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**New facility forces UWRF students, cows to adjust**



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

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## Winter swings in FalconFile to be unveiled to students, faculty, staff



*Kenny Yoo/Student Voice*  
**UWRF students, Jared Roby and Sarah Kitt, demonstrate typical swing dance moves during swing dance night held in the Falcon Entertainment Complex, Nov. 27.**

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Information Technology Services (ITS) will be introducing the new file archiving system, FalconFile, to UW-River Falls students and staff starting this J-term and continuing into spring semester.

FalconFile is “an improved way for students, faculty, and staff to store, access, control and share their electronic files,” according to the ITS Web Site.

Students and staff will be able to access all of their files from off campus; they’ll be able to hyperlink documents in e-mails instead of attaching files, they can collaborate on documents with others outside of the UWRF community and they’ll have personal control over who can access their files and folders, according to the Web site.

“Right now you have to come to a campus computer to access your files, but with FalconFile, as long as you can get to the Internet you can get to your files,” ITS Project Manager Wendy Helm said.

There have been a couple of factors driving the demand for this new technology.

“There were two primary drivers,” Lisa Wheeler, the executive director of ITS, said. “One was the demand for file space and the other was a convenience factor.”

There will be increased file space to store documents and other information, but the space is limited.

“For faculty and staff it will be 1.5 gigabytes and for students it will be 250 megabytes,” Helm said.

Some faculty and staff may need more storage space than the 1.5 gigabytes provided by ITS, so there will be a process in place to increase storage space if more is needed, Helm said.

Initially, the plan was to implement FalconFile this semester, but there were some factors that kept ITS from getting it up and running. The technology is new, it’s very complex and ITS was committed to rolling it out right rather than implementing it during fall semester and possibly having problems with it, Wheeler said.

Getting FalconFile ready for student and staff use was a complex process that has taken a little longer than expected.

“It had over 800 steps in the project plan,” Wheeler said.

UWRF is not the only institution to use this program.

“A lot of our sister institutions are using this as well,” Helm said. “UW-Milwaukee, Green Bay, Madison and the U of M are among those using it.”

ITS will be testing FalconFile before they start to implement it over J-term.



**Lisa Wheeler**

“Toward the end of this month all [of the staff] in IT and student affairs IT will, if they want, move their files to FalconFile so that all of us will be using that environment for awhile,” Wheeler said. “I guess you could call it a pilot.”

Some may be concerned that FalconFile may be difficult to use, but ITS assures that is not the case.

“It’s very intuitive,” Wheeler said. “It’s very easy to navigate around.”

ITS will be doing most of the work with the new FalconFile system, but they are asking students, staff and University faculty to do a couple of things in preparation for transferring their files to FalconFile. ITS is asking anybody planning to use Falconfile to delete any archived items that have not been used for two years or ones that are duplicates, Helm said. There are also a number of characters that should not be used in file names because they could conflict with FalconFile. A list of the characters is available on the ITS Web site. People who have Web pages loaded on their personal file space right now should also take a look at their pages before the switch to FalconFile.

“If anyone has personal Web pages that use php or server side includes we ask them to move them elsewhere because they won’t be compatible with Falconfile in the future,” Helm said.

Students may find the new FalconFile system to be a benefit when it comes to studying for their courses from home.

“I think it will benefit students because there are a number of them that are commuters, and there are also students that aren’t on campus all of the time,” Haana North, a UWRF junior, said. “I will use FalconFile because I am a student that lives off campus.”

For more information on FalconFile, the ITS Web site can be visited. If assistance is needed in deleting or archiving files in preparation for the switch to FalconFile, the ITS helpdesk can be contacted.

**“I think it will benefit students because there are a number of them that are commuters and there are also students that aren’t on campus all of the time.”**

Haana North,  
UWRF junior

## Student receives fellowship to study alternative fuel sources

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UW-River Falls junior Lee Massey is concerned about the world’s over reliance on fossil fuels to power sedans and SUVs.

And with the prognosis looking grim for future coal, oil and natural gas supplies, he said he feels the time has come for alternative fuel sources such as biofuels and hydrogen to be taken more seriously.

“With the raising fuel prices and the fuel reserves depleting, it’s going to need to happen,” he said.

This is why the physics and

mechanical engineering dual degree student from New Richmond, Wis., decided to spend last summer studying the feasibility of these fuel sources for automobiles.

Under the mentorship of University of Minnesota Professor of Mechanical Engineering David Kittelson, the 29-year-old examined existing research and synthesized his findings into a paper entitled “The Report on the Current State of Research on Alternate Fuel Sources,” which he hopes to present at conferences next spring.

Massey said he found that swapping gasoline for biodiesel will be a formidable task.

“I found that it’s going to take multiple fuel sources to replace fossil fuels and there won’t just be one magic replacement,” he said. “I also found that the cost will most likely be higher than what we’re paying for fossil fuels.”

A \$4,000 national fellowship from the American Physical Society’s Forum on Physics and Society made the junior’s research possible. Massey was one of two recipients of the Student Fellowship in Physics and Society, for which both undergraduate and graduate students in physics were eligible to apply.

See Massey, page 3

## End of semester signifies winter holidays, anxiety

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The holiday season can bring a lot of fun or loads of stress depending on family dynamics and class demands.

“It’s a busy time of year for counselors,” Alice Reilly-Myklebust, UW-River Falls director of Student Health and Counseling Services, said.

Student Counseling Services were so busy as of mid-November that every appointment slot for the next three weeks was filled.

The thought of going home for the holidays can be stressful if students aren’t getting along with members of their family or are dealing with relationship issues, UWRF Counselor Dave Sommers said.

Students may also experience a surge of stress before holiday gatherings when their parents are divorced or separated.

Thanksgiving and Christmas leave junior Alison Vruwink in the center of negotiations between parents to determine which of them will host each meal.

“It’s a little odd this year because my sister’s birthday falls on Thanksgiving, so we can’t just give it to one or the other,” Vruwink said.

Senior Sam Clair said he doesn’t have issues with family stress.

Family is “a good kind of stress,” Clair said. Instead, most of Clair’s stress comes from writing papers and studying for upcoming exams.

School problems, like feeling overwhelmed by homework and worrying about finals and grades, bring more students to counseling services this time of year than family issues, UWRF counselor Jennifer Elssesser said.

See Stress, page 3

## UWRF looks to burn renewable fuel source

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Step into the central heating plant at UW-River Falls and you may have to raise your voice. The sound of coal making its way to the boiler is loud, but some other noise is being generated surrounding the operation of the plant. Currently the plant operates by burning coal and natural gas, but the University is looking at an alternative, renewable fuel --wood.

“We are committed to try any and

all renewable fuels that will work in the boiler,” Bill Girnau, heating plant superintendent, said.

Girnau and others from UWRF are in the beginning stages of working with RENEW Energy-Briq Systems, a new company based out of Iowa. The company produces high-density briquettes made from a variety of natural materials; UWRF would be using wood briquettes, or briqs. The briqs are composed of compressed woody biomass.

“We currently supply multiple residential customers, and we are in the

test phase with several industrial customers like UWRF,” RENEW CEO Steve Smith said.

The University has recently been making attempts to go “green.” The addition of the University Center is a testament to the concept, and a transition from the current fossil fuels used in the heating plant to a renewable product is welcomed by many.

“Hopefully [this product will] give us another dependable source of fuel that would help the local economy and reduce our carbon dioxide emis-

sions,” Timothy Thum, UWRF facilities engineer, said in an e-mail interview.

Chancellor Don Betz also supports the initiative.

“UW-River Falls is publicly committed to building sustainable communities on campus, in River Falls and beyond,” Betz said. “Our testing the use of renewable and alternative fuels as potential sources of energy for the University is an important initial step in discovering viable



*Kenny Yoo/Student Voice*  
**Ken Smith, the maintenance operator at the central heating plant peers into the boiler.**

See Heating, page 3



VOICE SHORTS

**Hudson girl electrocuted, dies in bath tub**  
A 6-year-old Hudson girl, Chelsea Helland, died in a home accident Sunday night, according to the *Hudson Star Observer*. The Hudson Police Department is still investigating the incident, but it appears that she died after a hair dryer fell into the bathtub. Helland was a kindergarten student at Rock Elementary School.

**UW-System honors death of specialist**  
Hazardous Waste Specialist Henry Grote passed away after a massive stroke overtook him earlier this week. Grote served for several years as the hazardous waste specialist for several campuses in the UW-System, including UW-River Falls. Visitation will be held at noon Dec. 2, at the Olsen Funeral Home in Menomonie, Wis. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m., following the visitation.

**Student organizations hold silent auction**  
On Dec. 1, the student organizations silent auction will be taking place. It is a fundraising opportunity for UW-River Falls student organizations and features over 100 items, including restaurant gift certificates, tickets to Minnesota Wild and Minnesota Timberwolves games and homemade crafts. Baked goods will also be available. All money raised will be used to support the student organizations of UWRF. The auction will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center.

**Several holiday concerts to take place**  
The UW-River Falls holiday concerts will begin 3 p.m. Dec. 2, and will feature the UW- River Falls Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Women’s Chorus and Men’s Chorus. The UWRF Brass Ensemble and women’s, men’s and University choruses will perform at the “Carols and Brass” concert. UWRF Assistant Music Professor Sarah Parks and UWRF Music Instructor Rick Gaynor will direct the event. Familiar pieces such as “Do You Hear What I Hear?” and “I’ll Be Home For Christmas,” will be featured, as well as standard choral literature, including an African carol arranged by Wendell Whallum, titled “Betelehemu.” “New Music Ensemble Concert” will perform 8 p.m. Dec. 2, and UWRF Music Instructor Patti Cudd will direct the event. The student-comprised vocal and instrumental ensemble plays the music of modern-day composers, often with an experimental flare. The ensemble is experimental in that they will interpret drawings and nontraditional scores. The concert will feature works by composers Cornelius Cardrew, Yoko Ono and Roger Johnson, as well as a number of drawings. The fee for the concerts is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and \$2 for students with ID. The concerts will be held in the William Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts.

**Art department hosts annual holiday sale**  
The UW-River Falls art department will be holding their annual art sale. Every holiday season shoppers struggle to find a gift for that hard-to-shop-for person on their list. The art department has the answer: the popular annual scholarship sale. The sale will be held through Dec. 12 at Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Works of fine art including glass, ceramics, paintings, fibers, prints, photographs and mixed media will be available for purchase. Current and past students and faculty members, as well as talented local artists have handcrafted each piece that will be on display. Each artist receives 70 percent of the profit from the sale of their work and donates the remaining 30 percent to UWRF’s art department. The department uses the money to create scholarships for students and to support the Art Society. The sale is open to the public. Gallery 101 will be open for sales from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and again from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday. The gallery will also be open from 2-4 p.m. Sundays. For more information, please contact the UWRF art department at (715) 425-3266.

**Local students learn from weather station**  
UW-River Falls professor Geoffrey Force has come up with a way to help students at the River Falls Public Montessori Academy learn about the weather and share their findings with the community, according to the *River Falls Journal*. Force has a specialty in climatology, a college degree in geography and a basic knowledge of carpentry. Force, whose daughter Arabelle Force is a third-grader at the school, has crafted and installed an operational, kid-friendly weather station at the school. Force based his design on weather stations he’s seen at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minn., where he also teaches, UWRF’s campus and others. Though cost was a consideration, the primary importance was to devise a kid-friendly unit, designing it for students in grades three through five. Some weather shelters can cost around \$600. Force came up with a much less costly version. He bought wooden café doors, the type you mount in a doorway between rooms, and cut them down to size to make the rectangular weather shelter. He also primed, painted and weatherized the slatted unit to make it resistant to the elements. It is mounted it on a post near the entrance to the academy.

Briefs compiled by  
Marta Olson

The *Student Voice* is now accepting applications for spring semester. Pick up your application at 304 North Hall.

Tune in to WRFW 88.7 FM  
News and information programming

**Monday:** "Act on Ag," with Jodi Kauth  
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**Thursday:** "Game Break," with Phil Bock.  
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ALL NEWS AND INFORMATION BLOCKS: 5-6 p.m.

Senate focuses on future of Cascade

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During a short Student Senate meeting Tuesday, the reconstruction of Cascade Avenue seemed to be at the front of everyone’s mind. Monday’s open forum meeting to discuss Cascade gave students an idea of what the close-to-finalized plan for its reconstruction will look like. The plan will include roundabouts placed at three different intersections, a new median and the elimination of on-street parking. Ideally, the hope is that the roundabouts will slow down the flow of traffic, medians will add decoration and prevent jaywalking by students and the removal of on-street parking will open up space for the possibility of some turn lanes. With the need for parking always a concern and the plan in its final stages, it’s important for students to get their opinion in now, Legislative Affairs Director Craig Witte said. “The plan isn’t quite finalized, it’s just sort of in its final planning stages,” Witte said. “But there’s still time for students to give their opinion.” Although there was a lot of student input during the meeting, it’s important for students to continue giving their responses to the plan, because the students will be heavily influenced by it, Senate President Derek Brandt said.

“I encourage you all to submit feedback,” Brandt said. “This is something that will affect campus for years to come.” Anyone wanting more information should visit the city’s Cascade reconstruction Web site, <http://www.rfcity.org/eng/projects/cascade%20ave/cascadeave.htm>. Students wishing to give feedback are urged to call City Hall at (715) 425-0900. In other Senate news, student association meeting topics have been narrowed down and forwarded through the proper channels to begin addressing them. Motions were passed by a unanimous voice vote for student representative appointments, as well as to encourage Congressman Ron Kind to support the Higher Education Act, a piece of legislation that makes all federal aid for secondary education possible. Although it’s likely that it will pass its upcoming House vote, it’s still important to take a stand, Witte said. “I doubt that it wouldn’t pass, but it’s always good to show support,” Witte said. Due to the upcoming graduation for several senators, three of the at-large senator positions will soon be opening up. Interested students are encouraged to apply, Brandt said. “Everyone should start telling students they know,” Brandt said. “We’d really like to continue with a full Senate next semester.”

For more on the Cascade reconstruction plan, turn to page eight.

Students, cows adjust to DLC transformation



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Cows adjust to life at the new Dairy Learning Center. Students who use the facility have also been adapting to the changes.

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The Dairy Learning Center is up and running, but it’s not without a few problems that have been addressed. Adjustments have been made or will be made to the facility, and student workers, professors and the cows have needed some adjustment time, becoming familiar with the new ways of working. “It’s taken a little bit of adjustment for students, and mainly the cows,” Sylvia Kehoe said. Kehoe teaches the lactation course and will be holding some labs at the DLC.

Improvements made at DLC

For the first week or so, the DLC was shipping Grade B milk, versus Grade A milk, Larry Baumann said. Baumann has been part of the DLC committee throughout the process. “Some of the equipment standards for [Grade] A weren’t met the first time [the milk inspector] was out there,” he said. The joints on the wash pipes were not welded, which caused the discretion in which grade milk the DLC could ship. The joints have been welded, and the DLC now is shipping Grade A milk. Grade A milk can be used for essentially any dairy product, including fluid milk, while Grade B milk can only be used in making cheese, Baumann said.

Another adjustment to the facility includes getting bigger panels in the calf barn. The panels there as of now are too small for some of the calves to get their heads through. Though there is no real rush to get this task completed, the new, bigger panels should replace the small ones soon, Baumann said. “The calves are fine and everything’s working,” he said.

Changes take getting used to

Since Oct. 12, when the DLC had its grand opening, students and the animals adjustment to the new facility is going well. Students and cows have both been undergoing training. The 25 students who work at the DLC have had to learn how to use the new equipment. It has been time-consuming to train the workers, Baumann said. Though doing much better now, the cows needed a little encouragement for the first couple of weeks when it came to entering the parlor. In the parlor at Lab Farm 1, the cows had their own individual stall when in the parlor. In the double-6 Herringbone parlor, the cows need to be side by side in order to be milked. “They weren’t comfortable doing that,” Baumann said. The younger cows caught on fairly quickly; it is the older cows that still are taking a little time to adjust.

Heide Zahn milks cows at the DLC and will also be having lactation lab at the facility. “The first night was absolutely horrid,” she said. It took about six hours. Now it takes about two to three hours total, Zahn said. “It’s been a pretty steep learning curve for all of us,” Kehoe said. Zahn was working at the DLC during its first week of operation. “The first week was rough, which was expected,” Zahn said. Though, the equipment at the DLC is much faster and more efficient, Zahn said. Overall, the DLC is running smoothly, despite the changes that have needed to be made. “It’s going great,” Baumann said. “The facility is wonderful to work in.” There are many things that can be done with the new facility that could not be accomplished in the old facility at Lab Farm 1. Cows can be separated, the fresh cows are in a separate barn, the cows can be put into headlock for temperature checks and other observation, he said. The technology is a lot better at the DLC than in the old facility, Zahn said. “It’s a decent place, it’s just going to take a lot of getting used to,” she said. Students have been understanding and adaptable, Baumann said, and the cows have adjusted quickly. “Overall,” he said, “it’s going well.”

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

Editor's note: Information for this section is taken from River Falls Police and UW-River Falls Public Safety incident reports.

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**Nov. 10**  
- At approximately 1:35 a.m. River Falls Police were dispatched to a fight on the 200 block of W Cascade Ave. The fight broke up before officers arrived. Police chased and apprehended Donald Edward Nelson, 20, after he attempted to flee the scene. Nelson damaged a chain link fence in the yard of a local residence in his attempt to flee. Nelson admitted to police he had been drinking and blew a .20 on the preliminary breath test. Nelson was cited \$298 for underage consumption, second offense and \$235 for criminal damage to property.

**Nov. 13**  
- Jerome M. McNamara, 22, was cited \$249 for driving after revocation.

**Nov. 14**  
- Damage to the UW-River Falls central heating plant was reported to UWRF Public Safety. The damage was in the form of graf-

fiti spray painted on the southwest side of the heating plant building.  
- Ashleigh R. Harper, 18, was cited \$753 for underage consumption, fourth offense, in Crabtree Hall.

**Nov. 18**  
- River Falls Police responded to an anonymous noise complaint at 1889 Windflower St. and discovered a party. One of the officers recognized a partygoer as not being 21 years of age. Police then notified the residence of the home, Courtney Earl Davis, 26, that there had been a noise complaint attributed to his residence and that they would be issuing preliminary breath tests to minors at the party. Three minors were found to have alcohol in their system. Alexander Micheal Whittenberger, 18, Anthony C. Williams, 20, and Rebecca L. Goldman, 18 were each cited \$172 for underage consumption. Davis was cited \$298 for supplying alcohol to minors. It was also discovered that Davis had an outstanding arrest warrant in Milwaukee County. The bond for the warrant was \$300, which Davis paid; River Falls Police released him upon payment.

**Nov. 19**  
- A black Motorola Razor cell phone was reported stolen. The phone was taken between 11:30 p.m. and midnight Sept. 27 from the University Center Dance Hall room 12.

**Nov. 20**  
- At approximately 3:00 a.m. two female Johnson Hall residents found Clayton Howard Anderson, 20, sleeping on their couch, with his pants and undergarments around his ankles. River Falls Police and UWRF Public Safety officials responded to the call. There appeared to be urine on the couch and a preliminary breath test showed Anderson’s blood alcohol content to be .11. Anderson was cited \$375 for underage consumption second offense and \$280.50 for disorderly conduct.

**Nov. 21**  
- Two historical portraits of past UW-River Falls instructors were reported stolen from the Agriculture Science Building. The portraits were last seen Nov. 6.



# Massey: Physics student concerned with excessive fossil fuel reliance

from page 1

A desire to go through the extensive application process required for a fellowship and an uncertainty about job prospects for the summer prompted Massey to throw his hat in the fellowship ring last fall.

Assistant Professor of Physics Rellen Hardtke, who has taught Massey in four courses, said in an e-mail interview that she believed her student had a decent shot.

"I ... knew that Lee would be a strong candidate despite the stiff competition of a national fellowship," she said.

Hardtke said she felt the fellowship would be a good fit for Massey, whose professional interests include automotive engineering and design.

"The fellowship suited Lee's academic interests," she said.

Physics Department Chair Earl Blodgett said he felt similarly about Massey's chances.

"He had good recommendations, good mentors and a well-stated project," he said. "He did a good job of stating the case for why this is an area that will be crucial for science and society."

But actually being chosen for the fel-

lowship seemed an unlikely prospect to Massey.

"I didn't expect that I'd get it," he said.

His uncertainty drove him to apply for a position as a technical aide at Minnesota-based 3M, for which he was hired.

And it was a week later that Massey said he found out that he had been awarded the Student Fellowship in Physics and Society as well.

"I had to tell my boss [at 3M] that I had to work part-time instead of full-

time," he said.

Massey's status as a fellow gave him the opportunity to attend his first academic conference in October. The Industrial Physics Forum and American Vacuum Society (AVS) Symposium took place in Seattle from Oct. 14-16, and Massey went as a student reporter for the Society of Physics Students (SPS). A national organization, the SPS has a chapter at UWRF.

A combination of funding from the American Physical Society, the SPS and the UWRF Physics Department alumni fund paid Massey's way.

The topic of the conference was "The Energy Challenge," and featured pre-

sentations given by top scientists and engineers in industry and academia, Massey said.

"It was very interesting," he said. "Mostly I learned how the information is presented at these types of forums."

Massey's report for the SPS is posted on the organization's Web site, which can be reached at <http://www.aip.org/education/spc>.

Massey completes his bachelor's degree in physics at UWRF next May. As a dual-degree student, his next stop is the University of Minnesota, where he hopes to receive a second degree in mechanical engineering in spring 2010.

# Heating: UWRF commits to utilizing alternative methods for fuel

from page 1

ways to be capable stewards of this place."

The central heating plant on campus can be spotted from a distance, the smokestack towering over every other building on campus. It is here where heat for the University is generated.

Generally coal is burned during the winter and natural gas during the summer. The heat from the burning coal or gas is used to boil water. Steam from the water is then transported through underground pipes to buildings on campus.

"The steam that the plant makes is used to heat water, cook food, run sterilizers, humidifiers, pasteurizers, distillers and clothes dryers, along with its main job of providing heat for the buildings," according to the facilities management Web page.

Knowledge of things such as greenhouse gases, global warming and pollu-

tion has grown extensively in recent years, so the push to increase the use of renewable energy has also increased.

"We wanna be leading the charge," Girna said. "I wish I could tell you that next year we would be burning all renewable fuel."

The burning of fossil fuels such as coal has inherent problems.

"When coal is burned, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury compounds are released," according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Wood emits nitrogen, sulfur and carbon dioxides like coal, but in much lesser amounts.

"The plants take up carbon dioxide from the air while they are growing and then return it to the air when they are burned, thereby causing no net increase," according to the EPA.

The fact that there is no net increase of carbon dioxide is one of the key benefits

of wood burning. However, wood, like any resource, is only renewable if it is replenished at an equal rate of consumption. Supporters of such fuel sources hope that is the case. Coal on the other hand is a fossil fuel, so it is considered nonrenewable — it cannot be replenished in reasonable human time.

UWRF is just beginning to work with RENEW, so testing of the product must be accomplished before any framework can be laid out. Girna and Thum said they are not sure what to expect at this point.

"We will start with burning one truck load (25 tons) of material at the Heating Plant," Thum said.

The UWRF heating plant burns that much coal on the average day during the winter, but coal has the ability to produce more energy per pound compared to wood. This translates into a lower price for wood briqs as opposed to coal, while the amount of air pollution is said

to be less.

Girna said he is unsure of how the current plant at UWRF will be able to handle RENEW's wood briqs, and testing will be critical.

"The boilers are not designed to burn wood," Girna said.

But burning wood exclusively may not be the case.

"Most likely, we would operate with a mix of coal, wood and natural gas," Thum said.

Smith also said this is a great possibility.

"One of the most attractive and easily implemented biomass energy technologies is co-firing with coal in existing coal-fired boilers," Smith said. "In biomass co-firing, biomass can substitute for up to 20 percent of the coal used in the boiler."

"This is going to be an ongoing thing," Girna said. "[But] we're gearing up to do it."

# Stress: Holidays cause pressure amongst students

from page 1

Students living on campus used to have few options but to go home for holidays because residence halls would be closed over breaks. For students not getting along with their parents, this led to arguments and stress.

Residence halls have been left open through all breaks for the past four years or so to accommodate the many students in need of a place to stay over breaks, West Area Residence Life Coordinator Jason Neuhaus said.

"Now, since students can stay on campus [over the holidays] if they want to, it's lessened the [family-related] stress," Elsesser said.

Though family stress is generally less of a problem, students still have to contend with school-related stress.

"This is the time of year when it all seems to be caving in on students," Sommers said.

Often students in counseling sessions report that the number of big projects increases near the end of the semester to the point that they feel like they can't finish everything. Additionally, this is the time in the semester when students start to assess how successful they are in a course, which can leave students who don't think they are doing very well feeling stressed out, Sommers said.

Some students respond to stress by withdrawing from their friends and family and the activities they used to enjoy. They may also quit exercising and skip classes.

"Sometimes the best thing you can do is get out of bed in the morning," Elsesser said.

Stopping to move around and have fun re-energizes students and makes it easier for them to focus on their studies, Elsesser said.

Impending deadlines and major tests can lead students to cut down on sleep. Staying up late for a few extra hours of studying can be counterproductive because people retain information from the day before during rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, a state of rest that the body enters after several hours of sleep, Sommers said.

If someone only sleeps a few hours, they won't experience REM sleep. This is why Sommers recommends that students stop studying in time to get eight hours of sleep for the night.

Other students may deal with their stress with more dangerous behaviors such as drinking, which only makes things worse.

"Obviously, you can't study if you're drinking too much," Sommers said.

If students come in with family or relationship concerns, counselors will help them develop better communication skills.

Holiday encounters may be less stressful if students are prepared to talk to their parents and others they are at odds with in the way that is most likely to be understood, Elsesser said.

Student Counseling Services can help stressed out students develop other skills to overcome their stress. Students who want to make an appointment to talk with a counselor should call (715)425-3884. There currently is a waiting list for counseling appointments, but counselors will still set up emergency sessions if someone needs immediate help for mental health issues.

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EDITORIAL

Now is the time to speak out on Cascade

Since April city planners have been concocting a new design for what could be called the pipeline through UW-River Falls, namely Cascade Avenue. At a public meeting Monday, their initial plan was unveiled to the public and the concept changes that have been laid out. While drastic (three roundabouts is probably a little excessive), the overall design looks good to us.

We anticipate that many River Falls community members, UWRF students and staff included, will have plenty of complaints regarding the proposed median and fence, more limited access to Cascade, the lowered speed limits, removal of free on-street parking from Second Street to Sixth Street and the roundabouts. And you have the right to complain, but the problem is that you shouldn't have waited until now to speak out. The Cascade Avenue design technical committee held multiple meetings so that the public could throw in its two cents on this project. They wanted public opinion to help the shape this plan and were thoroughly disappointed with the attendance at the Sept. 24 meeting in the University Center, especially in regards to UWRF students. That was a key meeting where the technical committee presented multiple concept plans for the redesign.

We wonder if this inaction and lack of attendance stems from the fact that many students currently on campus will not be here when the redesign project actually begins around 2009 or 2010. If this is the case, shame on you for thinking that way. We as students should want to leave behind good legacy for the students that follow us at UWRF. Since students use Cascade Avenue, as both drivers and pedestrians, as much as anyone, we should have a pretty good idea of what will and will not work.

The good thing is there is still time to speak out if you don't like a particular aspect, or if you do like the design concept; the city is still encouraging all community members to fill out comment forms.

To submit a comment on the Cascade Avenue concept design visit the project Web page at:

<http://www.rfcity.org/Eng/Projects/Cascade%20Ave/CascadeAve.htm>.


Apply now for any position at the *Student Voice*. Applications are due Dec. 4 for editor and assistant editor applicants. All other applicants are due Dec. 11.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

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WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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

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

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall or to [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com).

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

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

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote Smart; learn about candidates

Vote Smart does not accept financial contributions from lobbyists, governmental organizations, corporations, labor unions or special interests. It is entirely member supported.

Some of the founding board members are John McCain, George McGovern, Geraldine Ferraro, Newt Gingrich—a balance of current and former Republican and Democratic office holders. The Board also includes well-known political scientists, Native Americans, African Americans, attorneys and professors.

The goal is to provide voters with a candidate database including biographical and campaign finance information (from over 100 conservative to liberal special interest groups), issue positions, voting records and

public statements.

Information is provided on the following office holders: President; Congressional Members; Governors; State Legislators; Statewide, County and Local Officials.

PVS free information can be accessed through its Web site: <http://www.vote-smart.org/> and by calling 1-888-868-3762.

Many politicians do not like what PVS does. For example, each candidate is offered the chance to take the National Political Awareness Test (NPAT), which measures their will to provide citizens with issue positions. In “The Voter’s Self Defense Manual,” office holders with “Passed NPAT” after their name provided citizens with issue positions before their last general election. Those with “Failed NPAT” did not do so.

In the NPAT, also called “The Political Courage Test,”

Candidates/Incumbents are asked whether they support, not whether they oppose, positions related to issues such as Affirmative Action, abortion, crime, education and many others. All they must do is put an X next to a statement to show support.

Wisconsin’s Gov. Doyle, Sens. Feingold and Kohl all failed the most recent NPAT, as did our U.S. representatives except Ron Kind. Although Gov. Doyle has never responded to the NPAT, Sen. Kohl did in 1992, Feingold in 1994.

Sen. Harsdorf and Rep. Rhoades failed the NPAT in 2006, although Harsdorf responded in 1996, Rhoades in 1998.

“All of us realize,” according to a Project Vote Smart pamphlet, “that the mudslinging tactics once associated with the crudest kinds of local politics now characterize all campaigns

and have stripped us of that one most crucial component in our struggle to self-govern: abundant, relevant and accurate information about those who govern us and who wish to replace those who do.”

How does that make you, the citizen and voter, feel? Want more information? I have a short video and a supply of pamphlets to distribute. If you are interested in learning more, avail yourself of the Web site or phone number above, or call me at (715) 425-7467.

PVS representatives are scheduled to come to UW-River Falls and the City of River Falls as the 2008 campaign gets in full gear.

River Falls Mayor Don Richards

Note to Readers: The *Student Voice* will not publish anonymous letters to the editor. We greatly appreciate your comments; however, to maintain the integrity of the paper, all published material must be attributable.

Faculty advises for semester’s end

Editor’s note: The *Student Voice* is running a weekly faculty/employee column this semester. This is open to any UW-River Falls staff member who would like their opinion heard on the pages of the *Student Voice*. The columns are opinion pieces between 450 and 600 words and must be submitted to the editor by the Monday prior to that week’s issue. Please send any columns or questions regarding them to: [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com). The *Student Voice* also reserves the right not to print a column if it is not suitable.

The end is near! Finals week begins in just three weeks, many class projects are due in the next two weeks and my guess is that something else significant is on your plate for this coming week. As a result, it seemed appropriate that in my latest *Student Voice* installment I should provide some pearls of wisdom to students as they enter the final stretch of Fall 2007-08. The advice I am providing is based on both my twenty-plus years of experience as a professor and my professional work in the field of psychology. So in no particular order, here are a few tips for successfully navigating the remained of this semester.

A high RIS (rear-in-seat) ratio is essential

Perhaps the best predictor of academic success is class attendance. Thus, one of the most effective ways to help ensure your academic survival is to make sure that from today until semester’s end you occupy a chair in your classroom or stool in the lab on each and every day.

Just being there is not enough

While being in your seat is necessary for success, it is not sufficient. You must also be actively engaged in the material being presented. With this in mind I am always amazed when a student who comes to class each day and then proceeds to sleep during the entire 50 minutes comes to me after

receiving a poor grade on an exam and says, “I am always in class, and I just don’t get why I am not doing better.” I usually smile and say something like, “Being asleep in your chair does not actually constitute being in class.” Thus, the second tip is to pay attention and listen to what your instructor is discussing. Also, be sure to ask for clarification when something does not make sense.

Concerning technology, always expect the unexpected

When relying on technology, you should assume that just when you need it the most, it will fail. Printing out a report five minutes before it is due? Expect to run out of ink. E-mailing that report just before you head off to class? Expect the network to be down. Looking up that assignment on D2L the night before the assignment is due? Expect a message that the system is unavailable. The best way around this problem is to consider the often “unthinkable option” of actually completing the assignment at least a day or two before it is due. If you then happen to encounter a technical glitch, you will have time to respond.

Set some party priorities

All work and no play not only makes Jack a dull boy but also may make him a less effective student. When planning out your final weeks include some social activities during which you can relax, unwind and take a break from schoolwork. Attempting to go full-tilt academically for the next three weeks is mentally impossible, so be sure to schedule a night or two out or a few sessions of Halo. The key, however, is to make sure that the ratio of “me-time” with “academic-time” is tilted heavily in the academic direction.

Nap time: it does a mind and body good

One the biggest mistakes that students make as the semester ends is cutting down on their sleep to pull a series of all-nighters. It should come as no surprise that research has indicated that as the amount of sleep decreases information processing efficiency also decreases. The key is to manage your time in such a way that you are able to allow yourself as normal a sleep pattern as possible.

Can the cramming

Research on memory has demonstrated that distributed practice tends to lead to the greatest level of retention. The basic premise of this technique is that rather than trying to cram in a lot of information at one time, you should focus on smaller pieces of information over a longer period. One of the best ways to do this is to set aside some time right after class to immediately review your class notes. In addition, if you have a number of chapters to read, try and spread the reading out over the course of the next few weeks rather than trying to cram it all in at the last minute.

Please keep in mind that while following the tips listed above will not guarantee academic success, failing to consider each of the suggestions can definitely increase the odds of academic failure. Here’s wishing you the best of luck as your semester ends, and I hope to see you in class (and awake)!

Brad Caskey is associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and is in his third year in that position. A 1980 UWRF alumni, Dr. Caskey has received numerous awards including UWRF Distinguished Teacher (1997), UWRF Advisor of the Year (2004), and the Regents Award for Teaching Excellence for the University of Wisconsin System (2005).



Brad Caskey



# Democrats disappoint student

Before I get started, I feel like I should clarify a few things. First, I consider myself a liberal. I believe in individual rights and all the other idyllic baggage liberals carry along with them. This shouldn't come as a surprise to the dozen or so people who read my column who are mostly my friends. Secondly, I was as excited as the next young bleeding heart liberal when the Democrats took control of Congress a little over a year ago. I envisioned something roughly similar to when the Beatles came to America in the '60s. These hot young rockers who would revolutionize the way our nation has been run. Instead I got something more like Herman's Hermits; not to take anything away from Herman's Hermits, but they are no Beatles, Henry VIII aside.

For the first six years of Bush's presidency I sat idly by and watched. Being sixteen when he was first elected, there was-



Joe Eggers

n't much say I could have in the process. Even if I had a fake ID, voting probably wouldn't have been a priority. For six years, I bought into the ra-ra of anti-Bush propaganda. I was appalled when the PATRIOT Act was passed and my rights were being infringed upon. I don't need the government looking at the three or four books I've checked out from the library during my college career. I had high expectations for the new liberal revolution. I half-way expected a free education and universal health care for everyone. I envisioned some kind of utopia. Doesn't utopia mean impossible dream or something like that? Regardless, my dreams have, thus far, been dashed.

Instead of translating the anti-Bush slogans and campaigns into positive change, Congress has been repeating the same anti-Bush slogans. Instead of doing something about the rising cost of gas or pro-

tecting our borders, my elected leaders are meeting with the leaders of Syria. Congress has even been threatening to vote down increased funding to our troops in Iraq. I don't support the war, but there is a clear distinction between not supporting the war and not supporting the troops. There are so many things that could be done. It might not be like the Beatles revolution of the '60s, but a Kennedy revolution of the '60s wouldn't be so bad.

How could something with so much potential go so wrong? My dreams of a new world have been replaced with a world that is much the same. It seems like the Democrats are positioning themselves up for the Presidency next year without a care about the repercussions. I hope the Democrats take a long look at history. The Democratic Party I voted for is one that supports civil rights, not opposes our troops.

Joe is a fifth year senior from Appleton, Wis. He is a political science and international studies major. With any luck Joe will be graduating this coming May. He has been involved in several activities on campus, including a stint as last year's Student Senate President.

# Blogs, vlogs entertain but do little else

The entirely eloquent, trustworthy and accurate UrbanDictionary defines the term "blog" as: "Short for weblog. A meandering, blatantly uninteresting online diary that gives the author the illusion that people are interested in their stupid, pathetic life." Consists of such riveting entries as 'homework sucks' and 'I slept until noon today'."

While some individuals use their weblogs for communication with their loved ones and friends or as a personal documentation for what is going on in their lives at the time, some take full advantage of the weblog community. And, like any other community, this is full of stereotypical cliques: the so-called cool kids, losers, creeps, fatties, bland people, and so on.

The majority of blogs are exactly as UrbanDictionary described. The occasional blog, however, is full of creative expression. A person has the ability to shine through their freedom of speech, and simple subjects such as homework and sleeping in can morph into

hilarious entries that readers can relate to and be highly entertained by.

You don't necessarily need a fabulous life to have a popular blog. Charisma, strong opinions and the ability to write well are the ingredients for a popular weblog with a large fan base, no matter which stereotype you may fit into.

I recently witnessed blogs come to life. They call them "vlogs," short for video-blog. Instead of a blogger simply writing what they have to say, they film themselves and post these clips for the world to see. There is a large community of vloggers on the increasingly popular Web site YouTube.

I will be the first to admit that, just as mainstream blogging sites, most of these people ramble on about the painfully mundane.

They sulk in their swivel



Annee Mayer-Chapleau

chairs in front of their Apple laptops and talk to a web cam as if it's their best friend. Some of them do it stylishly and with adorable English accents. Their good looks and tastes in independent music and films draw in a large crowd of Internet Community enthusiasts, but they choose to do things such as minute long clips of themselves eating entire cucumbers set to charming folk music.

Take, for example, the very popular mememolly. I'm guessing that her popularity didn't spawn from the content of her videos, but rather, the qualities that I mentioned.

After weeding through many of these types, I stumbled upon a vlogging comedian by the username of Spricket24. She is a redhead from Minneapolis who has won popularity awards on YouTube for her

witty commentary on things such as dollar stores, Peeps and prank phone calling.

I highly suggest giving these YouTube vloggers a glance if you have the spare time to listen to average people have random conversations.

It's a comforting fact in this day and age that if you don't have any friends in real life, you have thousands of best friends waiting to tell you about their day on YouTube. It's a lot like America's Funniest Home Videos, without the humor. And sometimes the people aren't American.

Annee is a junior studying creative writing. She loves astronomy and her main goal in life is to dance like David Byrne from the Talking Heads.

**For links to Spricket24's and mememolly's vlogs, view Annee's column online at:**

**<http://www.uwrfvoice.com/index.php/views/>**

# Reunion offers chance to reflect

"But for now we are young, let us lay in the sun and count every beautiful thing that we see. Love to be in the arms of all that I'm keeping here with me."

Neutral Milk Hotel said it right for the nearly indescribable feeling that sweeps upon me on the beach of the Ligurian Sea.

Did I ever think that I would be hiking up mountains in Cinque Terra on the coast of Italy? Certainly not. Every day continues to be an adventure.

Thank you, group leader Brad Gee, for bringing the 14 most fortunate students of UW-River Falls to this magical little town of Levanto, Italy. How exciting it is to meet my fellow adventurous travelers after two months of our individual life-altering experiences.

None of us will ever forget the street we came to call our own or the favorite coffee shop down the street that we frequented.

"Going on this trip was a big step for me," said Wegner.

For those two months I believe that we have each grown stronger mentally and socially.

I was close to running mode from the train station to the hotel in Levanto to see my friends and hear their stories and see their pictures.

Only they can know what I have gone through, and I can understand how they feel about leaving their European friends behind.

"It didn't feel like we hadn't seen each other in two months. Paris was only last week,"



Teresa Aviles

London became my new home. For Brook Radke, Amsterdam became her new home, fully equipped with a cozy apartment and a bicycle.

Sam Pankratz made life-long friends in Lincoln, England, that she will continue to visit.

For two months we each stayed in our project destination sites to do interviews, research and/or internships pertaining to our field of study.

Only in these places around Europe could we find such material to learn what we strived to learn.

Jenna Wegner went to England to do a dairy farm study comparison to Wisconsin and extensive research in the field. Kylie Schultz studied the work of Gaudi in Barcelona where his architecture literally makes the city.

We each chose our cities to our liking and personal preferences. Some are smaller towns and some large cities (some more bohemian and some more conservative).

Pankratz said.

Our first bonding time as a group was in Paris at the beginning of the semester. After that week in Paris, it was hard to imagine that we would not see each other for several weeks and we were about to go out completely on our own in a brand new city and country.

Now, after three wonderful days of sharing love stories and speaking American English, we depart from each other once more for another month of individual traveling. The hostel housing all 15 of us is hectic with train departure times shouted and hostel booking on the slow Internet.

"Everyone's main concern this weekend is whether or not to go to Florence, Rome or Venice,"

Jenifer Biss, fellow Semester Abroad: Europe traveler, said.

Teresa is a journalism major and a geography minor. She is enrolled in the Semester Abroad: Europe program and has done research on the River Thames in London. She is currently backpacking independently across Europe.

# Text-messaging out of control; common courtesy disintegrated

To some extent, the following article is an open letter to the victims of a dangerous addiction poisoning my generation: text messaging.

We've discussed the topic a couple times before in the *Student Voice*, mainly debating its place in the classroom. But the perfidious stench of text messaging does not only permeate the halls of our University, it has infested our movie theaters, our restaurants, our homes and more.

A few Fridays back, I had the splendid opportunity to see comedian Michael Ian Black at the Pantages Theater in downtown Minneapolis. I've mentioned him before in this column, and those who know me well can attest to how excited I was to see him live.

As expected, the show was all shades of groovy. However, some 16-year old punk-ass high-schooler to my immediate right almost



Joe Hager

made me commit my first felony by sending several hundred text messages throughout the show.

It all started when we found our seats; my friend Dave and I sat and talked excitedly about the upcoming performance when I noticed the little puke to my right was diverting all his attention to a steely-blue Nokia instead of his dad. The poor father sat in awkward silence next to his son, frozen in the uncertainty of the moment.

When a kid so contemptuously reduces his father to a level lower than that of a few abbreviated words on a two-inch screen, I get sad.

This went on for 20 or 30 minutes, a span of time that saw me draw bitter and unpromising conclusions about "kids these days."

When the lights dimmed and Ian Black finally took the stage with several devastating and hilar-

ious jokes, the dad-hating phone-junkie continued shooting off messages containing such Pulitzer-worthy prose as "lol no fukin way omg this guy is hella funny."

The theater was bathed in shadowy darkness except for the piercing white of this kid's phone. And I realized how often I'd had this very experience in movie theaters as well.

It seems that people think texting anywhere is acceptable. They don't realize how distracting it is when people are trying to enjoy a one-time experience like a Michael Ian Black comedy show. Text-messaging may be quieter than talking, but it instantly identifies you as a douchebag with no attention span.

I can be having an involved conversation with someone, and invariably, if their phone makes a text-message beep, it's impossible for them not to read it.

In my book, texting is alright for sending quick,

one-time messages—perhaps something like "I'll be there at 6" or "Pick me up 7 pomegranates."

But when I see kids spending hours having text-message conversations, sending upwards of sixty or seventy texts in a short period of time, it drives me up the wall.

When your texting addiction seduces you into reading and sending messages in a movie theater, at a show or during a real-life conversation (they all used to be real-life conversations), you know something is wrong.

Or maybe instead of interacting with your mom or dad for real, you can just text message them: "lol omg mom & dad i totally hella-heart u but I don't have time to talk to u anymore."

Joe is a marketing communications major with a creative writing minor. This is his first semester writing for the Student Voice. He is interested in movies, religion, politics, culture and people.

# STUDENT voices

## When do you think text-messaging is inappropriate?



Katie Nelson, senior

"I think there are times when text messaging is inappropriate, but I'd rather have someone texting than talking loud next to me on a cell phone."



Chris Spah, freshman

"In the middle of a conversation with your friend and in class, obviously."



Amy Kenney, sophomore

"While driving and in class."

Charlie Guerin, freshman



"It's really annoying if someone is text-messaging you during a speech."

Ashley Eager, sophomore

"Never!"



Kim Goplen, freshman

"If you're in a theater or watching a movie. If you're talking to someone, it's rude."





SPORTS WRAP

Men’s hockey team suffers first loss

The River Falls Falcon men’s hockey team gets shutout for the first time since February 17, 2006 losing 5-0 to the St. Thomas Tommies at Saint Thomas Arena in Mendota Heights, Minn.

Coming in to Tuesday’s game UWRF was averaging 5.5 goals a game, but couldn’t manage to put even one goal past Tommies’ goalie Tyler Chestnut. The Falcons combination of defensive and goaltender troubles caught up with them against the Tommies.

St Thomas’ Nate Ryan scored his fourth of the year, the first goal of the game in the first period. The assists were recorded Todd Alexander and Andy Panchenko.

In the second period Tom Knutson, Ryan Hoehn, and Sean Bryant all added goals for the Tommies. St. Thomas entered the third period with a commanding 4-0, and left the Falcons scratching their heads.

The Falcons have struggled to put complete games together all season, particularly struggling in the second period giving up 57 percent of their goals (17 of 30) in this frame.

Knutson added another goal in the third period on a six on four man advantage, making the score 5-0.

Chestnut was excellent tonight making 28 saves against the normally explosive Falcon offense.

The Falcons (5-1-3) look to bounce back from tonight when they host NCHA opponents UW-Eau Claire (4-3-0) on Friday and UW-Stevens Point (5-2-0) on Saturday. Both of these home games will start at 7:05 p.m.

Borgestad named Player of the Week

Forward Patrick Borgestad scored five goals and had one assist last weekend and has been named the NCHA and WIAC hockey Player of the Week.

He scored the points in the team’s 6-3 win at St. Scholastica on Friday and 3-3 overtime tie at Superior on Saturday.

Borgestad scored two goals and an assist in Friday’s win. He scored the first goal of the game and added what proved to be the game winner at 7:38 of the third period. It was a power-play goal. On Saturday he scored all three Falcon goals with two coming with the Falcons on the power play. This year he leads the Falcons with 10 goals and is tied for the team lead with 14 points. He has a team-high four power-play goals and one game winner.

“It’s quite a feat when you can score five goals against two quality NCHA teams,” said Falcon coach Steve Freeman. “He has been one of our top all around players at both ends of the rink this season. He is off to a tremendous start.”

Women’s hockey claims first victory

Jenna Scanlon’s two goals, and Kacie Anderson’s three assists, accelerated the Falcons to their first NCHA win of the season, 4-1, at Lake Forest Sunday afternoon.

After a scoreless first period, Anderson assisted Scanlon on her first goal of the season that put the Falcons up 1-0 at 3:19 into second period.

A Forester penalty set up a Falcon power play. Renae Bergh netted her first goal of the season, with Anderson assisting to give the Falcons a 2-0 advantage.

The Foresters struck first in the final period when Jen Clouthier broke up the shutout at 7:49 after a Stefanie Schmitz high stick penalty set up Lake Forest power play.

The Falcons added to their lead when Ashly Berner scored her second goal of the season with Anderson getting her third assist of the game, to give the Falcons a two goal lead, 3-1, at 9:29.

Scanlon’s second goal of the afternoon came a 12:40, when Schmitz assisting her to give the Falcons a 4-1 lead.

Falcon goaltender Cassi Campbell stopped 22 of 23 Lake Forest shots. The Falcons outshot Lake Forest 28-23.

The Falcons now head into the Thanksgiving break with 2-2 overall record and they are 1-1 in the NCHA. They prepare for another road trip as they play at Stevens Point 7 p.m. Nov. 30.

Women’s basketball tops Finlandia

Caitlin Hunstock and Sarah Schoeneck scored 15 points each to score a huge 86-55 victory over Finlandia University in the first home game of the year.

Hunstock and Schoeneck were the top scorers for the Falcons with Schoeneck and Jenna Hanson each getting 8 rebounds. Schoeneck and Tessa Rohl were each 3 for 3 in free throws. Overall, the Falcons were scored 34 for 82 on shots and had 45 rebounds overall.

Caitlin Hunstock scored the first points of the game for the Falcons with a big three point shot. The Falcons held a 7-0 lead until 17:37 when Ally Tincknell hit a jumper to make it 7-2. The Falcons finished the first half leading at 40-29.

Finlandia scored first in the second half with Lindsey Antilla being fouled by RF’s Krystal Parr and making her second free throw, making it 40-30. The Falcons would continue to lead for the rest of the game by at least 10 points.

Finlandia’s leading scorers were Deanna Makela and Casey Luke with 13 points each. Finlandia was 20 for 44 in field goals and had 36 rebounds for the night.

UWRF, 2-2, will face UW-Oshkosh 1 p.m. Dec. 1st.

Men’s basketball loses third straight

Wednesday night at the Karges Center as Finlandia University held off a late River Falls run to win 84-79 and gain its first victory of the year and hand RF its third consecutive loss.

Finlandia jumped out to an early six-point lead thanks to an Erik Bressette lay-up, free throw and three-pointer on consecutive possessions. RF trailed by as many as nine in the first half before senior guard Willie Wright made a two-point jumper and a lay-up in consecutive possessions to tie the game at 35, with 3:25 left in the first half.

Finlandia quickly responded with a 9-0 run of its own, pushing the Lions’ lead to 44-35.

Senior guard Courtney Davis led the way for the Falcons in the first half scoring eight points and gaining two rebounds.

RF found itself down by 12 in the second half as Finlandia’s Tucker Thoreson put in two of his game-high 27 points.

RF never trailed by less than seven points in the second half until the 1:55 mark. Freshman forward Wade Guerin made a steal and streaked down the court and laid it in to pull the Falcons within five at 77-72.

After a steal and a three-pointer the Falcons were as close as they had been since the first half with the score 81-79 with 0:22 left.

RF stalled on 79 and Finlandia made three free throws to ice its first victory of the year.

Next up the Falcons, now 2-3, will travel to UW-Oshkosh to take on the Titans in a WIAC match up, 3 p.m. Dec. 1.

St. Mary’s hands Falcons third tie



*Kenny Yoo/Student Voice*  
**Junior Dustin Norman battles St. Mary’s defenseman Kevin Eidsmo Nov. 20. In the first period. Falcons forward TJ Dahl started the scoring in the second period with his first goal of the season. Four minutes later the Cardinal’s scored the first of four consecutive goals. The Falcons came back and Pat Borgestad netted the game tying goal ending the game with a score of 4-4.**

Senior leads women’s basketball team

Lauren Bennett  
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On Nov. 26 Caitlin Hunstock scored a career high of 26 points in one game. So far this Hunstock is averaging 16 per game as well as 5.7 rebounds.

Hunstock has been playing basketball since fourth grade and it shows. She has such determination and spirit as soon as she hits the court.

Whether Hunstock is playing with the team or cheering them on from the sidelines, she always has a positive attitude and great focus.

Head coach Cindy Hovet has been coaching Hunstock for three years now and finds her a great asset to the team.

“Caitlin really stepped into a leadership position this year. She is putting up points and she’s got great hands, soft hands. We are confident giving the ball to her,” Hovet said.

“Working hard and doing well” is motivation for Hunstock as well as wanting “the team to do well.”

This year will be Hunstock’s last year as a Falcon.

“It’s been a long road,” Hunstock said. “I’m having a lot of fun and taking it one game at a time.”

Even though she will be completing her final season here at UW-River Falls she still has great goals for the remainder of her college game days.

“Our team goal is to have good defense, and my personal goal is for the team to play well,” Hunstock said.

As for Hunstock herself she has been training hard to have the success that she has had this season.

“I never really expected to [be so successful] this season,” Hunstock said. “It’s fun though, I get to play a lot more, and coach lets me have the ball more.”



*Kenny Yoo/Student Voice*  
**Senior Caitlin Hunstock looks to pass during a Nov. 28 game against Finlandia University, the Falcons won 86-55.**

Lack of focus shows on ice



**Chris Schad**

“I play when I want to play.”

Many sports fans know these words; New England Patriots wide receiver Randy Moss made them famous during an interview. The words that made Moss famous seem to have meaning today right here in River Falls. This may apply to the Falcon men’s hockey team through their first nine games of the season.

The Falcons have a lot of talent on their team and, with the exception of goaltender, have an experienced team. When it comes down to the end of the year the Falcons will be in the hunt to get a NCAA tournament berth. However, right now there seems to be some glaring warning signs about this team.

Although the Falcons have a very good 5-1-3 record, they’ve seemed to have an on/off switch. The Falcons have put together complete games this season. One can look at the Northland game where the Falcons dump trucked the Lumberjacks 9-2. Then, they can point at the 7-0 win over Augsburg. However, if you look just one day ahead, the Falcons have struggled putting a complete game together.

The Falcons played Gustavus Adolphus a night after shutting out Augsburg. The Falcons raced out to a 2-0 lead in the first period. Then came the second period. Granted, there was a delay in the intermission for Parents Night, the Falcons scored two more goals to take a 4-0 lead and suddenly, there seemed to be a lack of concentration as the game got closer than it should have been with the Falcons hanging on for a 6-5 win.

On Nov. 16, the Falcons played at St. Scholastica in what some would say was a revenge game. St. Scholastica was the team that knocked the Falcons out of the NCHA playoffs last year, so one would expect the Falcons to come out like a house on fire. After two periods the Falcons skated to a 3-3 tie. Then came the afterburner when they scored three goals in the third to win the game 6-3.

Next, the Falcons played conference rival Superior. The Falcons wound up playing Superior’s grind-it-out style and were winning 3-2 after 2 periods. Usually known for their high octane offensive the Falcons fell short and looked more like turtles hiding in their shells and it eventually cost them a point as a bouncing puck found it’s way past Tyler Owens and the Falcons settled for a tie.

I’m not done with these examples. Nov. 20, the Falcons took on St. Mary’s as the number 1 team in the nation, according to the USCHO division III poll. A weak St. Mary’s squad should not have been able to hang around the Falcons. However, the players could have been dreaming of turkey and stuffing as they fell behind 4-1 early in the third period. Turn on the switch. The Falcons out shot St. Mary’s 28-6 in the third to come back and tie a team they should have destroyed.

The lackluster play continued last night when the Falcons took on St. Thomas. Apparently, somebody cut the power all together as the Falcons were shutout for the first time since February 17, 2006 (1-0 loss to Stout). The Falcons looked like they played hard in this game and the puck just didn’t go in their favor, however, seeing the previous Falcons games, you’d expect a switch to come on.

The Falcons have looked good at times this season, and like I said before, they will be in contention come February. However, this stretch of games needs to be a wakeup call for the Falcons. They can’t continue to simply flip on a switch when they need it especially, with NCHA play starting to unfold. As former Minnesota Vikings punter Greg Coleman said “Boys, it’s time to kill a mosquito with an ax.”

*Chris is a 21-year-old junior majoring in journalism. He is also the sports director for 88.7 FM WRFW and is the play-by-play voice for the Falcon Football and Hockey teams.*

Sports Wrap courtesy  
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# Masquers to perform childhood favorite

## Campus thespians perform musical for first time in long history

Sarah Packingham  
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Masquers has been on campus since 1928, and each year they are responsible for putting together an entire play for the campus and community.

This year, director Krissie Weckman decided to make Masquers history and put on a musical.

"It is a really cute show, and it was nicely put together," Weckman said. "It's commonly described as a normal day in the life of Charlie Brown."

Weckman is working with her cast of six and those behind the scenes to put

together the show in a little less than a month's time.

The final showing of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" was Nov. 3, and on Nov. 5, those involved in "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" began working on the show.

This is the second time that Weckman has directed a show on the UW-River Falls campus. Last school year, she directed a one-act play as part of a directing course she was enrolled in.

"I can't say the road has been smooth, but we (designers, technicians and myself) are gaining first hand knowledge of how the real theatre world can be full of surprises," Naomi Magnier, a member of Masquers, said. "That's

why it is called 'Live Theatre'. Throughout this experience, we have earned a deeper respect not only from the members at large but also the faculty."

Kyle Olson plays Charlie Brown, Kristy Reid plays Sally Brown, Al Broeffle plays Snoopy, Rachel Hafele plays Lucy Van Pelt, Kyle Szarzynski plays Linus Van Pelt and Greg Lund plays Schroeder.

For those involved in this play, they are enjoying the time to look back at what they consider a simpler time.

"My favorite part is playing the role of a seven-year-old boy," Lund said. "Being 22 myself, playing a much younger role has been fun, but chal-

lenging at the same time. It gives me a chance to 'play' with my inner child."

Broeffle, who is playing Snoopy, said that his role is difficult because he has to balance his character between being a dog and human.

"Even in the comics he's not really a dog," Broeffle said. "The characters on stage can't even hear Snoopy. It's basically him interacting with the audience."

Some of the actors are pulling a double-duty with this show by acting and working behind the scenes. Reid, a senior, is one of those people.

"I am also handling publicity of the show by designing posters, programs, scheduling publicity photos and designing the display cases in the lobby," she said.

Putting on a play, working two jobs and taking 18 credits could be very dif-

ficult for any student.

"It's very stressful," Weckman said. "You're worried about everything and not just your own part."

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" will be put on Dec. 6-8 and Dec. 13-15. Each show will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Following the showings of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," Masquers will also be putting on Christmas One Acts. Magnier is directing "Christmas with Little Women" and Naomi Bielefeldt is directing "Wurzel Flummery."

Those plays will take place 2 p.m. Dec. 16 and 7 p.m. Dec. 17 in the Syse Theatre.

Those in attendance will not be charged a fee, but instead those involved are asking for donations to help send members of Masquers to the American College Festival.

## The Hives maintain singular sound



Matt Loosbrock

Howlin' Pelle Almqvist, The Hives' eccentric and out of control front man, never seems to shut up. From shouting, "Tick, tick, tick, boom!" on their explosive new single, to hollering "Giddy up!" on a tune of the same title, Almqvist never gives your ears a break. Yet, when The Hives' latest, *The Black and White Album*, has finally torn through your iPod, your brain will crave more.

The Hives have always been about bashing snares, crack-induced hooks, catchy-as-hell guitar riffs and cocky-yet-charming attitude. Their first two albums followed this format exactly, helping drive the garage rock revival that paved the way for bands like The Strokes and The White Stripes to gain a foreground in the music biz. The Hives never seemed to accomplish enough to join their comrades; their music was just too repetitive for most. With *The Black and White Album*, The Hives have finally crafted an album that experiments and deviates enough from their usual format, but not enough to lose their trademark sound. The result is a happy medium for past fans, new fans and club hitters alike.

Faithful fans will notice what's different first. The Hives have expanded, toyed and mixed up just about everything they've become known for. The riffs are there, the hooks are there, and the everlasting sound of Chris Dangerous' drums are

intact, but now they give more variety. "Try It Again" gives smooth vibes under Almqvist, who shouts, "You get up, you get down and you try it again!" while what sounds like high school cheerleaders scream along side with him. "A Stroll Through Hive Manor" is a short instrumental of keyboards and synthesizers that sounds like it was taken from an episode of Scooby-Doo, just as the ghost appears behind the Mystery Machine. Even big time producer Pharrell got infected by The Hives and contributed to "T.H.E.H.I.V.E.S.," a strong dance number that brings in '70s funk, bass grooves and high falsettos.

Dance rock seems to invade The Hives more frequently than not this time around. Instead of steady drum-beats, there are swing-like conga drums that rectify "Well All Right!" "Giddy Up!" could have been stolen from any old school rapper, and "Won't Be Long" sounds like Radiohead covering the 80s classic, "Turning Japanese." As strange as all of this new-found experimentation sounds, The Hives still retain their dignity by not straying too far from the original formula. "Bigger Hole To Fill" has enough clashing and banging to suit any garage rock fan, "Square One Here I Come" is reminiscent of the power rock of KISS melting with quick jabs of The Ramones, and there can't be any complaints when "You Dress Up For Armageddon" takes a cue from classic alternative rock like The Clash. The Hives look like they have taken a place in music, and it's only a matter of time before Almqvist starts to invade your ear drums. Catch the disease.

Matt is a senior double majoring in music and creative writing who likes lots of music types, old and new (save for modern country, which is not his thing).

## Letterdoku

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

Difficulty: Hard  
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).

Submitted

# Disney misses the mark with fairy tale spoof 'Enchanted'



A.J. Hakari

Dear readers, please forgive me for being more than a little skeptical about Disney's new family feature "Enchanted." It's not that the ads made it out to be the freakin' mayor of Girlietown (which it is; this makes "Pretty Woman" look like "Terminator 2"). Yours truly just has a hard time swallowing Disney's rigidly-structured brand of whimsy, which all but grabs you by the throat and demands that you have fun whether you like it or not.

"Enchanted" may be in a slightly edgier package than most are used to seeing from the House of Mouse, but make no mistake that the contents within this particular gift are the same damned socks you get every year from the Disney crew.

In this collision of live action and animation, Amy Adams (absolutely great in "Junebug") plays Gisele, an adorable waif who's suddenly thrust from her cartoon home of Andalasia to a flesh-and-blood New York City. A stranger in a strange land, Gisele can only bide her time until her dashing fiancé (James Marsden) comes to sweep her off her feet.

But as it turns out, her true love may instead turn out to be Robert (Patrick Dempsey), a cynical attorney whose growing affections for Gisele just might prove that there's room in reality for a fairy-tale ending.

I've really had my fill of

least a little bit, "Enchanted" still comes across as being a little too restrictive and by-the-books, especially for a studio that once prided itself on being a bastion of imagination.

A.J. is a senior year journalism student. He enjoys all genres, but he digs horror and documentaries the most.



Ken Weigend



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.

It is hard to determine at first whether "Enchanted," Disney's latest flick, is a fresh new family friendly flight of fancy or a recycled patchwork quilt of ideas hijacked straight from the scraps of the Disney vault. Its overly bubbly, innocent as possible, perfectly wrapped package of sappy good feeling points to the latter.

Part fish-out-of-water tale, part romantic comedy "Enchanted," opens in very familiar territory: Princess Giselle (Amy Adams) finds her dreams coming true, heading towards her wedding to Prince Edward (James Marsden).

The snag is that Edward's evil mother and Queen (Susan Sarandon), refusing to lose her crown to the peasant-turned-princess, ensnares Giselle and sends her tumbling down a magic well to a place "where there is no such thing as 'happily ever after!'"

This intriguing twist finds our Princess abandoned not in some animated forest, but in the jungle of flesh-and-blood New York City. Prince Edward follows in an attempt to rescue his beloved, but not before Giselle meets Robert (Patrick Dempsey), a somber and cynical divorcee doing his best to smother his own disaffected heart of gold.

By now, kids and adults alike should know exactly where this is headed. Pages are neatly ripped from nearly every other Disney Princess classic in order to write this brand new yet incessantly familiar tale.

There is the romantic boat ride from "The Little Mermaid", "Sleeping Beauty's" dragon, a bevy of helpful animals "Cinderella" style, and even a trio of poison apples supplied by an old hag disguised Queen a la "Snow White."

Director Kevin Lima condenses over 60

years of Disney lore into a concentrated shot of parody that he injects one too many times. As he tries harder and harder to spoof his source material, Lima begins to suffer from Stockholm syndrome.

"Enchanted" is such a spot-on caricature that its satire is mistaken for the real thing. Kids will delight in this cozy prosaic interpretation, but adults may find themselves wanting.

At least the gussied up talent here acts as glue that holds this lampoon together. Susan Sarandon brings insidious flare to the obligatory evil stepmother role, and Marsden is a treat to watch as he floats around a living mockery of Prince Charming.

Adams steals the show, however, becoming a pitch-perfect manifestation of an otherworldly symbol of sugary sweetness. Adams's personification of her cartoon counterpart is so impeccably flawless that viewers can't help but fall head over heels for this leading lady. Thanks to Adams, Giselle should be joining her fellow Princesses at theme parks very soon.

The only real mar to an otherwise admirable cast is Dempsey. He lulls around the screen in such monochromatic hues that it becomes painfully obvious why he is a single father.

Disney, once the pinnacle of originality and connoisseur of fairy-tales, has fallen from grace of late. Their newest overbearing exploration of whimsy tries too hard to force contrived cheer down your throat.

At first the taste is surprisingly good, but soon turns sour, as what started as an original fairy-tale confection caters to every cliché Disney has ever cooked up.

Ken is a junior journalism major with a minor in film studies. He is an aspiring film critic and an avid DVD collector.







**A rendering of the new plan for the Cascade Avenue reconstruction. Depicted above is the roundabout which is planned for the intersection of Cascade and 6th Street. The roundabout will have a sculpture of a globe and will contain four stone pillars, each representing the four colleges of the UW-River Falls campus.**

# Cascade redesign plan takes shape

Nick Sortedahl  
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After months of meetings and planning, the plans for the redesign of Cascade Avenue have been narrowed down to one basic design concept.

The design was unveiled at a public meeting held 6:30 p.m. Nov. 26, in the St. Croix Room of the University Center. More than 50 UW-River Falls administrators and students, as well as River Falls community members, came to hear what the Cascade Avenue design technical committee members came up with.

The concept includes two lanes of traffic, one eastbound and one westbound, separated by a median and fence, three roundabouts, no access from certain side streets, including Third Street, the elimination of on-street parking and the addition of a wider bike path and pedestrian walkway.

The committee members stressed that this concept is not finalized, but will be close to what the River Falls community will see when construction is finished in a few years.

“We need to deal with some more detailed questions as we refine this, but the main concept here, we would hope, would not change,” Reid Wronski, River Falls city engineer and committee member, said. “I would anticipate there being roundabouts at three locations. I would anticipate there being one through lane in each direction. I would anticipate no parking from second to sixth. And I would anticipate limited parking from sixth down to the Birchcrest area. From there we get into more details, which will be worked out in preliminary design.”

The Cascade Avenue concept planning technical committee includes Wronski, UWRF Campus Planner Dale Braun, Transportation Planner for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Jeff Abboud, River Falls Chief of Police Roger Leque, River Falls City Planner Buddy Lucero, UWRF Director of Public Safety Dick Trende and City of River Falls Superintendent of Public Works H.L. “Lanny” Gleason. Also included are three individuals brought in from Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH). Among them are Senior Transportation Engineer Glen Van Wormer, Project Coordinator and Consultant Dave Simons and Urban Designer Veronica Anderson. SEH is “a multi-disciplined, single-source consulting firm of engineers, architects, planners and scientists,” according to their Web site.

The process for coming to this design concept was tedious, Van Wormer said. It began April 30, with a public meeting held so community members could express their concerns and share their hopes of what the redesigned Cascade Avenue will look like.

“I’m hopeful that it’s going to be very, very close, because we’ve put a lot of effort into it and listened a lot,” Van Wormer said. “But, we won’t know until we get all the comment cards back. This evening you didn’t hear anybody saying negative things about it, so it leads me to believe it’s going to be accepted. Maybe some work on the details, but most of it has been positive tonight.”

The comment sheets were available at the public meeting and are also available on the City of River Falls Web site regarding the Cascade Avenue reconstruction.

The changes outlined in the new concept design were done with traffic and pedestrian safety in mind, as well as adding an aesthetic touch.

## Narrowed lanes to slow traffic

The driving surface will be narrowed according to the Cascade concept plan, primarily to decrease traffic speed. Turn lanes will also be added along Cascade to make the avenue safer for traffic. Parking will also be eliminated along Cascade from Second to Sixth Street, but the loss of spaces along Cascade will be replaced by the addition of spaces to the lot east of North Hall and in front of the residence halls near Sixth Street. The spaces by North Hall will be created by closing Third Street from Spring Street to Cascade Avenue, and increasing the size of the parking lot that currently sits adjacent to Third Street.

“That’s been talked about for many years, and this is just kind of bringing it to completion,” Leque said.

There will also be a widened bike path and sidewalk on each side of the redesigned Cascade Avenue.

A median will also be added to Cascade to separate east and west bound lanes of traffic. Within the medians will be fences designed to inhibit pedestrians from crossing the avenue at non-designated locations.

“That’s an issue that needs to be addressed, how to get people from this side of Cascade to the other side,” UWRF Chalmer Davee Library Achivist Alyson Jones said. “I don’t know that sticking a concrete barrier in the middle of the street is the best way to do it.”

## Roundabouts

The three roundabouts that have been proposed to be added will be located at Second Street, Sixth Street and Wasson Lane.

These locations were chosen because they seemed like logical points where the landscape changes, Van Wormer said during his presentation at the Nov. 26 meeting.

The roundabouts at Second and Sixth Streets would be considered gateways into the campus community. The roundabout at Second



**The current layout of Cascade Avenue at Sixth Street near Centennial Science Hall. The Cascade redesign plan includes the addition of three roundabouts, fenced medians and rezoned parking in order to eliminate on-street parking.**

Street would have a UWRF welcoming sign, as well as trees and other vegetation to beautify the center structure. The Sixth Street roundabout will have a globe sculpture as its centerpiece with stone pillars, representing the four UWRF colleges outside of it. The roundabout at Wasson Lane will be decorated with vegetation and stones.

UWRF student Kristen Witte was sceptical about the addition of the roundabouts.

“I don’t think anybody likes roundabouts, personally,” she said. “That’s not typical to this area, I think most people are used to stopping and I think most people will still stop whether it is there or not.”

According to Abboud, the use of roundabouts must be looked at before other types of intersections can be considered.

“They’re high capacity intersections,” he said. “And the maintenance issues on a roundabout are typically lower than a signalized intersection, so we have to look at a roundabout first, discount it, see if it’s not going to work, before we can look at a signalized intersection.”

## Combining aesthetics with functionality

The changes along Cascade will include the addition of multiple trees and decorative structures at the roundabouts. This was done for multiple reasons.

“When you bring vegetation closer to the street it slows traffic down, so it’s both aesthetics and function,” Anderson said.

Anderson was responsible for many of the decorative details.

“What informed a lot of the design truly was taking a walk on campus, and also just within River Falls itself,” she said. “There’s a lot of color and texture and different things that we look at that inform the design.”

## Community input still desired

While the plan is nearing its final stages, the committee members would like to hear any comments or concerns from community members, including UWRF students.

For more information, or to fill out a comment sheet on the Cascade Avenue redesign project, you can visit the Cascade Avenue redesign page at the City of River Falls Web site, <http://www.rfcity.org/Eng/Projects/Cascade%20Ave/CascadeAve.htm>.

The earliest the actual reconstruction project will begin is in 2009, Wronski said.

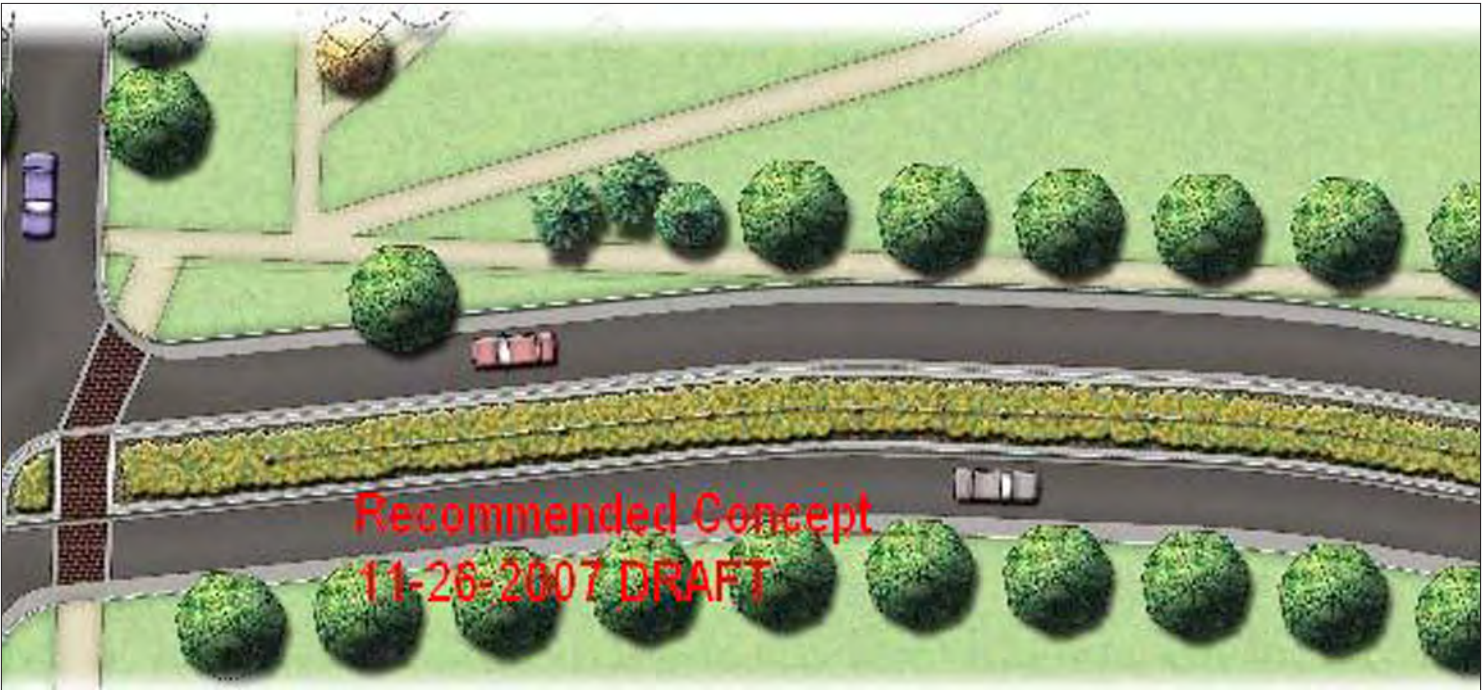
The committee members all seemed very satisfied with all aspects of the design concept.

“I think it’s a good plan that blends good traffic flow with pedestrian safety and maintains the same amount of parking in the general vicinity of the campus,” Braun said. “It really makes a huge aesthetic improvement, and it creates a wonderful front door for the campus.”

Matthew Groschen also contributed to this story.



**River Falls City Engineer Reid Wronski explains the plans for the Cascade Avenue redesign at the Nov. 26 meeting.**



**Artwork of the proposed median between Third and Fourth Street. The medians will include a fence which will not allow pedestrians to cross at non-designated locations, as well as separate both lanes of traffic.**