwaukee Brewers groups leads some students to believe it’s because River Falls is closer to the Metrodome than Miller Park.

Junior Drew Hruska said he thinks going to Twins games is affordable in comparison to a Brewers game.

“The season the Twins had compared to the Brewers last year made it so Twins jerseys were worn on campus more,” he said.

Hruska said another reason there might be more Twins fans on campus is due to television.

“The Twins games are televised on FSN (Fox Sports Net) North, but I’m not sure if the dorms got rid of it or not,” he said.

Hruska said he created the group “Hardcore Twins Fans” as soon as UWRF had access to Facebook.

“I wanted to create a group about the Twins before anyone else did,” he said. “Also, it’s a good place to post messages about the Twins with your peers and discuss how the season might go.”

Sophomore Jake Nichols said he thinks there are a lot of UWRF Twins fans because students from Iowa and the Dakotas do not have teams in Major League Baseball.

Nichols, who is in the Facebook group “I Love Joe Mauer!!!” said he joined because Mauer is one of his favorite athletes.

“I think girls like Joe Mauer because of three things: his amazing talent, his looks and he is a homegrown boy from Minnesota,” he said. “Those three things make him extra popular with the girls.”

Junior Jara Hartigan said she created a Twins Facebook group to show her pride for the team.

“I grew up watching them with my mom and just got really into it,” she said. “I go to a lot of games and just got back from spring training.”

Senior Breamber Syverson created a group in honor of “baseball hotties,” which specifically names Joe Mauer.

“I didn’t create a group about the Twins, but if I did it would be because Mauer, Cuddyer and Morneau are hot,” she said.

Syverson, who said her favorite baseball team is the Brewers, agreed with Hruska that because UWRF is located closer to the Twins’ stadium, more students are Twins fans.

“Twins games are televised here where Brewers games aren’t,” Syverson said.

Sophomore Ryan Freese created a group dedicated to Kirby Puckett, who won two World Series with the Twins in 1987 and 1991.

“I created the Kirby Puckett group because I have followed him ever since I was born,” Freese said. “He has been very inspirational toward me and I loved the way he played the game of baseball.”

Freese agreed with the other creators of Facebook groups and said it is convenient for UWRF students to watch the Twins.

He also said because UWRF is home to many students from Minnesota, their love for the team might travel across the border.

“I think the reason for the many Twins groups at UWRF is that so many people come over here from the cities and they all follow the Twins,” Freese said.

For those students who were worried about the Twins season, the season is off to a good start. The Twins beat the Baltimore Orioles by a score of 7-4 in the season opener on Monday. Minnesota picked up a second victory on Tuesday, beating Baltimore 3-2. Minnesota took the AL Central lead with a 7-2 victory over Baltimore Wednesday night. The next Twins game will be Friday against the Chicago White Sox at 7:11 p.m.

# Jerusalem women speak for peace

Chris Acker  
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The Middle East is a hot topic issue in the world today. How much do people really know about some of the conflicts and actions that go on in the differing countries of importance?

Three women from Israel and Palestine are going on tour in the United States to speak on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that has involved the occupation of Palestinian land by Israelis and decades of ongoing violence.

One woman is Christian, another Jewish, and the third is Muslim. They bring unique and personalized experiences to their

presentation, giving first-hand knowledge of the conflict. They also bring their ideas on how to stop the violence and once again bring peace to a region that has been torn by a seemingly never-ending torrent of war.

The women will address important issues such as dealing with the violence, loss of family, occupation and the persecution that goes with living in this region. They are three different women with three different religious beliefs and they are going to show how, though never easily done, peace is possible.

Chancellor Don Betz is in charge of bringing the tour to River Falls, and said he strongly

believes in the importance and impact this will have on UWRF students.

“The event is very unique in the different perspectives that the three women bring to the topic,” Betz said.

This is an important event to bring to the school to give students an insight into the Middle Eastern world from the three women’s perspectives as a complementary addition to the information they receive from the U.S. media.

“The presentation is not only informative, but it is inspirational as well,” Betz said.

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Terry Brown

has been equally involved in bringing the tour to the campus, and is an advocate for the message that it brings.

“Understanding the Middle East is one of the most pressing concerns today, and it is important to help people understand the complexities of politics and discord there,” Brown said.

Though this is the viewpoint from a small portion of the Middle East, it gives Americans an insight that can be a way to see into the bigger issues of the Middle East from the people who live there.

“The topic is relevant to the issues in Iraq and Afghanistan as well,” Brown said.

A Chicago-based group, Partners for Peace, is bringing the tour to the United States.


“The hegemonic discourse in the United States tells us that Israelis and Palestinians have been locked in a religious conflict that has lasted centuries. This discourse is false,” Partners for Peace representative Jacob Pace said.

The women attempt to shed light on the problems that are going on in the Middle East as an alternative to the information that is given to us by onlookers from the United States government.

“They show that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a political conflict based on control of land and resources. By bringing women who have rejected violence and animosity, the program shows that there is an alternative to the pain of Israeli occupation,” Pace said.

These women will bring a well-rounded discussion that the media in this country may not be capable or interested in covering, according to Pace. The event will begin at 11:45 a.m. on Tuesday, April 24 in the Falls Room of the University Center. Students, staff, and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

# Sleep in



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# ‘Robinsons’ provides wholesome entertainment



A.J. Hakari

It was around the time I was in middle school that I started to pick up on the line Disney was and continues to feed the world, noticing the manufactured Fun and Happiness the uber-company churned out on a consistent basis. This goes without saying that Disney still puts out some decent movies, one of which is their latest animated release, “Meet the Robinsons.” I’m still a little leery of Disney’s moral compass (especially after sitting through their bull crap anti-commercialism message in “The Santa Clause 3”), but I have to admit that in the recent uprising of animated features, “Meet the Robinsons” is one of the most fun new entries.

Lewis (voiced by Jordan Fry and Daniel Hansen) is a bright, young, 12-year-old orphan with a knack for devising defective, but creative inventions. Inspired by his desire to learn the identity of his birth mother, Lewis whips up a bluntly-named device called the Memory Scanner to do just that. But at the school science fair, the Scanner ends up in the hands of the nefarious Bowler Hat Guy (voice of Stephen J. Anderson), a mysterious baddie determined to ruin Lewis’ life. However, help is on the way in the form of Wesley Singerman), a kid who spirits Lewis away to the future and introduces him to his extremely eccentric family. Lewis soaks up this world of

tomorrow with eyes wide open, but more pressing matters are at hand, as Wilbur says it’s up to Lewis to help retrieve the scanner and stop the evil plans of Bowler Hat Guy if he wants the future to remain a bright one.

Just a couple of weeks ago, I was complaining about the thematic heaviness of “The Last Mimzy,” how the filmmakers took a live-action family flick and injected honorable but way too profound overtones for a lot of the little ones to take in. “Meet the Robinsons,” on the other hand, is an ideal alternative that gets pretty much the same job done. The key difference is that “Meet the Robinsons” takes on its themes to a degree that’s almost perfectly in synch with its overall spirit. This is one of the most energetic movies I’ve seen in a while, animated or otherwise, but the funny thing is that the flick’s zippiness hardly ever gets tiring. Sure, “Meet the Robinsons” often moves so fast, it might coerce you into overlooking the so-so plot and the fact that the weirdo members of the Robinson family are pretty inconsequential, considering how essentially little they figure into the movie.

But nevertheless, “Meet the Robinsons” remains a ton of fun. The animation is smooth and eye-catching (unlike the clunky style of “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles”), its message (“If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again”) is time-tested but earnestly conveyed, and the goofy gags come at you fast. If I have to admire “Meet the Robinsons” for anything, it’s that it’s the only animated movie in recent memory that works in a Tom Selleck reference.



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.



Teresa Aviles

So you’ve got your orphan child. You’ve got time travel, fully equipped with the machine. You’ve got the super family and a town that emits its bubbly personality through its architecture. What you’ve got is a Disney movie for the modern child of the ADD world.

The newest of the CG animations for the kids is “Meet the Robinsons.” As a typical Disney main character, Lewis is a motherless orphan boy who goes on a journey to find a necessary asset to his life — in this case, his family. Lewis is intellectually advanced for his age and continuously invents contraptions that are failures. The invention that makes the news is his memory enhancer, which he invents to remember what his mother looks like. A devilish man wearing an evil bowler hat sneaks in with a plan to destroy Lewis’ dreams by stealing the machine and pulling it off as his own.

Lewis meets Wilbur, who is from the future, and takes Lewis back with him, only to meet Wilbur’s entire family which consists of quirky members ranging from a man married to a hand puppet to twin brothers who dwell in shrubbery, taunting you to ring their doorbells. The movie is predictable, but it was comforting to see the little ones entertained when the obvious was happening.

The visuals were lively with its people floating in bubbles

and buildings that were far past anything Frank Gehry could design. The colors were bright and the characters were outlandish. Unfortunately for us, the 3-D version is only playing in 600 theaters around the nation, which doesn’t include our western Wisconsin area. Though the visuals were still fun to watch, a third dimension would have made it amazing. That or being six years old would have made it exhilarating.

The visuals moved incredibly fast. The pace was rapid enough for me to do the animated head shake, squint my eyes and say, “Whaaat?” “Meet the Robinsons” is a children’s version of the stop motion animation of “Robot Chicken.” One minute Lewis is being praised over a failing peanut butter and jelly sandwich-making gun and the next there is the acclaimed tyrannosaurus rex creating a mess of laughter amongst an easily-amused audience.

The dinosaur, which looked an awful lot like a scene from Jurassic Park, was among many references to other films that were most likely unnoticeable by the target audience. The dancing/singing frogs made quite a hit, as did their predecessor, “The Goodfellas” with their gangster-like style.

A recurring theme strummed in my head throughout the film, but then, nearing the end, they spell it out for you. “Keep moving forward” is the motto for those who need to be reminded that life goes on whether you’re there or not. Even a quote by Walt Disney appeared at the end with those words illuminated. This immediately made me believe that this had been a tribute to Disney the whole time.

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 student studying journalism and geography. She enjoys dark comedies and documentaries.



Submitted Photo  
Left to right: Adam Dodge, Jesse Mattila, Gunnar Cook, Jordan Kullman and Brian Moen of The Better Life performed at Rockin’ for Robbie. Cook and Moen are students at UWRF.

## Local bands impress reviewer



Jenna Lee

There are only a few times a year when our campus gets some really great sounding bands to come perform for our community. It is even more of a rarity to get bands to come for a charity event. Last Thursday four bands, Spirit of ‘76, Gloria, The Better Life and Small Towns Burn a Little Slower put on a show in support of Sigma Sigma Sigma’s cancer benefit ‘Rockin’ for Robbie.’ I got to sit down with Spirit of ‘76 and Small Towns to talk about their new projects and the rising indie scene coming out of the Midwest.

Both bands hail from the Twin Cities area and try to do as many ‘benefit’ concerts as they can to give back to the community. Spirit of ‘76 just played at a suicide prevention show and Small Towns will be doing another cancer benefit in May. Danny Wolf, lead singer and lyricist said the band has “too many bills to do as many chari-

ty shows as we want, but we probably do more benefits than paid shows.”

And it’s not just these two bands that are nice and great performers. Tommy Rehbein, one of Small Town’s guitar players said he really notices how close-knit the bands in the Midwest indie scene are together.

“We hear a lot about how none of the bands on the east coast like each other,” Rehbein said. “Here, it’s like if one band really starts to make it, they help their friends out in other bands too.”

Spirit of ‘76 also feels that support from other bands and their fans.

“Whenever you feel like you’ve played the worst show ever, everyone always comes up two you and says how great you did,” guitar player Ryan Tenjack said.

But don’t take these musicians for a bunch of softies or ‘the nice guys that finish last.’ They can really rock your fucking socks off. The crowd really wasn’t that big, but the small mosh pit had the energy of any show you might see at a big venue.

Douglas Lanz, the lead singer for Spirit of ‘76 moved like Jim Morrison and wails like Robert Plant. He could jump all over

the amps and swing the mic around like he has been practicing it for years. When I asked him how he maintains such high energy, he said, “I wish I did cardio. But it really depends on the crowd; I feed off of that.”

**But don’t take these musicians for a bunch of softies or ‘the nice guys that finish last ...’**

Small Towns Burn a Little Slower was not as theatrical with their performance but they brought a sense of passion and intensity that surprised me. When they began playing songs from their new project they will be releasing later this year, people started jumping on and off the stage and slam dancing so hard that even Rehbein had to take the time between songs to just remind everyone to be careful. So I can’t wait to hear more from that compact disc when it is released.

This concert definitely made my list of top performances here on campus this year, so it’s too bad that so many of you missed it.

If we’re lucky, they’ll be back again soon — before they really blow up.



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice  
Left to right: Kasi Huber, Jen Gossman, Kristin Wenzel, McKenna Schumacher and Krista Kasten, event planners for Runway to Success, appear onstage to conclude the show.

## LETTERDOKU

		B			F		I	G
I				A	B		H	
E	H		I			D		
A	G		B				C	
				H	E		F	A
H		D				B		
	B	A	C	I			D	E
D				B				C
F			G			A		

Difficulty: Easy  
Rules for Letterdoku: Fill all of the empty squares so that the letters A to I appear once in each row, column and 3 x 3 box.  
Solution for Letterdoku appears at [www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com).

Jennie Oemig/Student Voice





Left: Katy Leisch plays soccer with children in Uganda while Becky Vandenhoy (right) looks on. Right: Building Tomorrow advisor Amy Llyod sits with one of the students she worked with in Uganda. During J-term seven students and two faculty members traveled to Kampala, Uganda for two weeks to serve as guest teachers at Meeting Point Kampala.



Submitted Photo

# Students help build a brighter tomorrow

Jennie Oemig  
jennifer.oemig@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls is one of 12 colleges across the country raising awareness for and raising money to help build schools for children in Africa through a program called Building Tomorrow. UWRf students had the chance to travel to Kampala, Uganda for two weeks during J-term and seven more students will have the opportunity to receive first-hand experience during J-term 2008.

## Experiencing Uganda

In January, students Katy Leisch, Kasey Barrett, Kate Walbruch, Kate Thompson, Molly Thompson, Nate Dulon and Becky Vandenhoy, along with faculty members Amy Lloyd and Brent Turner, traveled to Kampala, Uganda for two weeks to interact and serve as guest teachers for the children at Meeting Point Kampala. In a video created from photographs taken while in Uganda, Leisch describes Meeting Point Kampala as an organization and makeshift school started by a Ugandan woman named Noelina, who took in the children and their families, providing them with health care, childcare and education. "This was the first trip for Building Tomorrow as an organization," Brent Turner, one of the advisors of the UWRf chapter, said of the Ugandan

trek. " ... UW-River Falls students and staff were amongst this first delegation, along with students from the College of William & Mary and the University of Virginia." In addition to the 12 campus chapters, founder George Srou said Building Tomorrow has a partnership with Key Club International, a high school service organization that raised enough money to build a school in a year's time.

**"Interacting one-on-one with the students at Meeting Point Kampala was one of the most gratifying experiences of the whole journey."**  
Katy Leisch, student

During the trip to Uganda, the students from UWRf taught the children in Kampala everything from mathematical equations and English phrases to dance steps. "The children could not get enough," Leisch said. The students were able to get to know the youths of Kampala on a personal level. "Interacting one-on-one with the students at Meeting Point Kampala was one of the most grat-

ifying experiences of the whole journey," Leisch said. Leisch said she was impressed with the amount of information the children were able to retain. "The students did nothing but blow us away with their talents and intellect," she said. Barrett described the Ugandan experience as "unforgettable." During the first week the group was in Uganda, they stayed in a hotel, but the following week they stayed with host families, Barrett said. "Everyone's experiences were different," Barrett said. The family Barrett stayed with did not have running water at the time, so she ended up going six days without a shower, but she said they provided her with everything she needed. "They were very, very nice," she said. Of her experiences with the children of Uganda, Barrett said she was amazed by their level of intellect. "We expected them to be below average," she said, adding that the children would only have to be taught something once and they easily retained the new information.

## How it all began

According to the Building Tomorrow Web site, the program is "a nationwide non-profit organization encouraging philanthropy among young people by raising awareness and funds to build and support educational infrastructure projects for vulnerable children in sub-Saharan Africa." The UWRf chapter of Building Tomorrow was created after the J-term trip to Gulfport, Miss. in 2006, Turner said. "Students wanted to know of ways they could work toward social change and I told them about my friend George, whom I went to college with at William & Mary," Turner said. Advisor Amy Lloyd said students on the trip to Gulfport expressed interest in Building Tomorrow and began asking questions about how they could create a chapter at UWRf. "They were very interested in getting it started," she said.

Though students are instrumental in rising funds for the building of schools, Srou played the most integral role by creating Building Tomorrow. He said he started the organization after traveling to Uganda with the the UN World Food Programme, for which he served as an intern. "I remember being struck by the thousands of kids who I saw going to dilapidated schools everyday, and one school in particular, Meeting Point Kampala, and just feeling like students could make a huge difference in these places if only they had the resources and medium through which to do it," Srou said via e-mail.

## Construction continues

The process to build more schools is currently underway. "We have one school currently operational and three more that we'll be starting on this year," Srou said. "We have just closed on a piece of land for one school and are working on the others. Our hope is to have at least 10 schools open by 2010." In the future, the construction of more schools throughout Uganda and other countries in Africa may be made possible. "The models we've established both in the U.S. and in Uganda are scalable, meaning that we can take them from one place to the next and hopefully expand the reach of the organization," Srou said. "Hopefully as we build up our infrastructure, we'll be able to stretch our in-country operations through other Ugandan districts and perhaps even other countries."

## Raising money

The cost of the trip was \$3,000 per person and financial assistance was not offered, but those

who went to Uganda came away with a priceless experience. "It was by far the best experience of my life," Barrett said. Barrett said members of the UWRf chapter thought about doing some fundraising to help offset the cost to travel to Uganda, but they were more concerned about raising money to build schools.



Though she said she will not be able to afford to go to Uganda this coming

January, Barrett said she will apply to go her senior year. The UWRf chapter of Building Tomorrow will be sending another group of students to Uganda in January. Every chapter raises money to support and raise awareness for the cause. During fall semester, "The Big Event" helped raise \$1,800 for Building Tomorrow, Lloyd said. The goal for UWRf is to raise \$10,000 in order to fund the construction of another school in Uganda. "... We, here at UWRf, have the power to make tomorrow possible through providing support for educational infrastructure," Leisch said. To support the cause, students, staff and faculty members can purchase necklaces made by Ugandan women.



Submitted Photo

Molly Thompson chats with a little boy during her trip to Uganda. Thompson stayed in Kampala for two weeks.

All proceeds from sales will go to Building Tomorrow. The organization also accepts monetary donations. To learn more about the organization or to purchase a necklace, contact Lloyd at amy.lloyd@uwrf.edu or 425-3531. Students interested in traveling to Uganda during J-term should pick up an application at the Involvement Center in the University Center or in the Academic Success Center. Applications are due at 5 p.m. on April 23 in the Academic Success Center.

# Sign-Up for 2007-08 FALL HOUSING

2007-08 Fall Housing Online Sign-Up Process  
Go to: <http://www.uwrf.edu/ssp/>

You will need your Falcon Account username (example: W2500000) and password.

Projected Fall Semester 2007-08:

- Double room rates: \$1487
- Suite room rates: \$1980
- Medical/disability single room rates: \$1980

**PHASE ONE:**  
**March 26 - 27 • After 8:00 a.m.**  
Current UWRf hall resident may reserve a space in his/her present room online.  
(Exception: Where rooms are no longer available due to wing/floor use changes).

**PHASE TWO:**  
**March 29 - 30 • After 8:00 a.m.**  
A current UWRf hall resident may reserve a different space in his/her present residence hall online.

**PHASE THREE:**  
**April 2 - 6 • After 8:00 a.m.**  
A current UWRf hall resident may reserve a space in any residence hall online.

**PHASE FOUR:**  
**April 16 - May 1 • After 8:00 a.m.**  
(All UWRf students)  
A current UWRf student living off-campus who has completed a housing contract and paid the \$125 housing deposit/processing fee at the Residence Life Office may reserve any available residence hall space online.

**Note:** After May 1, 2007, off-campus students applying for University housing will receive assignment consideration in contract/deposit date order with all new and transfer students.

Residence Life will continue to enforce the Two-Year Residency Requirement at UW-River Falls.

Please review the 2007-2008 Housing Contract and Information Booklet at:  
<http://www.uwrf.edu/ssp/documents/contract.pdf>