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# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

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## Enrollment increase forces students to live in hotel

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Forty-eight first-year female students and one returning female resident assistant (RA) are calling the new Best Western hotel in River Falls their home away from home until the end of the semester.

As stated in the campus housing contract, “University of Wisconsin-River Falls freshman and sophomore students (students who have not earned 60 or more credits as of the first day of classes), under the age of 21, who are not veterans, married, single parents, or living with parent(s) or legal guardian(s) within the approved commuting distance, are required to live in university residence halls and participate in one of the standard meal plans.” With the number of admitted students at UWRF rising up to approximately 6,600 for the 2009-10 school year, housing constraints on campus have risen with them. The university has 10 residence halls on campus with a total capacity of approximately 2,500 students.

When asked for her personal opinion on being placed in the hotel, RA Amie Stillman said she felt privileged to be living in the hotel and is honored that she was asked to be the RA there.

“I have no complaints about living in the hotel, especially when the hotel staff is amazing and has been so accommodating to us,” Stillman said. Although she is the sole RA in the hotel and supervises the 48 freshman students there, Stillman works with the May Hall staff and all of the west side residence halls to cover duty in the hotel.

As new students at the University, there are many experiences to be had on campus. Katie Nylund of Lakeville, Minn., feels that she is missing out on these experiences and would

rather be living on campus.

“I definitely feel more secluded than those in the dorms directly on campus,” she said. “It’s a little harder to meet the people on the floor since our main interaction is just seeing each other in the halls either walking to or coming from class.

Mellen, Wis., native Nicole Harding said she is enjoying her time at the Best Western.

“I feel I’m getting the same experiences as other students,” she said. “We have a resident assistant and about once a week we all do activities together like students living in a residence hall would,” she said.

The housing policy for freshman and sophomore students at UWRF is a requirement set by the Board of Regents, and Residence Life has no intention of seeking to change the policy due to annual housing constraints.

“Our current housing occupancy crunch is for female students,” Sandra Scott-Duex, director of Residence Life, said. “We still have spaces for males, and that is due, in part, to an increase in the number of female applicants overall to UW-River Falls.”

The cost of living in a double room on campus for the current academic year is \$3,238 per student, while a single room and a room in

South Fork Suites costs \$4,238 per student. According to Scott-Duex, the students in the hotel are paying the same amount for housing as students living on campus, and Residence Life is absorbing an additional cost of approximately \$18,000 with the University’s arrangements

with the hotel.

Residence Life is anticipating that they will be able to move the students onto campus after the current semester, but Maple Grove, Minn., native Ruth Preus said she likes living at the Best Western.

“It’s really nice here and I wouldn’t mind living here both semesters,” she said.



Sally King/Student Voice

**Due to rises in enrollment at UWRF, first-year students have started off their semester by living in the newly erected Best Western hotel in River Falls.**

## University prepares for potential H1N1 outbreak

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As flu season approaches, threats of H1N1 has professors revising their absence policies in the classroom and campus officials creating plans to offer vaccines to the UW-River Falls campus community.

Although the virus is still somewhat new, UWRF has taken measures to help prevent campus from becoming overwhelmed by the virus during this fall. Both staff and faculty have been working together to ensure that students are both well informed and safe on campus in the upcoming flu season.

H1N1, a virus that spreads from human-to-

human contact, was first detected in April 2009. As of June 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) stated that there is a national pandemic of H1N1 flu underway in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The symptoms of H1N1 are similar to those of the regular seasonal flu. They include a high fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny nose and muscle aches, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health. When the virus was first detected, people who felt that they might have symptoms were warned to see a doctor immediately. Now that more research has been done to test the virus, most hospitals will not even

treat the virus with antibiotic; instead doctors recommend staying at home and resting, said Alice Reilly-Myklebust, director of Student Health Services.

If a student is experiencing any of these symptoms, they are to e-mail their professors immediately and not report to class. Students living in the residence halls who come into contact with the flu virus are asked to return home if it is less than four hours away and recover there until they have had 24 fever-free hours without the aid of fever reducing medicine.

“It is for the safety of others in the dorms that students will be asked to go home if they have the virus,” Reilly Myklebust said. “It is

also to help those students in hopes that they will have a more comfortable recovery at home instead of staying in the residence halls.”

UWRF Provost Fernando Delgado has been in contact with all staff and faculty to ensure that they are taking the right measures when dealing with this pandemic. His advice to staff included altering policies on missed classes, not requiring a doctor’s note from students and suggesting Web-based learning so that students do not have academic concerns when they are ill.

“I was surprised to find that most teachers

See H1N1 page 3

## Area resident gives ‘historic’ gift to UWRF

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A former newspaperman donated a large sum of money this August to be used to establish endowed scholarships for River Falls students, with preference given to students from Hudson and North Hudson.

Willis Harry Miller, who died on Nov. 16, 2008, at age 89, left \$1,068,552 to UW-River Falls, the largest donation in University history.

“The Willis Miller gift is the largest gift to UWRF in a 135 year history,” Chancellor Dean Van Galen, said. “More significantly this will provide scholarships to hundreds of UWRF students in coming years...one hundred years from now students will still be benefiting.”

The money that Miller donated will go towards an endowment scholarship fund. The money will be invested and the interest earned from the endowment will be used to fund scholarships.

“The current spending policy is 4%, which

means about \$40,000 will go towards scholarships on an annual basis,” Dan McGinty, interim executive director of the Office of University Advancement, said. “However, that figure is ever changing.”

The scholarship criteria will be preference given to students from the greater Hudson area community.

“A committee of senior leaders of this institution will form to possibly add to the existing criteria,” McGinty said.

Miller, former publisher of the Hudson Star-Observer, was a well-known man in the St. Croix Valley. He was a member of UWRF Foundation Board of Directors and the now-defunct University Press Committee.

Miller was a founder of the St. Croix County Historical Society and was known for his Hudson Biographical Index, a card catalog commonly used in genealogical research

chronicling the city’s residents. He was elected to the Wisconsin Newspaper Hall of fame in 2004, and a street in Hudson is named after him.

Born Nov. 28, 1918, in Iowa City, Miller was raised in Hudson. In the summer of 1939, Miller took a summer class at UWRF while on

break from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. He worked for the Norwegian-American Historical Association and was a member of the famed choir at the college. He graduated from St. Olaf College in 1940.

After College, Miller worked for the Hudson Star-Observer and as a freelance reporter for the Milwaukee Sentinel. He was well known for his column, “Along Our Street,” that ran for 40 years in the paper.

He eventually became publisher and editor of the Hudson Star-Observer when he and a

**“This is definitely a historic gift to us. As an institution we will be forever grateful.”**

Dan McGinty,  
Interim executive director of  
the Office of University  
Advancement



# River Falls economy endures through tough times

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The recession, which continues to affect local economies throughout the United States, has had a varying impact on River Falls.

Two River Falls-based auto dealerships were hit especially hard. In May, it was announced that Moody’s Chevrolet would lose its General Motors vehicles. More recently, Roen Ford revealed that it too would soon close its doors.

Kinni Coffee and Lounge and the Hot Spot, two former downtown coffee shops, closed this past year as well.

Local sales tax figures for both Pierce and St. Croix counties show a decline in revenue in early 2009. Pierce County saw a 31 percent drop in sales tax revenue in January of this year when compared to January 2008. St. Croix County contended with a nine percent decrease for the same period, according to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

However, a comparison of figures for the month of June shows significant improvement in local sales. Pierce County had a four percent increase in sales tax revenue in June 2009 versus June 2008. St. Croix County faced only a one percent decrease in sales tax income for this past June, according to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

Along with the recovered tax figures, new businesses are opening in River Falls. Valerie Lundgren, owner of Karma Gifts, located at 204 South Main St., opened her first shop in June despite the poor economic reports.

“I said to myself many times, why would I open a store when the economy is so bad?” Lundgren said. “But, if I don’t do it now, when will I do it? And if it doesn’t work, it doesn’t, but it’ll be a learning experience.”

Lundgren’s views on business in River Falls mirror the statistics.

“Business has exceeded expectations. I think River Falls has embraced its downtown again,” Lundgren said.

Fellow entrepreneurs Carmel and Hardy White, owners of Bubba’s Fried Chicken, opened their eatery out of necessity brought on by a slow economy.

“We couldn’t find jobs in what we’re good at,” Carmel said. “My husband’s always cooked at traveling events. We had nothing to lose.”

Though Bubba’s has only been open for a short time, response to its opening has been positive.

“Business has been beyond what we hoped for,” Carmel said. “We opened July 9, on River Falls Days and it was just crazy. The community has been just wonderful.”

Hardy sums up the couple’s sentiment, “We didn’t have anything, and man, it’s just been a blessing.”

Aside from attracting new businesses, a lively downtown can also draw in prospective residents. River Falls resident Phil Fahey saw a bustling downtown as an attraction when relocating.

“I’ve lived in River Falls for about two years now. I’m originally from Forest Lake, Minn., which is just another suburb. (River Falls) has a more genuine feel about it,” Fahey said. “I can walk downtown and, say, go to the bank and get something to eat. It’s something not every city has.”

The University certainly influences whether or not downtown River Falls can survive.

“Losing the [Kansas City] Chiefs will definitely hurt the city,” Dustin Roatch, a lifelong River Falls resident and 2008 graduate of UWRF, said. “That was a lot of visitors who won’t be coming anymore, but I think some of college kids find the shops downtown sort of cool, so they’ll help again.”

Fred Benson, longtime owner of Lund’s Hardware, one of the city’s oldest businesses, has a theory about what has helped River Falls’ downtown area.

“Last year gas was \$4 a gallon,” he said. “It got people shopping smarter. Heightened awareness of shopping locally has us running neck and neck with last year’s sales totals. I think it started with gas prices last year and carried over from one crisis to another.”



Sally King/Student Voice

The Dish and the Spoon Café is one of the new establishments in River Falls.

## University plans construction projects to improve campus

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UW- River Falls is a “university to watch” according to Campus Planner Dale Braun and with 54 projects on his agenda, this campus is definitely one to keep an eye out for.

Some of the current projects going on include the renovation of the North Hall steps and the ventilation of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

There are many long term projects being planned, such as the South Fork Addition, new Health and Human Performance building, Ramer Field, enrollment services, the renovation of Cascade Avenue and a master plan.

Due to an increase in enrollment, the idea of

shared living area, bathrooms and a kitchenette.

There will be approximately 20 people on each floor of the addition and 40 per cluster, housing a total of 240 students. The architects should be selected by the end of the September, so construction can begin.

The project is expected to be completed and open for housing in the fall of 2012. The projected cost is \$20 million.

“It’s really important that we get more student housing, especially with the enrollment going up,” junior Cami Bauer said.

The project of moving enrollment services is also one of great importance according to Braun. This will put admissions, financial aid, bursar and the registrar all in Hagestad Hall, creating a one stop service center for students.

The project should be completed in 2011.

Another project important not only to the University but also to the River Falls community is the renovation of Cascade Ave. This project will include repaving the street as well as adding roundabouts at the intersections of second and sixth streets, medians for students to cross the street more safely and bike lanes. There will be public meetings held on campus in the near future regarding this project that is also set to be finished in 2011.

One of the biggest projects on Braun’s agenda is creating a new master plan to replace the last master plan that was proposed in 1968. The master plan’s purpose is to predict future plans of how the campus

should allow for change in years to come. A firm has just been hired and the designing of the plan is set to begin this month.

With all the changes going on, this campus is a “symbol of hope” in a struggling economy, according to Braun.

“Historians will look back on this time as a period of great change for this campus,” Braun said.

## Incoming class leaves its mark with help of student organizations

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Each fall, the First Year Experience (FYE) staff and Weeks of Welcome (WOW) leaders prepare for the arrival of freshmen and new students, and this year’s events had some new approaches. One major change was that move-in weekend did not fall over the Labor Day holiday weekend. This allowed upper-classmen and faculty to be around to witness the WOW events—something that was not always the case in past years.

At move-in, freshman and new students were “welcomed home” by WOW staff, FYE coordinators and other faculty.

New this year, the biggest event was the pep fest that took place the night of move-in at Ramer Field. Maggie Funk, New Student and Family Programs coordinator, said the stands were packed with new students. As they arrived, students were greeted with a gift bag that contained a Falcon t-shirt and a noisemaker.

Chancellor Dean Van Galen, River Falls Mayor Don Richards, Athletics Director, Rick Bowen, and Freddy the Falcon raced out onto the field in golf carts and spoke to the new students and welcomed them home. Afterwards, the students put on their shirts and all sang the Falcon cheer song together. The night ended with fireworks, and the chance for the students to “leave their mark” on the path near the intramural fields by painting a falcon print.

The events of this year’s WOW were more relaxed than previous years and allowed the students a chance to adjust to their new home without being moved around from activity to activity.

This year, students spent two days with WOW leaders instead of just one day. On the second day, many groups were brought into town so they could get acclimated to the River Falls community in addition to the UWRF campus.

WOW leader Laurie Cicchese said she feels the new events were worthwhile.

“I think the thing that made this year was the fact that students were with their WOW

leader for two days, and on the second day we got more of a chance to interact with them and go places,” she said.

Sarah Egerstrom, FYE director, said the students still did many activities that allowed them to get to know one another and the campus, but were also able to simply hang out in the town and community in which they will be living.

Freshman Jake Deutsch said he feels the WOW events were very beneficial in helping him be more prepared for classes and know where everything is located on campus.

“I feel very acclimated to campus after attending these events,” Deutsch said.

The FYE staff does not just focus on move-in weekend and the first few days of new students’ time here.

“We know that it takes more than three days for students to get used to campus, so we have events throughout the year that provide first-year students with campus resources and getting to know the University,” Funk said.

These events are part of WOW2, which is a first-year success series that aims to get students involved and help them continue to be successful on campus. The events range from a session on understanding financial aid, to “Sex Rules” with Maria Falzone and an intramural golf tournament.

FYE also offers the Falcon Challenge and Out to Lunch. The Falcon Challenge is a way to encourage students to attend events on campus, and when they do, they receive a raffle ticket for different prize drawings. Out to Lunch allows students an opportunity for students to take a professor or advisor out to lunch, which is paid for by FYE.

One of the main goals of this year’s WOW events was to encourage the students to get involved and leave their mark during the time they spend at UWRF.

“This year more than ever we also made a strong effort to create a stronger sense of school pride,” Funk said. “[And] to encourage students to make the most of their college experience, and to inspire students to think about what ‘mark’ they want to leave on our campus.”

## RIVER FALLS POLICE/UWRF POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

### August 28

-Molly A. Keifenheim, 22, was cited for public urination.

### August 30

-Elizabeth E. Hebert, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in McMillan Hall.

### August 31

-Jessica L. Robertson, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in McMillan Hall.

### September 4

-Brandon B. Sundberg, 20, was cited for underage consumption.

-Jacob B. Voeltz, 21, was cited for loud and unnecessary noise at 213 Spring St.

-Brady M. Hannigan, 20, was cited for loud and unnecessary noise at 213 Spring St.

-Daniel T. Johnson, 21, was cited for loud and unnecessary noise at 213 Spring St.

-Michel T. Twining, 18, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Hathorn Hall.

### September 5

-Matthew J. Olson, 22, was cited for possession of an open can of beer.

-Benjamin J. Tuft, 20, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Stratton Hall.

### September 8

-Andrew M. Reagan, 20, was cited for underage consumption.

### September 11

-Christopher R. Fritzinger, 18, was cited for underage consumption and possession of an open container on East Cascade Ave.



# Active shooter scenario to take place on campus

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An active shooter scenario will be held at UW-River Falls on Sept. 21. The scenario will take place in and around the surrounding area of Rodli Commons, and is sponsored by regional first responders and emergency management agencies.

The shooter scenario comes in response to multiple school shootings in recent years and will help the faculty and staff be better prepared if the campus ever experiences such an event. The morning of the Virginia Tech shootings, Chief or Police at UWRF Richard Trende, then public safety director, said that the only scenario he was worried about not being prepared for a shooter scenario if one

takes place. We will be able to test our ability to communicate during a shooter situation and better prepare our emergency response as well.”

Students have been asked to stay away from the area in and around Rodli Commons as much as possible during the scenario. There will be no live ammunition used so no one will be in any harm it is just so the scenario doesn’t get interrupted, Fry said.

“We will have officers placed around Rodli Hall to escort those on the east side of campus to the rest of campus so the scenario can run smoothly,” Fry said.

The active shooter scenario also gives UWRF staff, faculty and emergency response teams the ability to know what they need to improve on in order to successfully be prepared for such an event.



Blake Fry

“Now that we have the scenario on campus we will be better prepared as a campus if such an event ever takes place.”

Blake Fry,  
Special assistant to the chancellor

Find more information and polls online at the *Student Voice* Web site at:  
[www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com)

# H1N1: Officials recommend vaccinations for flu prevention

from page 1

did mention H1N1 on the first day of class,” junior Katie Berends said. “It was nice to see that changes would be made in the future if students got the virus.”

One of the best ways to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated. People under the age of 25 are one of the key groups recommended to first receive the vaccine, according to the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Student Health Services is teaming up

with the Pierce County Public Health Department to administer free vaccines to students, staff and faculty on campus. Vaccines will be administered in the Trimble Room 231 in the University Center on Wednesday, Nov. 4, and Wednesday, Dec. 5. Students will also be able to receive seasonal flu shots at that time.

“I know that the virus is airborne for only a few seconds at a time but based on what I have learned about it I think it is important to get vaccinated to protect myself,” senior JJ Rivet said.

**If students have questions they can call Student Health Services at 715-425-3293 or contact the River Falls Medical Clinic at 715-425-6701.**

Your campus radio station is back! Tune into WRFW to hear live broadcasts and music on 88.7 FM or listen online at:  
[www.pureradio887.com](http://www.pureradio887.com)

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN **River Falls**

Fall 2009

# Student Senate ELECTIONS

Polls are open from 8:00 AM  
Monday, September 28 to 4:00 PM  
on Tuesday, September 29

## VOTE AT...

[sa.uwrf.edu/student-senate](http://sa.uwrf.edu/student-senate)

**Positions Available:**

- 3 At-Large Senator
- 4 First-Year Students
- 1 CAS Representative

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EDITORIAL

University facilities struggle under record enrollment

The Student Voice editorial board believes that UW-River Falls is accepting too many new students, and causing over-crowding and unfair conditions that adversely affect the entire student population.

The University increased its enrollment this academic year by roughly 10%, serving approximately 6,500 students. Obviously, this increase says several positive things about UW-River Falls: this University is creating for itself a positive image that is attracting prospective students; that image is strong enough to bring in those new students in the midst of a nation-wide economic recession; and that increased enrollment equates to an increased monetary inflow, coming directly on the heels of the State Legislature asking for \$3 million of our money back.

But increased enrollment also comes at a cost. Residence Life, the campus organization in charge of on-campus housing, was forced to relocate 48 first-year females into the Best Western hotel directly across from campus. Because the University cannot legally charge those students more for housing they didn't choose to live in, Residence Life has to cover the difference between 48 room & board fees and the semester bill for the hotel, a difference of \$18,000. In a year when every department on campus is being asked to make cuts and "tighten their belts," this represents a significant chunk of change that could be used for countless other purposes. To be fair, however, South Fork 2 is in the works right now to create 240 more student rooms on campus.

Beyond housing pressures, the increased student population is having severe and adverse negative effects on dining services, particularly in the Riverside Commons. The foyer area reserved for backpacks can become so cluttered that students are forced to jump over small mountains of book bags as they search for scarce bare patches of ground to stash their valuables. The problem is compounded by long lines at not only the entrance lines, but the food lines inside. This causes harsh wait times which can add stress students trying to eat in between classes. And to cap it all off, the Commons is so small and crowded that there is not enough seating to accommodate everyone who eats there. This has caused drastic reactions, including people simply standing and eating, or sitting on the floors violating fire codes.

These are problems that can be fixed by simply by capping admission numbers and sticking to it. Perhaps admission standards are too low and need to be reevaluated, or perhaps admissions just can't count. Either way, UWRF is too crowded, and the negative side effects are betraying the goals of this University.

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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Read the Student Voice online at [www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com)

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, River Falls, WI, 54022 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.



By Jon Lyksett

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Efforts in sustainability outlast Green movement

The nationwide "green movement" has been a breeding ground of special interests of all varieties in the name of protecting the environment. It moves to engender knee-capping industrial legislation and promote political agendas of nonprofit organizations. People are getting very, very rich because of it. Entire groups can shift their precious votes for one candidate solely because of it.

That being said, I would like to officially congratulate and thank UWRF for its goal of "Going off the Grid by 2012" and its efforts towards long-term sustainability.

Think the two are the same? I don't.

Sustainability is all about doing things that are helpful to our environment, innovations in resource management and - make sure you catch the "and" - being cost effective in carrying-out of these things. Green, on the other hand, is mindlessly and relentlessly fighting to "save the Earth" via "donations" of the non-voluntary sort. The Earth needs to be saved about as much as Beck thinks basic freedoms need it here in the States: not all that much.

Recyclemania, the Ecoblue Cube, rain water to toilet water, hall energy saving competitions and home-grown energy are all brilliant ways that UWRF saves money and confesses its love for the environment. These level-headed ideas will make even the most anti-eco-nut conservative run out and at least shake hands with a tree (hugs

are probably pushing it).

Look, I like the notion of this giant, deformed ball we call Earth and wouldn't mind taking some steps to take care of it. But is it too much to ask for that we as a nation keep rationality at the top of the priority list when considering our options?

I say that the marriage between "going green" and sustainability ends today (green movement will probably seek unjustified alimony like the cretin wife she is) and an intimate relationship between rationality and sustainability begins.

Just remember, "green" also refers to the characteristics of deficiency in knowledge, training or experience, too.

Jordan Harshman

Thank those who deserve it, stop finding new things to complain about

No photo available

Kirsten Blake

Observe the following scenario:  
"OMG! Jen always leaves her dishrag in the sink. She's been doing it for months and it's always disgusting!"  
"Have you told her it bothers you?"  
"No..."  
"Then shut the fuck up."  
This is the information age. Technology has made communication easier than ever (or more complicated,

Technology has made communication easier than ever with Facebook, text messaging, e-mail, voice-mail, twitter, mobile uploads, etc., however it has not yet mastered telepathy.

depending on your view) with Facebook, text messaging, e-mail, voicemail, twitter, mobile uploads, etc., however it has not yet mastered telepathy. If a person doesn't tell someone what they're thinking, how does anyone know?

It's a pathetic thing to observe a professor begging for feedback, asking if everyone understands the concepts being taught, yet doesn't get so much as a head nod in return. How is an educator supposed to know if their methods are effective? Blank stares can mean complete comprehension, incomprehension, or that we've wandered off into a fantasy land where the grass is green and the girls are pretty.

What is even more disturbing is that if a student does express his/herself through the proper channel to the prop-

er person and the communication results in a positive change, the change is often taken for granted.

For those readers who have never seen gratitude expressed properly, it goes like this:"Thank you, Jen, for not leaving your dishrag in the sink." The End. Simple right? So why is it so rare?

It seems as though gratitude is a lost concept among Generation Y as well as how to express wants, needs and disagreement in a respectably human way.

Students (among others) can be observed frequently bitching and complaining, whining and wanting, demanding things from their school and government, offering a fair amount of criticism yet not following through with any type of action.

Dining Services is a frequent target of whiners. After Dining Services was able to weasel out information from its patrons through surveys and booths, it seemed as though the students wanted a better salad bar, more non-meat options and better selection of vegetables.

When Dining Services said "yes" and created the salad toss, did anyone bother to say, "Thank you, Dining Services, for taking my opinions and wants into consideration" or even "Thanks for trying, but another salad option wasn't what I had in mind"?

Blank stares can mean complete comprehension, incomprehension, or that we've wandered off into a fantasy land where the grass is green and the girls are pretty.

Hint: positive reinforcement is more useful than bitching to friends.

Feedback from well-written letters and professional phone calls are more

useful than bitching.

Most anything is more useful than bitching.

Whining gets you nowhere.

If you find yourself pleased with a service, or if you think someone has done a good job at something, let them know.

In fact, there is an entire industry of paper products engineered specifically for the purpose of expressing gratitude. They're called thank-you cards. Showing appreciation can also be non-verbal or unwritten. Waitress kept your

If you find yourself pleased with a service, or if you think someone has done a good job at something, let them know.

water glass full? Give her a nice tip.

There are a number of people out there who don't get thanked enough, including good professors, men who shave, women who shave, mothers, brothers, friends, event planners, the ladies at church who made the coffee and brownies, co-workers, people who show up on time, and custodians who mop up the vomit in stall A from Thursday night before your shower on Friday.

My advice: Stock up on thank-you cards, nice papers and do some good with them. Temper tantrums and the silent treatment won't get you anywhere if you're trying to instill change. What does is educated discussion, polite persuasion, gratitude and compromise.

Kirsten Blake is a marketing communications major, journalism minor who pronouns her name "Curse-ten" as if you were to swear to the tenth power.



# Warmer weather brings procrastination to campus

It took a long time to write this article. I didn’t strain every muscle to bring you golden words; I didn’t toil away, wide eyes staring into my laptop. No, I did something much less productive but much more fun...I successfully got distracted. Not that I wanted to, mind you-I’m excited to write columns for the Student Voice for the first time-but the weather was so nice. Every time I sat down, laptop ready, the sun would poke through the blinds and whisper,“Come and bask in my infinite warm glory.” How could I refuse such a line? All that sun-fueled laughter of course made me hungry, so I had no time to write. How could I write on an empty stomach? I bet Stephen King doesn’t write on an empty stomach. But to decide what to eat...maybe I should run to the store...

A few Lunchables and two colas later, this is it. I’m going to write a piece that will blow the readers right off their pleasant chairs. Here I go, one...two...three... I love my ring-tone. It’s an Incubus number. Swell investment. I hear it as I lower my hands to the keyboard. Now, I’m a very decent person and can’t ignore a call without an internal battle. While my phone lights up and sings my face twists in agony and questions bounce in my mind. I’m busy, should I answer it? Who am I kidding? Do I even know what I’m doing here? “Mom” dances across the little screen. That settles it.

Forty-five minutes later I hear the click of my phone as I set it on the table. One of the first things we learn as a child is to never, ever ignore your mother. By this time I’m determined to get some words splashed on

my Microsoft Word document that’s staring at my face. I crack my knuckles, clear my throat, and take my seat. It’s the big time, the final countdown, the bingo. As I begin to write, a constant buzzing sound emanates from the kitchen. Now, I’m a curious and safety conscience sort of girl. I obviously need to stop writing immediately, even close my laptop completely, and check this nonsense out. I peek my head around the bedroom door and every sense tells me there is no danger. Yet I must press on for the sake of humanity. Silently I glide down the hall, drawing upon all those karate chops I used to assault my older brother with. The light from the kitchen reaches out to me, beckoning a savior. Holding my breath, I jump onto the linoleum, fists up. A tiny red fan looks back at me, humming away. At least something’s doing its job around here. I drag my feet to the liv-

ing room and fall back into the couch. What should this article be about? Let me just ponder a moment. Flinching, I open my eyes to look at what was poking me awake. One of my roommates suggests I stop hogging the couch and get to work on that article thing I’m supposed to do. I thank them for their polite wake-up call and stumble back to my room, where my laptop still sits. The clock clicks to 8:40. The whole day just shot by! I was trying so hard and still no article! The horror of it all overcame me. In fury I put on my pajamas, yanked the covers back, and dove into bed. I need all the sleep I can cram in to my busy schedule-I have to write this article tomorrow.

Laura is a junior majoring in marketing communications and Communication Studies. She enjoys eating with a fork and the smell of gasoline.



Laura Krawczyk

**Every time I sat down, laptop ready, the sun would poke through the blinds and whisper, “Come and bask in my infinite warm glory.”**

# Unoriginal films tend to mimic each other, disappoint viewers

The gloves are off and my knuckles are singing like the Buffalo Grove Expressions show-choir at Carnegie Hall.

First let me welcome everyone back to our lovely campus - it’s really good to see the weaving veins of campus pulsating with student life again. Summer dragged on an extra week, if you ask me, so I’m more than ready to joust my way through the semester. One thing I count on during the summer time is good entertainment on all fronts: live music, festivals, fairs, contests, and above all, movies. Most live entertainment is great due to the fact that it’s just that: live. You can’t complain about a free concert, even if the band sucks. In the end, if the washed out 80’s metal group sounds about on par with a dying whale, then you can, at the very least, whine “it WAS free...”

But I want to take a look at the movies and how what we can end up watching is a mere reflection of itself. Take the movie “Hostel,” for example. Now I know “Hostel” is the landmark and monument behind all torture porn films, but I want one more crack at it. Paired up with its direct sequel, the “Saw” franchise, the recent, fourth friggin’ sequel in the “Final Destination” abomination, and countless other death movies - they all showcase mostly innocent death in the most far-fetched, unrealistic and

psychologically traumatizing ways, but we all pay to see it.

The actual film “Hostel” is somewhat of a mirror on itself: rich folk paying to watch youngsters be strapped to a chair and, in all honesty, be utterly destroyed by evil forces. But that’s exactly what you, the viewer are doing - paying to watch people be killed. The lack of storyline or development whatsoever makes us or anyone who forked over eight bucks to see it just as guilty as the richly powers-thatbe in the movie. I don’t understand the draw, and if I did, I might have dished out a wad of cash to check it out in theatres back in ‘06. But I neglected the universal, filmic bloodlust until my new roommate popped the ludicrous piece of junk into our DVD player.

I’ll happily admit that the copy of “Hostel” we watched was pirated. I hope Eli Roth reads that and gets pissed, because that’d be awfully ironic if he threw a hissy-fit over the piracy of his film, but not the heinous films he throws together. A big shot producer in Hollywood demands money, but wants something different, so they hire somewhat experienced Roth to script out some needless mayhem and BOOM - many millions of dollars later, they’ve made a profit. Sweet.

Here’s the interesting thing, though - I can actually appreciate what Roth and some of these other hacks are trying to do. They’re attempting, on every watered down and tasteless level, to make sense of monotonous carnage. Why are characters like The Joker and Anton Chigurh (“No Country for Old Men”) so popular? Why do these actors win awards? Why is freaking Hannibal the Cannibal so god-damn interesting? Depth - that’s why. Roth tries to bring out answers in one of his corpse-cutting, Achilles tendon-tearing surgeons, but it doesn’t go very far, ‘cause just about when he’s about to say something interesting, BAM - a rusty chainsaw gets busted out and limbs start flying everywhere.

There’s nothing there. “The Final Destination” makes no sense to me. How many times can you showcase coincidence as a murder victim? How many different ways can you show people dying of accidents? How many final destinations can there be? All four of these films are the same movie! I have an idea: let’s reinvent the Destination saga by introducing the Grim farkin’ Reaper as a character. Wouldn’t that be badass? I think that that would be a hell of a lot more interesting than watching a pretty, cleavage bearing brunette get sucked into the meat-grinding vacuum of a misguided escalator...then again, that is pretty dramatic...I wonder who thought of that? Tune in next week when I report in hieroglyphic PigLatin

Brad is double majoring in digital TV & film and creative writing. he enjoys full-contact checkers.



Brad Brookins

**I hope Eli Roth reads this and gets pissed, because that’d be awfully ironic if he threw a hissy fit over the piracy of his film, but not the heinous films he throws together.**

**They’re attempting, on every watered down and tasteless level, to make sense of monotonous carnage.**

# International programs offer students unmatched opportunity



Alayne Hockman

If you’ve taken a language course at UW-River Falls, you have undoubtedly heard about some of the opportunities students have to study in foreign countries. If you haven’t heard about them, you’ve probably been living under a rock for your entire college career. I think that scenario deserves its own column, so I’ll move on with my thought.

I’m not going to say it’s easy to study abroad; it takes planning. You can’t just show up at the Global Connections office two weeks before a program and expect to go on it. The planning process should start at least the semester before you plan to travel—the earlier, the better.

Don’t get me wrong; preparing to go abroad isn’t rocket science. If you meet the requirements to apply for the program and get started early, you shouldn’t have any trouble.

Obviously one concern is financing. What you may not know is that there are plenty of scholarships, grants and loans available—some of which are designated solely for students studying abroad. For me, college seemed like the perfect time to travel because after this, I am going to be working in the “real world” and probably won’t have time to dedicate to a trip like that. Also, financial aid is often only available to full-time college students. When would I have the money to fly to and live in Europe for four months?

I think it was back in junior high school when I saw the movie “Chasing Liberty.” It stars Mandy Moore, whose dad just happens to be the President of the United States. While in Prague for daddy’s business meeting, she decides to run off with a friend and backpack her way to Berlin. I know this movie might sound lame, but that’s when I first fell in love with the idea of traveling throughout Europe.

After many botched attempts to con-

vince my mother a recent high school graduate is mature enough to backpack the continent with her best friend, I set my eyes on studying abroad in college.

I’ve taken French courses for years now, so it wasn’t a hard decision for me to pick France for my destination.

I went on the Abbey program through the University of Southern Mississippi (UWRF is part of the program’s consortium). Though it was based in a small town in the Loire Valley, I still got to travel to my heart’s content.

Because classes are only held Monday through Thursday, students have the opportunity to travel long weekends. There is also a two-week study break and a week spent in Paris learning about the city’s past. I traveled to six countries in all: France, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Germany and the Netherlands—all while successfully maintaining a full credit load’s worth of coursework.

My study abroad experience was entire-

**I know it’s totally cheesy and probably cliché, but the time I spent in Europe last spring matured me and made me feel ready to tackle anything.**

ly amazing. I have so many stories about my travels. Some of those are good, some frustrating, but all helped make the person I am now. Yes, I know it’s totally cheesy and probably cliché, but the time I spent in Europe last spring matured me and made me feel ready to tackle anything. When it came time for me to choose one of the internships I had been offered in the journalism field, I chose one in Madison, Wis. I have no family there, no ties to the city and only one friend. I just couldn’t go back to living in my hometown after being so used to living in unfamiliar cities.

Studying abroad can not only give students an opportunity they wouldn’t otherwise have to see the world, but they can also help shape students’ futures.

Alayne is a senior journalism major and French minor who sometimes wishes she had been born in France.

# STUDENT voices

## What do you do to procrastinate?



Tyler Swanson, freshman

“I like to think of Dungeons & Dragons.”



Tony Carlsen, senior

“Watching really bad horror movies on Demand.”



Matt Mitchell, junior

“I like to watch the Twins.”



Jenn Schultz, junior

“I like to do anything with my friends.”



Alex Block, junior

“I like to play in Mafia Wars on Facebook.”



Joe Schneider, junior

“I like to play backyard sports or hang out with my rommmates.”



# Falcons gear up for promising fall season

Renee Thony  
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Fall sports are underway at UW-River Falls with many teams looking ahead to the season, hoping to improve upon last season’s results.

### Men’s Cross Country

Keven Syverson is the men and women’s cross country coach, and he said both teams are looking forward to a good season.

“Both teams have set some high goals for the season,” the third-year coach said. “We’ve never had a team go to the NCAA DIII Nationals for cross country, and this is something we are striving for in the near future.”

The men’s cross country team finished ninth in the WIAC last season, and they’re returning five of their top seven runners from last year. Second team all-conference runner Jason Phillippi, also a track and field all-American, graduated and will be the team’s biggest loss.

All-time fastest 8k runner in Falcon history, Chad Ernst, will return for his senior season along with J.D. Rojas, who is the seventh fastest 8k runner in University history. Last year’s number four runner, Scott Degner, also returns for his senior season.

Scott Bowman returns as well as Richie Mark, who did not compete last season. Jared Brandenburg is a transfer from St. Mary’s and will be joining the team for their 2009 season.

“He has been looking very good,” Syverson said, “along with Abdi Hassan from Burnsville High School.”

### Women’s Cross Country

The women’s cross country team finished sixth in WIAC competition in 2008. They return only two of their top seven runners from last season. The team’s biggest blow comes from losing three-time cross country all-American Becca Jordahl. Jordahl will be back for her final track and field season this year, however.

The team must also look to replace Christine Peters, Tiffany Gardner and Amy Follmann, who all graduated. Carly Eggert and Leah Korf will be the team’s returning senior captains, and Syverson said both girls are looking very strong in practice and had very good track and field seasons last year.

Brianna Waldvogel returns, much improved from her freshman year, and Ashley Graef, a senior, has also been looking strong, Syverson added.

The team also adds 11 freshmen to their roster, and Syverson said he feels very strong about this class for the future.”

Jenna Dean from Brainerd and Brittany Nordland from Pine Island are the leaders of this group so far,” Syverson said, “along with Tanya Thompson from Denmark, Wis.”

The cross country teams worked excruciatingly hard on summer mileage during the summer. Syverson said the squads have been working on this since track and field finished in June.

“Summer mileage is crucial for establishing a base that will allow your body to handle the day-after-day workouts and the running your body must do during the season,” Syverson said.

The team’s next meet is Sept. 26 at the Griak Invitational at the University of Minnesota. Running will begin at 9 a.m.

### Football

The football team finished in a tie for seventh in the WIAC, finishing 2-5 (3-7 overall) in 2008. Having lost 61 letterwinners, the Falcons will have some big shoes to fill.

Wide receiver Michael Zweifel made the all-conference first offensive team, as did center Scott Witte. Both players are not returning for the 2009 season. Quarterback Storm Harmon made honorable mention and will be missed from the squad this year, as well. Defensively, honorable mention Brad Novacheck (defensive lineman) and all-sportsmanship team member Jamie Bisch (defensive back) will not be returning either.

Running back Matt Pollock led the team in rushing, averaging 61.5 yards per game, in 2008. Pollock will be returning for



Sarah Schneider/Student Voice

**Middlefielder Megan Church works hard to drive around the Stevens Point defender on Sept. 12. The Falcons ended up losing the match 1-0. As of Sept. 18, the Falcons record is 3-2-1 overall (1-1-0 in WIAC play).**

the 2009 season. Second-leading rusher, Greg Klingelhutz is also returning. Klingelhutz averaged 43.9 yards per game. Full back Joel Yogerst led the team in points last season with 66 total points, and he will be returning.

Zweifel led the team in receiving yards, averaging 108.2 yards a game. Through the loss of Zweifel, receivers John Bratcher and Michael Woodward will be the team’s leading receiving returners. Bratcher averaged 22.1 yards per game, and Woodward averaged 27.4 yards per game.

Defensive back Ben Arata returns to the team as a senior. Arata led the team in interceptions with four on the season and made the all-WIAC second defensive team.

The Falcons next football game is Sept.19 at Northwestern. Kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m.

### Soccer

The Falcons women soccer team went 3-5 in conference play at the conclusion of the 2008 season. With sixteen letterwinners returning, the team has a strong foundation to begin their 2009 season with.

The team’s leading scorers, juniors Eryn Lansverk and Megan Church are both returning. Lansverk led the team with 17 points on the season, and Church finished with 13. Church also scored the most game-winning goals, two, and Lansverk led the team in assists with three. Senior Kayla Scott also finished the season with three assists. Lansverk and Church also led the team in shots taken on the season. Lansverk finished with 54 shots with a 0.130 shot percentage. Twenty-six of those shots were on goal. Church had 27 shots with a 0.222 shot percentage. Eighteen of her total shots were taken on goal. Church made first team all-conference as a mid-fielder.

The soccer team’s next game is Sept. 19 at Eau Claire. The match will begin at noon.

### Volleyball

The Falcon volleyball team finished 15-22 in overall play and 2-6 in WIAC play. They finished tied for sixth in the conference.

Outside hitter Kelsey Scheele, rightside hitter Andria Vetsch and middle hitter Gina DeRosa are the team’s three seniors. In addition, Head Coach Patti Ford said she expects to see great things amongst the seniors and other returners.

“We have a great blend of returners in Scheele, DeRosa, Vetsch and libero Mandy McKenzie,” she said. “We’ve also got great freshmen in Minnesota All-State players Danielle Gibbemeyer (outside hitter) and Kaitlin Speedling (outside hitter).”

Ford said the team is also excited about their two extremely talented freshman setters, Mackenzie Suda and Hayley Buchanan.

Last season, Scheele led the team in several categories. She finished with 456 kills (3.19 per game), 44 aces, 1,311 attacks and 528 digs. DeRosa adds a huge front to the Falcon defense. She finished last season with 135 total blocks (31 solo, 104 assisted). Both Scheele and DeRosa are three-year starters.

Scheele earned honorable mention to the 2008 AVCA All-American team. She was also named to the first All-WIAC team in 2008. DeRosa earned honorable mention to the All-WIAC team last season, as well.

“We’ve got good defense, high volleyball IQ, and we’re impressively athletic,” Ford said. “Falcon volleyball is going to be exciting this year.”

The volleyball team plays host to the Titans of Oshkosh in their first conference match. Play will begin at 7 p.m.

### Tennis

The Falcon tennis team finished seventh in the WIAC with a 1-5 conference record. The team is returning five letterwinners after losing four.

Head Coach Lee Lueck said the team’s coaching staff had a banner year of recruiting.

“We have five veterans back, a first-year sophomore and six new freshmen recruits,” Lueck said. “I think we’re much stronger this year.”

Last season, Mindy Rudiger made the All-WIAC second singles team. Rudiger, as a senior, won’t be returning for the 2009 season. As a junior, Kathyrene Ostrowski made the all-sportsmanship team.

Thenext Falcon tennis match is Sept. 19 at Whitewater at 9 a.m. Also on the 19th, the team will face Concordia while still at Whitewater. That match is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

### Golf

The UWRF women’s golf team looks to make an impact in the WIAC in 2009. Last season, the team finished seventh in the conference.

The team returns seven letterwinners and loses only one in Katie Kantrud. One freshman joins the roster.

The team’s best finish was eighth at the Platteville Invitational last season. Mackenzie Casey averaged 94.6 throughout the season in five tours, leading the team. Kelly Gordh averaged 93.5 in four tours.

The team’s next tournament is Sept. 19-20 at the Division III Midwest Classic at Jewel Golf Club in Lake City, Minn. The time of the event has yet to be determined.

# Gophers open new TCF Bank Stadium with cheers and jeers



Derek Johnson

Last Saturday, history was made on the University of Minnesota campus. The Minnesota Golden Gophers played their first game at their newly built football stadium, TCF Bank Stadium. This was the first time the Gophers played on campus, and also outdoors, since the 1982 season.

While the new stadium received a lot of praise over the weekend, there were also a few complaints. According to a Star

Tribune article I came across, the three biggest complaints that were noticeable were the stadium’s noise level to surrounding buildings and houses, long lines and no registers at the concessions.

Residents in St. Paul’s St. Anthony Park area complained the noise level was too loud and obnoxious for their liking. One resident claimed he could hear the announcer’s words crystal clear out of the stadium’s nearly 800 speakers two miles away. University

Athletic Director Joel Maturi says one solution for that is to reposition the speakers, though he did say they thought they had them directed the right way.

As the stadium opened up the

doors an hour and a half before kick-off, the lines were very long. Some fans saying it took around 30 minutes to enter the stadium. Also lines for the concession stand were extremely long. One fan said he went to get food at the ten minute mark in the second quarter and didn’t get back to his seat until the opening kick-off for the second half, a 45 minute wait.

One reason for the long lines could be the lack of registers at each concession stand. Workers were using \$4 calculators, laminated pricing sheets and cash boxes to make their sales.

Maturi says additional gates will be used when the Gophers play

their second home game this weekend. He said officials are discussing whether to open up the gates two hours prior to kick-off to ease the crunch by 30 minutes, but no decision has been made. As for the registers, it doesn’t sound like any will be installed anytime soon.

But even with the few minor problems, the majority of fans

agree the opening of the new TCF Bank Stadium was a success. Fans were excited to see outdoor college football on campus for the first time since the days of old Memorial Stadium from 1924 until 1981, the way it’s supposed to be played.

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# Alternate history WWII film impresses reviewers

Katie Heaton  
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For this new movie review-er, a weekend like this couldn't come fast enough. The official first review. Filled with anticipation and a mild case of the nerves, I looked forward to writing about any Hollywood blockbuster. The trouble was which one would I choose? Luckily for me, my friends say the darndest things.

"Katie! Wanna go see Basterds?!"

Now normally a question like this is not one I jump all over in response to. Indeed, I usually try and stay away from bastards as much as possible in my everyday life.

Yet I must admit that on this past Friday evening, I felt nothing could be better than getting to meet some.

I am of course, speaking of none other than Quentin Tarantino's Inglourious ones. To my great surprise and delight, I have discovered that when it comes down to it, Tarantino can make a bastard as lovable as any non-bastard around.

For a good two and half hours of my evening, I was in Nazi occupied France with a Jewish refugee (Shosanna Dreyfus), a sadistic German Colonel (Hans Landa), and a bunch of American-Jewish soldiers (The Basterds) out for revenge. The story begins with Shosanna's family being brutally murdered, and Shosanna herself just escaping Col Landa. Fleeing eventually to Paris, she takes over the running of a small cinema. While there, she meets German war hero Fredrick Zoller who, quite taken by Shosanna, promises to pre-



Katie Heaton

miere his film at her cinema. When it is discovered that only the highest-ranking members of the Nazi party will be in attendance, Shosanna sees an opening for revenge. The Basterds (led by Lt. Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt)), who have up until now been killing and scalping as many "damn Nazis" as they can up and down the countryside eventually catch wind of the premiere and its audience, seeing and opportunity to cash in as well. The resulting night is one of clashing plans (and bodies), and a rewrite of history that will not likely be forgotten quickly.

While the movie's plot created the suspense and anticipation expected of such a film, it was the development of the characters that proved to be a true highlight.

**"I have discovered that when it comes down to it, Tarantino can make a bastard as lovable as any non-bastard around."**

Indeed, the growth of each, especially that of Shosanna, Landa, and Raine made this movie the dark and deeply comedic piece of work it was. The range of emotions felt for each was undeniable: one could feel sorrow and suddenly hysterical humor in an instant-quite a feat, considering the topic. Tarantino's ability to connect the viewer to the characters and their situations is remarkable. Not gone unnoticed was the tremendous camera and musical work done for the film as well. A mixture of contemporary and vintage, scenes varied in angle and layout, making them fit the emotion one was supposed to feel. This was doubly important during both the bar scene and premiere night where already as the audience, you felt on the edge of your seat, waiting to either

laugh out loud or remain open-mouthed in shock. Enhancing these feelings even more was the music selection, which quite simply put is eclectic. Ranging from classical to Bowie, it seems no detail went unnoticed in how it would shape the audience's feelings.

For this novice, clearly the start out the gate was one that came up dark, seedy, and hysterical. Though not usually my type, it seems that a group of Basterds has won my heart. Through excellent character development, layout and musical work, Tarantino has created a fine film that focuses on a turbulent time in a beautifully sardonic way. As for Basterds, have I changed my mind? Well with four stars, I guess

I could maybe make a few exceptions, glorious or not...

Katie Heaton is a junior with a Major in Psychology and a Minor in Women's Studies. Dreams of Hollywood stardom fell to earth when Audrey Hepburn hit the scene, but still hopes for that second marriage to George Clooney.



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.

Ken Weigend  
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History is written by the winners. This sad political truism shines a telling light on our biased, prideful nature as humans, but Quentin Tarantino proves that it's not always a bad thing in his latest, and dare I say greatest, farce that tackles not only the Third Reich, but cinema's exclusive role in toppling it.

"Inglourious Basterds" - and yes, the misspelling is intentional so as to distinguish this from the not-so-hot 1978 Dirty Dozen ripoff of the same name - works a hypnotic wonderment over audiences as it deals decisively with a growing frustration in WWII pictures: everyone already knows the ending, and how monumentally anticlimactic is Hitler dying in his own bunker? Thankfully, Dr. Tarantino has given us a poet-

ic, ironic and flat-out ballsy remedy: Hitler's death comes early, concocted and carried out by none other than a bunch of Jews!

The titular Basterds are a group of Jewish-American soldiers led by Brad Pitt's Lieutenant Aldo Raine, a hillbilly-turned-war hero, who demands 100 Nazi scalps from each of his men. And he wants his scalps, leading the Basterds through Nazi-occupied France, butchering Germans by the score; those lucky enough to be left alive by this band apart are left with a Swastika carved in their forehead.

Drawn in parallel is the sadistic SS Colonel Hans Landa, nicknamed the "Jew Hunter" and played to a haunting perfection by Christoph Waltz (pay attention, Oscar). Landa operates as the devil's detective, playing a genocidal game of cat and mouse as he mercilessly hunts down the remaining Juden in France. His work leads him to a small dairy farm where he suspects the Dreyfus family to be hiding under the floorboards. He's right, but a lone figure escapes - Shosanna - who reappears in Paris as a French cinema owner some years later.

There, Shosanna calculatingly flirts with Fredrick Zoller, a droll Audi Murphy-wannabe war hero turned actor starring in Dr. Joespeh Goebbles newest propagandist picture, Nation's Pride. In order to cur more favor, Zoller moves his premiere to Shosanna's theater, giving her the perfect opportunity to enact "Jewish vengeance."

Upon learning of the premiere, the Basterds set in motion their own plan to sabotage the premiere. The dual narratives converge on a crash course at Shosanna's theater house, each headed for the same alternative con-



Ken Weigend

clusion once it is revealed that the Fuhrer himself will be in attendance.

And with that, Quentin orchestrates a symphony of simmering vignettes, each building with unbearable tension towards a flash-boil ending. What's most [in]glorious about Basterds, however, is the World War dreamscape called up from the frontlines of Quentin's imagination.

He does things his own way, and doesn't really care if audiences agree. As GI Jews run amuck, QT once again leans on the steely wiles of wronged femme fatales to carry forward his familiar plot of bloody revenge.

And bloody it is. Like all QT pop art, Basterds showcases extreme forms of violence, but the buckets of blood serve as gut punch lines, never attempting to take over the scene. The real star of the show is the dialogue, which fires with machine gun rapidity. Quentin has already proven to be a defining director of our age, but his ear for the spoken word is what really distinguishes him as a one-of-a-kind.

"Inglourious Basterds" is like no other film you've ever seen. The sardonic streak of black humor is prevalent, but masks an insidious tension that tightens around your neck like a noose. The 152-minute runtime may seem intimidating, but the brilliant script and inspired acting, along with a big ol' case of Nazi whoop-ass, combine to make this one of the best movies of the decade.

The film closes with Lt. Raine leaning in close to the camera as he says, "This might just be my masterpiece." The line is very obviously Quentin talking, and I must say, I couldn't agree more.

Ken Weigend is a senior marketing communications and journalism double major. His minor in film studies gives him the authority to arbitrarily assign star rankings to represent film quality.



# Alternative British rock band recapture their sound with 21st century symphony

Andy Phelps  
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British Alt-Rock trio Muse have produced a thing of incredible beauty with their latest release, The Resistance. After capturing the public eye way back in 2003 with their third album, Absolution, they found themselves firmly entrenched in the American popular consciousness by 2008, a journey which included an appearance on Guitar Hero: Legends of Rock

and honorary degrees from the University of Plymouth.

Impossible to categorize into a single genre, The Devon-based group's fifth studio album is a stratospheric space-opera, infused with both larger-than-life electro-rock guitar strokes and soothing, melodic keyboard overtures. Conjuring up an amalgam of conflicting sounds results in an overwhelming juggernaut that doesn't take its foot off the gas from start-to-finish.

They literally throw everything at the wall, and surprisingly most of it sticks.

The first track, "Uprising," launches the record in typical Muse fashion. The rapid, synth-laced beat and pulsating discotheque bass that opens the song is soon interjected by frontman Matthew Bellamy's soaring falsetto. "Rise up and take the power back/ It's time the fat cats had a heart attack," he chants rhythmically.

"The United States of Eurasia," a reference to the Orwellian dystopia of 1984, is perhaps the most diverse and aesthetically beautiful single track to be found on The Resistance. Listeners will immediately draw obvious comparisons to Queen.

Complicated and intricate piano medleys bookend the ascending emotional onslaught that provides the meat of the track. The atmospheric musical blast is balanced by the unsettling and ominous lyrical content: "You and me fall in line / To be punished for unproven crimes / And we know that there is no one we can trust / Our ancient heroes they are turning to dust," Bellamy wails, channeling a haunted image of Freddie Mercury.

The very next song, "Guiding Light," is a different being altogether. The steady lyrics reveal a heartfelt confession of love, punctuated by a sharp solo that would make Brian May proud.

The trajectory of the record almost defies human logic, bursting through the gates of convention and entering the uncharted territory that

can only be reached through extraordinary creative potential. With each successive album, the Muse has seemingly attempted to go bigger and bigger, and it appears that they have finally hit their creative zenith, compressing an entire discography of variety into fifty glitz-filled minutes.

Resistance concludes with the most unique and adventurous, endeavor of the band's career, a three-part symphony (Entitled "Overture," "Cross-Pollination" and "Redemption) Bellamy said he has spent many years arranging completely by himself.

"A large percentage of the composition is orchestral," he described in 2008. "I have never



Andy Phelps

**"The Devon-based group's fifth studio album is a stratospheric space-opera."**


wanted to collaborate with a string arranger as they make it theirs."

A roller coaster in terms of both style and pace, the Symphony begins with more sweeping keyboard arpeggios and piercing guitar licks, before taking on a much more classic feel in "Cross Pollination," which creates a perfect synthesis between past and present.


The magnificent "Exogenesis" finally provides a conclusion to the mind-bending journey that is The Resistance. Steady drums, vibrant strings and a frenetic guitar riff gradually build toward a serene, peaceful climax-a subtle and beautiful way to end a flawless album.

Andy is an English major with a journalism minor. He enjoys gambling and Korean soap operas. He possesses a deeply-rooted dislike for Nickelback.





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# UC continues to go ‘green’

Angela Lutz  
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The University has undergone a number of green initiatives over the past two years in an effort to be more sustainable, including the University Center's rainwater harvest system and the "corn cups" used by Dining Services.

"Every step we take, no matter how small in energy and material conservation, efficiency and ecosystem friendly production and management, is worth the effort." said Kelly Cain, director of the St. Croix Institute for Sustainable Community Development. The rainwater harvest system reuses 48,000 gallons of water in order to flush the toilets in the UC, "saving significant amounts of fresh water pumped from the municipal water system," Cain said.

As for the corn cups, they are composed of Polylactic Acid, a starch-based plastic "that will decompose (relatively quickly), under the right environmental conditions," Cain said. The rainwater harvest system along with the corn cups are only some of the green initiatives going on at UWRF.

According to Cara Rubis, director of the University Center, "we are currently working on marketing pieces to help promote the green initiatives that were added to the UC over the summer. Some of these pieces are completed, but

some are yet to be developed."

Examples of these new green pieces are Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified hand dryers in bathrooms in order to minimize the waste of paper towels and use of fossil fuels for its transportation. Meeting rooms have a "sustainable lighting option" to try to use less energy. Water bottle filling stations can also be found on the lower level and first level to dispose of less plastic bottles.

The toilets have dual flush valves which provide a lower volume of water usage option when flushing. The urinals have Eco Cubes to decrease the number of flushes to only 2-3 times per day, according to Rubis.

When asked how students can help with green initiatives, "many of us go through our daily routines without thinking twice about our actions. Our routines become habit and we don't give them another thought." said Rubis. Incorporating green ideas throughout the UC, "will provide individuals the opportunity to stop and think about what they could be doing differently to reduce their own carbon footprint. Then take it a step further to have conversations with other individuals about sustainability, in order to get others to think differently about how they go about their lives." said Rubis.

Dana Kaye, a senior majoring in dairy science, works as a desk assistant at the informa-

tion desk in the UC and notes the importance of spreading the word about the recent green changes. She says there are signs posted throughout the UC to make people aware of the water bottle filling stations and hand dryers along with information about their environmental benefits. The University's green changes "shows dedication towards future progress," Kaye said. She says the recent initiatives also make River Falls a leader in change.

According to a June 13, 2008, University news release, in 2006, Governor Jim Doyle designated UWRF as one of the four UW System campuses to go "off the grid." By 2012, the campus is expected to achieve balance in its energy consumption between traditional sources and alternative "green" blocks either purchased or produced on campus.

"The UC is definitely not a perfect example of a green building; most of that is due to the fact that 'going green' had yet to hit mainstream until after the planning and design phases of the UC were completed," Rubis said. "In addition, keeping up with sustainability is much like keeping up with technology - everyday, something new is developed that is more green. However, the UC will continue to incorporate green initiatives as we move forward. We need to continue to do what we can to lead by example."



Sally King / Student Voice  
**UC Director Cara Rubis and Asst. Director Nick Anders stand in front of the the UC.**

# Rain garden flourishes from rooftop run off

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The courtyard between May and Prucha halls received a face lift last spring with the addition of a rain garden directly in front of the campus exercise room.

The rain garden was designed to help stop rain water or melting snow from running into storm drains or into the waterways that run around campus.

"Rain gardens are an infiltration technique - water is captured in a garden that features native plantings, and the water has a chance to slowly filter into the ground rather than run off into the storm sewer," according to the Wisconsin DNR web site.

UW-River Falls plays a big part in water

project." Ferriss also stated that some plants were purchased at wholesale or discounted prices.

Plant species in the garden also varies with most plants being native to the upper Midwest. Some of the non-regional plants in the garden were placed to help the garden thrive.

"Some plants have the best opportunity to succeed in an altered landscape," Ferriss said.

Although there are no immediate plans for future construction of campus rain gardens, there are plans for a sign to be placed near the garden for educational purposes.

Both Ferris and Vignona said they would like students to take the concepts of the rain garden off campus to promote sustainability through better water runoff practices.



Sally King / Student Voice  
**The rain garden between May and Prucha hall s collects rain water and melting snow.**

quality in the region due to the Kinnickinnic River. The south fork of the river runs directly through campus, and the "Kinni" plays a big part in water quality in the region due to its ending location, the large St. Croix River.

"Our goal is to have no impact from campus on water quality in the south fork, environmental science professor Laine Vignona said.

Vignona and Terry Ferriss, plant science department chair, teamed up with facilities management, Residence Life and a group of students working on the project as a study group.

"It was really a joint effort," Ferriss said, "faculty members provided leadership combined with facilities management and residence life."

Due to its location, the garden has some effects on students living in the surrounding buildings.

May Hall Manager, Jenny Phillips, has noticed various student reactions to the garden.

"I feel that the rain garden does add a little something to May Hall," she said.

"Aesthetically, it is very nice to look at and obviously has a purpose."

The garden also has a few adverse affects on students.

"The only complaints that I have heard are that when it rains, the area floods and the sidewalk floods as well," Phillips said.

Due to its relatively simple design, the constructing of the garden came rather easily to those involved.

"Rain gardens aren't rocket science. A few measurements, but its not that difficult," Ferriss said.

Maintenance of the garden is handled by the UWRF grounds crew. Maintenance includes removing weeds, mulching, and cleaning dead plant debris, according to Ferriss.

Plants used in the construction were either purchased by the University or donated.

According to a University press release, "Bailey Nurseries of Newport donated more than 50 percent of the plants for the

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