



SOFTBALL, PAGE 6
Falcons play not only to win, but to raise money

GOETTL, PAGE 5
Columnist believes Vikings should think long-term with draft picks

UNITY, PAGE 8
Annual event draws in, celebrates community, students



STUDENT VOICE

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UWRF students attend conference to debate global issues

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The Arrowhead Model UN Conference (AMUNC) was held April 15-18, at UW-River Falls and included the largest group of competitors UWRF has fielded in some time.

“The 21 participants, that’s the most we’ve had in my time here,” political science Professor Wes Chapin said. “Usually we only have 10 or 11 students.”

Chapin attributed the increase in interest to UWRF hosting the event as well as the opportunity to learn about serious topics in an unusual setting.

“There are certainly a lot of students who enjoy the debates about real issues as opposed to sitting in a classroom listening to a professor lecture about them,” he said.

Chapin is also the UWRF International Relations Club advisor and an AMUNC secretariat.

The top award went for best delegation went to the contingent from UW-Eau Claire who represented the Islamic Republic of Iran. UWRF delegate Matt Dale took honorable men-

tion in the Security Council debates while fellow UWRF student Tom Justesen was nominated for best delegate on the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee.

UWRF senior and International Relations Club Secretary Beth Biagi said in an e-mail that though the group meant many new faces to the competition, UWRF represented itself well.

“Everyone did their part to study their country, prepare speeches and participate,” she said. “We all had a ton of fun in the process. One of our strengths was confidence. It can be a rather daunting task at first to improvise speeches in front of 60 some students, especially when you know you are being judged.”

The conference consisted of 310 student delegates from 20 colleges and universities. The majority of participants traveled from Minnesota, Michigan or Wisconsin. In addition, two institutions, the Ghana Union of Professional Students and the University of Ibadan from Nigeria, came all the way from Africa, according to a program put to-



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
Students gather in the University Center to discuss worldly issues. UWRF had 21 participants in the event.

See Conference page 3

‘Crash on Cascade’ provides reality check for students



Lezli Weis/Student Voice
River Falls Emergency Services, as well as the fire department work to free victims in a mock car crash held Monday, April 19. “Crash on Cascade” is held once a year to caution students against the danger of drunk driving.

New UWRF facility to benefit non-traditional students

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UW-River Falls will be establishing a new facility in Hudson to better meet the educational needs of the St. Croix Valley, Blake Fry, special assistant to the chancellor, said.

“One primary audience (for the center) will be adults interested in returning to college to complete their degree or pursue a graduate degree,” Fry said.

In an interview with WRFW reporter Jamie Babb, Chancellor Dean Van Galen elaborated on the focus of the center.

“The major focus of this center will be to serve adult, non-traditional students; people, for example, who have had some college or maybe an associate’s degree and want to complete a Baccalaureate degree,” Van Galen said.

Fry explained that over 30 percent of adults in a five-mile radius around Hudson have attended college, but have not earned a bachelor’s degree.

“Innovative efforts such as the Hudson Center will be a necessity if the University of Wisconsin System is to achieve its goal of adding an additional 80,000 graduates over the next 15 years,” Fry said.

This new center will be located in Hudson somewhere with easy access on and off of Interstate-94.

“When you think about the location, we think that would be very convenient and attractive to people not only from Hudson, but western Wisconsin as well as the East Metro in the Twin Cities,” Van Galen said.

A specific location has not yet been finalized.

“We have identified potential locations, but the Wisconsin Department of Administration will oversee the negotiations and processes involved with final site selection,” Fry said.

This new center will have class meeting times that meet the needs of the non-traditional students which will attend, explained Fry. It also offers a convenient and professional location with different amenities that include plentiful parking and on-site student services.

UW System President Kevin Reilly has made a commitment to provide funding for the start-up and marketing of the center, explained Fry.

The cost for the center “depends in part on the space

See Hudson page 3

UW System plans to contribute more graduates to economy

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The UW System is currently devising an initiative to better Wisconsin’s economy by providing more graduates over the next 15 years.

The initiative will result in 80,000 UW degrees, with UWRF contributing 5,600 graduates, by 2025. The key components to this initiative are retention and recruitment, according to Alan Tuchenhagen, the associate vice chancellor for enrollment services.

“There are subgroups bringing forward formal proposals on retention and recruitment. They are looking at how to help students graduate in a timely manner, help them be successful and see what other student support services are needed,”

Tuchenhagen said.

But this initiative can only go so far with limited funds, according to Tuchenhagen. The UW System needs money from the state, so the System promises that if they receive the necessary funds they will then provide the growth (graduates) the state needs to improve their economy.

Minnesota and Illinois are ahead of Wisconsin when it comes to the number of people with a Bachelor’s degree, according to Glenn Potts, a UWRF professor of economics. Therefore Minnesota and Illinois’ economies are better because they have people in the workforce earning more money who then can contribute more of their income to taxes.

The recruitment efforts of UWRF are focusing on certain groups.

These people include veterans, Wisconsin residents who have two-year technical degrees, people who attended college but did not finish and underrepresented minority ethnic groups, according to Potts.

There have been positions developed regarding working with these groups of people. UWRF has beefed up staffing and resources for the Veterans office, according to Potts. The Veterans office has a new position that works with the veterans to provide support and sufficient services for them. Michael Bilden has been hired to work with the development of the adult degree completion program.

“Hopefully by this time next time next year we will have 40 to 50 adults in the program who wouldn’t have been here otherwise,” said Potts.

UWRF is also developing more support services, according to Tuchenhagen. There will be a new learning center opening this fall in Hudson, Wis. The center will serve the St. Croix Valley with a focus on undergraduate courses for non-traditional and working adults seeking to complete a baccalaureate degree, or enroll in select graduate and certificate programs, according to the press release.

The center will include several technology-enabled classrooms and meeting spaces to serve a range of educational and community needs. The center will be a base for UWRF to strengthen relationships with the area business community to meet economic development and workforce needs, according to the press release.

UWRF is still choosing a location

for this center but it will be easily accessible from the interstate and will not be such a parking headache. The UW System is providing the initial funds for this center so the financial responsibilities will not fall on the students, according to Potts.

UWRF is taking a look at retention rates as well. UWRF needs to keep students here to get their degrees. UWRF can increase its retention by improving and expanding services, providing more academic support and providing more counseling support, according to Potts.

Potts said this initiative is important for the UW System.

“This is a carefully designed effort with many people working on it. We need to do our part in increasing degrees at UWRF.”

UWRF hosts Little Siblings Weekend

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The UW-River Falls’ Residence Hall Association hosted the first campus Little Siblings weekend April 16-18 with around 170 registered participants attending, according to an event organizer.

Justina Deering, the program director for the RHA, said the committee had been planning the event for months, and was pleased with the outcome. She also said the event could continue annually with the association on campus.

“By Sunday the kids were very tired, a good sign they had fun,” she said. “The Residence Life staff was very pleased along with the Residence Hall Association We are very excited to keep this a tradition in the coming years.”

Events were planned throughout most of the weekend, starting April 16 and ending April 18. Starting out in the evening of April 16, the Little Siblings Weekend participants enjoyed tie dye shirt making, a movie and a dance at the Falcon’s nest.

There were many events planned throughout the day April 17, which began with a brunch at the University Center’s Riverside Commons. After that, a movie shown in the Kinni Theatre, campus tours, a Health and Human Performance clinic, a carnival in the mall, a Chem Demons demonstration, dinner at the River Side Commons and a bonfire were planned as Little Siblings Weekend activities.

Little siblings Weekend ended April 18, with a brunch in the University Center ballroom.

Student Hannah Mrotek, who was one of the students in attendance at little siblings weekend, brought her little siblings Ben Buchman and Carley Ruid.

“It is pretty good,” she said of the weekend. “We went to the dance, and this morning went to breakfast.”

The siblings also commented on why they liked the campus at UWRF.

“It is nice to get out and walk around,” Buchman said.

Deering said the idea for Little Siblings Weekend came from other universities that had tried the idea out in the past.

“Tracy Gerth, the advisor for RHA, brought the idea over from schools she has worked at in the past,” she said. “All I knew was that siblings of students who lived in the residence halls came to campus; the rest we built from scratch.”



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
Students and their family members wait in line at UWRF’s first Little Siblings weekend, which had events scheduled from April 16-18.

Deering also said that the idea had come from student comments, who wanted a chance to show a college campus to their younger siblings.

“Many people have commented on the event saying that their sibling(s) still haven’t seen campus,” she said. “This is just an opportunity to hang out with your ‘siblings’ and do activities with them that everyone will enjoy.”

Once the committee decided that they were going to do a little siblings weekend, they were easily able to determine what the objective of the weekend was going to be. “All we want is for the residents of the halls to be able

to bring their little sibling to campus and show them what our campus is like,” she said.

Deering also said that Little Siblings Weekend was not limited to those directly related to a student. The event was also open to “cousins, neighbors and younger friends older than eight.”

“All we want is for the residents of the halls to be able to bring their little sibling to campus and show them what our campus is like.”
Justina Deering,
RHA program director

Res Life programs educate, build bonds

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UW-River Falls students found themselves transported to Greece on April 20 at the Hallapolympics campus wide event.

This event, organized by Johnson and May Hall, included ancient Greek games, a dunk tank and a Bufalo Wild Wings wing eating competition, according to Jennifer Phillips, the May Hall manager.

Phillips said that these campus-wide events are important for students to experience.

“These events give residents options and opportunities to meet people and connect with the halls in a different way,” said Phillips.

According to the Residence Life Web site, 40 percent of UWRF’s student population lives on campus. This statistic makes UWRF one of the most residential campuses in the UW System. With so many students in the dorms, programs are important, according to Phillips.

“Bonding over education, community service, diversity, and/or social programs can form relationships that last a lifetime,” said Phillips.

Kristie Feist, the assistant director of Residence Life, said that these large events are important for students to connect with other students and to the campus.

“Sometimes these events are educational or service oriented. The events provide lots of opportunities to try new things and for students to be leaders. They are good for personal development,” said Feist.

velopment,” said Feist. According to Phillips, resident assistants have certain programming requirements set up by the hall managers that they

“Bonding over an educational, community service, diversity, and/or social programs can form relationships that last a lifetime,”
Kristie Feist,
assistant director of Residence Life

A successful event that occurred in May Hall this year was called “How Many Earths?” Residents took an assessment of how much energy they use up daily and how many earths it would take if everyone lived like that. They supplemented the program with ants on a log and cookies and watched Wall-E. Phillips finds that usually programs with food are successful in the residence halls.

These large events are funded through the hall councils and the Residence Hall Association according to Feist. The halls do some of their own fundraising at the beginning of the year by selling t-shirts and social fee cards. The social fee cards allow residents to check out game equipment, movies and kitchen supplies.

Students in the Residence halls do have opportunities to be involved with the planning process, according to Phillips. She suggests they talk to their resident assistants about planning a program for their wing or for the whole hall. If the students have big ideas for next year they can apply and get involved with their hall council.

VOICE SHORTS

Upcoming required password change

All UW-River Falls faculty, staff and students will be required to change their Falcon Account passwords by May 15. Failure to do so may result in loss of access to UWRF technology resources. For more information on the password change, visit the Division of Technology Services home page at <http://uwrf.edu/dots/>.

Tarantino film to be shown at UWRF

UW-River Falls will be screening Quentin Tarantino’s “Inglorious Basterds” at 7 p.m. on April 27 in the conference room of the South Fork Suites Hall. A short discussion will follow the film. The screening is free, and all students, faculty and staff are welcome to come.

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.

April 7

- Graffiti was reported on the northeast roofline of Hagestad Hall.

April 9

- Sarah A. Nisleit, 19, was cited for vandalism in Grimm Hall.

April 10

- A bicycle was stolen from outside Johnson Hall.
- A bicycle seat was stolen from outside Prucha Hall.
- Chelsey B. Calder, 19, was cited for underage consumption in Stratton Hall.
- Jacob V. Miller, 22, was cited for littering outside Stratton Hall.

April 11

- Benjamin L. Sikorski, 22, was cited for theft of a bicycle.
- Tanya A. Hnastchenko, 22, was cited for theft of a bicycle.
- Sarah R. Chollett, 19, was cited for underage consumption and deposit of human waste in N Lot.

April 14

- A bicycle was stolen from outside McMillan Hall.

April 15

- Taylor L. Petricka, 21, was cited for possession of an open container on the 100 block of N. Main St.

April 16

- William H. Prindle, 22, was cited for possession of an open container on the 100 block of S. Main St.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of 15- Day Review Period & Public Meeting Environmental Impact Assessment South Fork Suites Addition Residence Hall University of Wisconsin-River Falls River Falls, WI

The Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Division of State Facilities has retained Cedar Corporation to complete data collection and an environmental analysis to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report related to the proposed addition to the South Fork Suites Residence Hall, in accordance with sec. 1.11 Wis. Stats. An EIA evaluates adverse and beneficial environmental, social, economic, biological, archeological, and other impacts a proposed action may have.

This project will provide for construction of approximately 55,000 Assignable Square Feet/79,000 Gross Square Feet of additions over four floors to the George R. Field South Fork Suites Residence Hall. The additions will accommodate 240 students and will consist of approximately 12 resident clusters, each including shared common areas and approximately 4 single bedrooms and 8 double bedrooms. The additions are also planned to include two large multi-purpose spaces for classroom, conference center, and student recreation and gathering uses.

The project will include a 120-stall expansion of an adjacent parking lot; relocated tennis court; walkways; activity, seating and gathering areas; extension of the access street to connect with an existing campus road; and related landscaping.

The estimated project cost is \$18,935,000, and will be funded using Program Revenue Supported Borrowing. The project is targeted to start in February 2011, with occupancy in July 2012, and project close out by August 2012.

Copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment will be available for public review beginning April 17, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the following locations during normal hours of operation:

- River Falls Public Library, 140 Union Street, River Falls, Wisconsin.
- UW-River Falls Chalmer Davee Library, 410 South 3rd Street, River Falls, Wisconsin.

An electronic version of the document is also available for viewing or downloading at:

<http://www.cedarcorp.com/links.html/>
<http://www.uwrf.edu> (under “Items of Note”)

On behalf of the UW System, Cedar Corporation will facilitate a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in the Trimbelle River Room #231 at the University Center, which is located at 500 East Wild Rose Avenue, River Falls, Wisconsin. Parking is available in Lot F near the University Center.

Following a brief presentation of the project and potential impacts, the meeting will be opened to accept public input. Ample opportunity for both oral and written comments will be provided. You are encouraged to attend the public meeting and offer your support, inquiries and other comments. Interested individuals or groups who are not able to attend the meeting should submit comments by Noon on May 4, 2010, to:

Cedar Corporation
c/o Matt Taylor
604 Wilson Avenue
Menomonie, Wisconsin 54751
matt.taylor@cedarcorp.com

NEWS RELEASES

Pulitzer Prize winning composer to come to UWRF

UW-River Falls will host Pulitzer Prize winning composer Michael Colgrass for a three-day residency on April 27 through April 29. The residency is sponsored by the UWRF Commissioned Composer Project, a student organization that aims to bring the works of contemporary composers to River Falls’ campus. Colgrass will become the 44th commissioned composer in the Commissioned Composer Project’s historic legacy. The project, which began in 1967 by Professor Emeritus Conrad De Jong, is the longest standing program of its kind within the US, putting a national spotlight on the UWRF Music Department. Every year, the student members of the Commissioned Composer Project select and commission a composer to write a piece of music for the student body and arrange for that composer to come to the campus in the spring

to interact with the students and take part in the premier performance of that work.

Colgrass is a highly acclaimed and accomplished composer and percussionist of international renown. He began his musical career as a jazz drummer in Chicago. In 1954, he graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in performance and composition. His compositions are extremely diverse and written for a wide variety of instrumentation or ensembles, ranging from percussion ensembles to musical theatre. He has received commissions from individuals and ensembles, including the New York Philharmonic, The Boston Symphony, and the Minnesota Orchestra. He has received numerous awards for his compositions, including the 1978 Pulitzer Prize for music for his piece Déjà vu, which was commissioned and premiered by the New York Philharmonic.

Colgrass will begin his residency at UWRF on April 27 with a workshop called “Excellence in Performance” from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the band room of Kleinpell Fine Arts (KFA). The workshop addresses how to manage any form of performance anxiety and is free and open to the public. His visit will conclude with the Commissioned Composer Concert at 7:30 p.m. on April 29 in the William Abbott Concert Hall of KFA. The concert will feature many works by the composer, as well as the world premier of the commissioned work entitled “Zulu-land,” which is also free and open to the public.

News Releases are sent to the Student Voice and the content does not necessarily reflect the views of the staff.

'Crash on Cascade' re-enacts deadly drunk driving accident



Emergency crews attend to actors who played victims in a deadly car crash Monday, April 19. The actors were played by UWRF students who volunteered. Some actors portrayed victims who were thrown from vehicles while others remained trapped in the car.



An emergency crew works to secure one mock victim onto a stretcher. Each victim sustained a particular injury ranging from head trauma to road rash.

UWRF Foundation gives back to University students

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Recently the UW-River Falls Foundation has received three new endowment gifts. Two of these are designated for scholarships and one for a professorship. The foundation has also received funding for two new annual scholarships and seven special project accounts.

For over 60 years, the UWRF Foundation has made it possible for generations of students to attend UWRF. Scholarships provide students with critical financial support and access to an education. In 2008-2009, with support from donors, UWRF was able to award 630 scholarships, according to the UWRF Foundation's Web site.

"The foundation of any structure or endeavor is the key to its success. It must be strong to support the full weight of the enterprise. Even in times of economic challenge, the unflagging loyalty and generosity of our community of supporters provide the very foundation on which our institution's future success is built and the structure on which our future students will build their own careers and lives," according to the Foundation's Web site.

An endowed scholarship exists in perpetuity, leaving a lega-

cy and continuing a tradition of support. The donor's contribution is to be used to establish the endowed fund, and additional gifts may be contributed at any time. The UWRF Foundation invests the contributions in the principal, or corpus, of the endowed fund. Income from the endowed fund will be used for scholarship awards each year. Endowed scholarships may be named to forever honor or memorialize a person, family, faculty member or fellow alumnus.

Most UWRF scholarship recipients are selected in the winter and early spring prior to the academic year that they receive their scholarship awards. The selection process is conducted by a University-wide or a college scholarship committee that reviews scholarship fund criteria and student applications.

Every annual and endowed scholarship will have selection criteria established by the donor and the UWRF Foundation. The following criteria may be considered in developing a scholarship: class status (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student), specific college and/or major, GPA requirement, financial need and renewable scholarships for multiple years. IRS regulations prevent donors from designating family members as scholarship recipients or from selecting the recipients.

Such giving techniques as "planned gifts" strive to offer

win-win solutions for the donor and the UWRF Foundation in such a way the donor can make a gift that costs nothing during the donor's lifetime, give stock and realize larger tax savings, get a monthly paycheck for life in return for your gift, and donating your house, continue to live there, and get a tax break all at the same time.

A law was passed in 2001 that gradually decreased the federal estate tax through 2009, according to the UWRF Foundation. That law stipulated that if no future laws were passed - and professionals in the field all expected that Congress would pass a new law in those intervening 9 years - the federal estate tax would go away in 2010, and return to much higher levels in 2011.

Because of this, at the moment there is no federal estate tax. Therefore people with large estates who die between January 1, 2010 and the date of any new estate tax law may be able to leave estates that are not subject to federal estate tax.

Congress might pass a new law to tax people who die during the rest of the year, might try to make the law retroactive on people who died earlier in the year, and might not pass any estate tax law this year or next.

Hudson: Center to offer students alternative path to graduation

from page 1

leased for the center as well as the center's array of courses," Fry said.

UWRF has discussed a partnership with the Hudson School District that would include offering courses during the day that will meet the educational needs of the district's students.

"As the only four-year university in the St. Croix Valley, we value our partnerships with area two-year and technical colleges," Fry said. "Collaborations with these institutions will be explored as well."

The courses offered at the Hudson Center will be basically the same ones at UWRF, explained Van Galen.

"Another focus that we'll have is some select graduate programs," Van Galen said. "For example, we have an excellent

MBA program that we currently offer on campus and we are certainly thinking of bringing that to Hudson."

In a statement that ran last month in the Falcon Daily, it said that the College of Business and Economics billboard was recently installed in Hudson along westbound I-94. This billboard reads, "Master Your Success," and it includes a link to more information about the Master of Business Administration program.

Director of University Communications Kevin Harter explained that there are plans in place to market this new center.

Marketing plans include, "Outreach, word of mouth, traditional and new media, and ultimately the first integrated marketing communications plan in the University's history," Harter said.

Many local newspapers and also the Eau Claire television stations have broadcast the news about the center since Chancellor Dean Van Galen announced it during his inauguration two weeks ago.



Van Galen

"As we move forward, University Communications will release more information, which will also be available on the new UWRF Web site, and we expect updated media coverage," Harter said.

Chancellor Van Galen and Provost Fernando Delgado have, and continue to meet with St. Croix Valley businesses, civic and educational leaders, who have enthusiastically endorsed the new center, Harter explained.

"The earned, free media coverage, along with community outreach, has and continues to generate interest and enthusiasm," Harter said.

He continued to explain that the integrated marketing communications campaign will include print, social media, radio and outdoor advertising.

"In conjunction with this public awareness campaign," Harter said, "University Communications will continue to collaborate with CBE and University officials on promotion of the Hudson Center and its benefits to students and the regional and state economy."

Want to get the word out? Advertise with the Student Voice E-mail advertising@uwrfvoice.com

1 and 2 Bedrooms Available! University Village Apartments Close to UWRF and Ramer Field Walking Distance to Local Stores Includes Electric, Water, Heat and Garbage, Coin Laundry On-site, Off Street Parking Call for Availability 715-246-3145 www.applegateproperties.com

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor at uwrfvoice.com or deliver outside of 304 North Hall

So Close to Campus 5 BR, 2 BA DUPLEX 1/2 Block West of Campus Washer & Dryer A/C Off Street Parking No pets, non-smoking Available June 1st Call for Details 612-978-7462

Conference: UWRF draws largest group of competitors, hosts local convention

from page 1

gether for the participants.

According to the AMUNC Web site, the conference is modeled after an actual United Nations conference. Students are given countries to represent along with real-world issues facing their assigned countries and are asked to draft resolutions to the problems. After several days of debate the conference wraps up with a large general assembly meeting involving all the event's participants.

Though the conference is designed to give students a feel for the real UN and provide them with experience debating tough issues, Chapin said they often take away much more.

"Many students develop lasting friendships with students from other

universities," he said.

Biagi said the AMUNC conference provided her with a better understanding of how much give-and-take goes into the UN decision-making process, among other things.

"I will take away from this experience a better understanding of how complex global issues actually are," she said. "It is really something when you put away your personal bias and find yourself understanding why countries act the way they do. This experience will definitely help me as I will be graduating this fall with a double major in political science and international studies. I want to devote my life's work to solving domestic and possibly international issues. By participating in the AMUNC conference I got a chance to experience how policies are made, revised and agreed upon, as well as rejected, at the global level."

AMUNC was founded in 1975 by multiple schools in the upper Midwest and central Canada looking to further their students' knowledge on international issues, according to the conference's Web site.

The conference derives its name from Minnesota's Arrowhead region which was a central location for the founding institutions, which according to Chapin, included UWRF.

The host school is rotated through the UW System and the Minnesota state colleges and universities, Chapin said. It's typically held in one of the two states because they are a central location for participants who often travel from Michigan, Canada and the Dakotas.

EDITORIAL

Collaboration between Student Senate, campus media deemed necessary

If you’re reading this editorial sometime Friday morning, you still have plenty of time to place a vote in the Student Senate elections. The polls opened 8 p.m. Thursday and will close 4 p.m. Friday. As a student at UW-River Falls, it is crucial to place a vote in these elections. Did you not hear about these important elections? Were you unaware of who these people are or what they stand for? If so, it may not be entirely your fault.

The Student Senate promoted this year’s elections by chalking the sidewalks around campus. There were also a few facebook groups created with events about the elections posted under those groups. That hardly reaches enough of UWRF’s student body to expect an informed public, let alone a good turnout. The Senate could have done a better job of letting students know that elections were fast-approaching. In addition, perhaps events could have been put on in which students could learn more about the candidates running. Senate is a hugely important body on campus, and it is important that students stay informed about who makes up this body and what they are responsible for.

The use of student media could be crucial in achieving these things. There are three student media outlets at UWRF: The Student Voice, WRFW and Focus On U. Utilizing these outlets could potentially increase turnout at primaries and elections. By promoting these events and reminding students of their importance via these easily-accessible news outlets, everyone benefits. Senate benefits by being responsible and catering to the University’s students—they are making them more aware and more informed; students benefit by gaining knowledge and giving themselves the opportunity to have a voice on campus; student media even benefits by promoting these events and raising awareness to their importance by getting more content for their news pages and broadcasts, as well as catering to the students’ needs.

Senate deals directly with more things that affect students than students are probably aware. Senate is not a way for campus to appear organized or entertain students; it is a body of devoted, passionate students who are ready to listen to the students. By doing a better job of promoting themselves and their elections! Senate is helping every person on campus. If campus media is utilized, even more people can be reached and informed.

If you haven’t already, be sure to vote today.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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

The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Fridays 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.

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

Students need to be safe, aware when using crosswalks

Please be careful when crossing streets on campus. While drivers have a definite responsibility for stopping for students in crosswalks, please understand that they do need some reaction time.

Semis especially need a much longer stopping distance than a car. Recent phone calls to the City of River Falls Police Department and University Police from community drivers have indicated that some students are just walking out in front of cars and trucks without even looking. Oftentimes, these students are talking on cell phones as well so their attention to traffic is limited.

Let’s work together so we don’t have a tragic incident. Make sure drivers see you before you venture out across the street. Your safety is very important to us! We want everyone to be in one piece for finals week and we want everyone to graduate as they have planned!

Connie Smith, MS
Director of Risk Management

Awareness raised for National Crime Victims’ Rights Week

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week: Fairness. Dignity. Respect. April 18-24 2010 Every state has victims’ rights laws. We have more than 10,000 victim assistance programs throughout the country, and every state has a crime victim compensation fund. Powerful federal laws, such as the Crime Victims’ Rights Act, protect victims and fund needed services. As we prepare to observe National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, we have much to celebrate.

If we are to serve victims with fairness, dignity, and respect, all Americans must do their part. Know what

rights and services are available for victims in your community. Would you know how to help a victim? Find out where the nearest rape crisis center and domestic violence shelters are, and whether they serve teens. Find out where to report suspected child or elder abuse. If you need information regarding Victim/Witness Assistance Services, call the St. Croix County District Attorney’s Office Victim/Witness Assistance Program at 715-386-4666. Find out about legislative initiatives to strengthen victims’ rights and expand victim services, and let your voice be heard. Make sure political candidates know that crime victim issues are important to you. If your community has a problem that requires action, visit your local or state lawmakers to explain what you think should be done. Then, get involved with a local crime victim organizations. You may be able to distribute educational materials or donate an item on their wish list.

Great progress for victims can result from many small steps. And by working together, we can help our community create fairness, dignity, and respect for victims!

Eric G. Johnson, D.A.
St. Croix County
District Attorney’s Office

Political science department pleased with program participants

The UW-River Falls political science department and the International Relations Club hosted the 34th Annual Arrowhead Model United Nations Conference, April 15-18. More than 350 participants from 17 universities across the Midwest replicated the Security Council and the committees of the General Assembly, presenting and debating proposals about the world’s

most pressing security, economic, social, and environmental issues. The sessions occurred at the University Center and the Best Western Hotel, and we were very impressed with the coordination and support of both the UWRF and hotel staff. Mandy Fuchs met with us multiple times about UC facilities, and helped us lay the foundation for a successful conference. Changmean Kim, event manager, and Elise Reinemann were readily available and assisted us with technical and other support during the conference. Jerry Waller, Susan Ryan, and Gary Prellwitz provided food and beverages throughout the conference, including an amazing banquet, and Jamie Palm arranged additional meetings and wonderful meals at the Best Western Hotel. Jane Lubich supplied critically important assistance with the financial aspects of the conference, and Blake Fry gave us essential help chairing meetings of the General Assembly.

We were also delighted to have Verena Nowotny, spokesperson for the Austrian diplomatic mission to the United Nations Security Council, provide the keynote address (participants gave her two standing ovations). Many others also provided helpful advice, assistance, and support, including, but not limited, to the UWRF Allocable Fee Board, and the CAS Dean’s Office. We have lost track of the many compliments that participants gave us about the staff and its service.

On behalf of the Arrowhead Model United Nations Association, we would like to express our deepest appreciation to the many people who helped to make this conference a success.

Wes Chapin
Professor of Political Science

Joan Kratt
Political Science Department

Check out the *Student Voice* Web site:

- Photo galleries
- User movie ratings
- Weekly newscasts

Visit uwrfvoice.com

Job hunt requires sense of confidence, flexibility

Bold actions often times lead to bold results. Everyone has a ‘dream job,’ but too many feel that it will stay just that, a dream. My question is who’s to say that you can’t be doing exactly what you want to do? I’m randomly reminded of an interview of Judd Apatow, the director of movies like “Funny People” and “The 40 Year Old Virgin.” Basically, Mr. Apatow talks about how he bombarded CBS studios with letters and phone calls at a very young age asking how he could be a part of “Late Show.” Though he didn’t get the exact job, the entry level position he received let him eventually write shows like “Freaks and Geeks,” and he has produced most major comedies in the past decade. Also, he has given many major actors there start in acting (Seth Rogen, James Franco).

My point in all this is if you say your dream job is to do something like “be a photographer for National Geographic,” do it. Write the magazine, get in contact with people that have worked for them in the past (you have a much better chance of getting a hold of them than the editor in chief). I have too many people around me that are talk and no action. Though I like to talk a fair amount myself, I try to be as much “action” as possible. I’ve had friends that have told me “you know, I think I’m just going to up and move to Europe someday.” Cool. I’m all about it.

However, where are you going to live? How will you make enough money to live comfortably? Do you have the paperwork needed for the move? I’m all about ambition and being spontaneous, but be real about it. If you want to go live in Germany for a while, go ahead and do it. I’ve mentioned it in columns past, but Global Connections here on campus is a great way to “be real about” doing something bold and different.

What does “being bold” even mean? For one, it definitely means going after what you want. Now am I saying this in some lame “got get ‘em!” sort of way? No. I mean it in

a grow a pair, stop talking, and do what you want to do sort of way. We had an editorial in the Voice here about how people need to be realistic when it comes to employment, whether it’s after graduation or for the summer. The editorial made many relevant points that you should check out, but I feel a lot of it boils down to being bold and thorough. Ever heard of informational interviews? If you call a place that you potentially want to work at, and you know that they aren’t hiring, an informational interview is a great way to get your foot in the door.

Not only does it help you get some exposure and even a possible resume on their file, but it can help you clear up uncertainties about a job. Some people might think that all they want to do is teach, but after shadowing a teacher for a couple days, they might be in for an unpleasant surprise. Though I’m a marketing communications major, I’ve done

many informational interviews in a marketing department to find that I in no way shape or form want to be a part of that certain institution. A lot of people are going to come out of college as professional students.

To be honest it’s one of my biggest fears. I’m worried I’ll be pumped full of theory, and when it comes to actually doing certain aspects of a job, I’ll be clueless.

In the end, it’s all up to you. I know it sounds like a inspirational speech you might get from a guidance counselor or parent, but it’s damn true. Try and examine the situation when it didn’t turn out how you had hoped. Did you try hard enough? Could you have prepared more? There’s always room for improvement, always.

Matt is a marketing communications major in his senior year. He enjoys listening to The Beatles, and playing piano whenever he has some free time.



Matthew Torkelson

I have too many people around me that are talk and no action...I’m all about ambition and being spontaneous, but be real about it.

Ever heard of informational interviews? If you call a place that you potentially want to work at, and you know they aren’t hiring, an informational interview is a great way to get a foot in the door.

‘National Day of Prayer’ in violation of religious freedom

I congratulate District Judge Crabb for declaring the National Day of Prayer unconstitutional. You, ma’am, have taken another step towards true religious freedom in the United States. Our government needs a purely secular backdrop to operate.

Judge Crabb ruled on March 1st 2010 that the National Day of Prayer was unconstitutional because it is “an inherently religious exercise that serves no secular function”. The ruling came in result of a lawsuit filed by the Freedom From Religion Foundation, based in Madison Wisconsin, against the National Day of Prayer Task Force and several supporting politicians such as George Bush and



Chaia Lindberg

I’m pretty positive that is in direct threat to our freedom of religion. There is no denying this is a Christian manifestation either...

President Obama.

Judge Crabb went on to explain her ruling by saying “adopting [the] defendants’ view of standing would allow the government to have unrestrained authority to demean members of any religious group without legal consequence. The federal government could declare the ‘National Day of Anti-Semitism’ or even declare Christianity the official religion of the United States, but no one would have standing to sue because no one would have to ‘pass by’ those declarations.”

Why is something like this even being considered? I’m uneasy just reading the name of the holiday. A federal celebration dedicated to meditation and contemplation of the Christian God? I’m pretty positive that is in direct threat to our freedom of religion. There’s no denying this is a Christian manifestation either, seeing as the NDOPTF is chaired by Evangelist Franklin Graham. Graham is also the son of the famous TV evangelist Billy Graham.

Franklin Graham is also being ridiculed for scheduling a speaking engagement with the Pentagon on this National Day of Prayer. Authorities against the speech are worried Graham’s anti-Muslim rhetoric could stir up anger at the Pentagon and with Muslim soldiers.

Graham was quoted in a New York Times op-ed piece as saying he wasn’t against

Muslims but that “as a minister I believe it is my responsibility to speak out against the terrible deeds that are committed as a result of Islamic teaching.”

Mickey Weinstein, president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, said that the task force had every right to hold events that were based on Christianity, but that the Pentagon should not get too involved with the force because they require all who run these events to be Christian. Since the Pentagon can not require anyone to be any religion, getting wrapped up with Graham’s group could blur the lines between Church and State.

And I completely agree. There is absolutely no reason why any branch or federal organization should be holding National Day of Prayer celebrations or having anything to do with NDOPTF.

There seems to be a large contingent of people, especially in the rural midwest, who don’t see how Christianity is already too large a part of our government’s workings. There has never been a President of any minority religion and there wont be for a very long time. The United States, the founder of the Freedom of Religion concept, is among the most religious of all the developed na-

There is absolutely no reason why any branch or federal organization should be holding National Day of Prayer celebrations...

tions. We have too much of this in politics and installing a National Day of Prayer, honestly, is a concept that scares the hell out of me. No pun intended.

I once again congratulate Wisconsin for making a move away from this ridiculous statute and holiday. We can lead the nation in providing freedom and a secular government to our citizens.

Chaia means life, and she tries to live it to the fullest. Writing is what she loves. Spanish, Hebrew, Portuguese and English are the words she uses. Tel Aviv is where she is inspired

STUDENT VOICES

Do you think students crossing Cascade without checking for oncoming traffic is problem on this campus?

Tom Campbell, junior

“Yes, I just figure you should always look. It’s your responsibility to protect yourself.”



Jennifer Lois, sophomore

“Yes, they never look for cars. I always have to look first when I’m driving. They’re harder to see at night and don’t always use crosswalks.”

Anna Johnson, sophomore

“No, I haven’t really had problems. They feel like they have a right of way - they expect it.”



Pauline Marc, junior

“Yes, I think it’s a problem. It’s really dangerous sometimes.”

Minnesota Vikings would improve their quarterback position with drafting Tebow

The NFL draft will begin on April 22nd and continue throughout the weekend. Unlike many other professional sports, the choices made at the draft can quite literally turn your franchise around. The Minnesota Vikings have had quality draft picks over the years (with perhaps the exception being the selection of Travaris Jackson with the 7th overall pick). But with the early success of Adrian Peterson and Percy Harvin, the Vikings will once again be looking to come away from this year’s draft with low risk and high reward. But there will be added pressure to the Vikings this year as they were arguably one player, or one play for that matter, away from going to the Super Bowl.

But the argument can also be made that with a lower draft pick, the Vikings may not be looking for a player who will see much playing time as a rookie, but instead be looking towards a future that will continue to be bright. With the high success of last year’s team, the Vikings will be picking lower in the first round with the 30th overall pick. The most obvious question the Vikings will have to answer this season is at the quarterback position. But with me being the optimist that I am, let’s assume that Brett Favre will return for at least one more season with the Vikings.

With Favre at the helm and losing no key starters (Chester Taylor will be missed, but with Peterson even in half of his form, the Vikings running game will still be dominant) the Vikings will have all the tools to make another push for the playoffs. This being said, we know that Favre will not be around forever, so the next question will be who will replace him, be it in one year or five?

Jackson is not the answer, no matter how hard

Brad Childress will argue his case, and so will I. The Vikings do need to draft a quarterback, and the perfect fit would be former Florida quarterback, 2007 Heisman trophy winner, and 2-time National Champion, Tim Tebow. I will agree with most of Tebow’s critics that he is not ready to start in the NFL as a rookie, but he can become a successful NFL quarterback, even if it takes a few years, and with Favre at the helm for

at least one more year (hopefully), there is no limit to the growth and knowledge that Tebow can come away with.

“This is the most competitive guy that you’ll meet,” said former coach and current Monday Night Football analyst Jon Gruden, who worked with Tebow recently. “There is an urgency about him. There’s an unbelievable work ethic. He really wants to be a quarterback. I really believe that he knows he can play that position and develop into a winner in the NFL. He just needs

somebody to work with him to tell him what to do, and he’ll get it done.”

Combine that with the fact that Tebow and Harvin used to be teammates, and they could once again be a deadly passer/receiver combo like when they were at Florida. So while there is some risk in drafting Tim Tebow, in the long-run, he will be a strong fit for a team that will be successful for years to come.



Ashley Goettl

Jackson is not the answer, no matter how hard Brad Childress will argue his case, and so will I. The Vikings do need to draft a quarterback, and the perfect fit would be...Tim Tebow.

Ashley is a freshman double major in digital film and television and political science. She is also a member of the UWRF softball team, WRFW radio, Forensics, College Republicans and Student Senate

Women’s softball hosts Hit for Lupus games

Christina Lindstrom
christina.lindstrom@uwrf.edu

Hit for Lupus was the theme for the UW-River Falls women’s softball game on Saturday April 17 against UW-Platteville.

Junior Falcon shortstop Dana Book led the way in putting the event together.

Book’s mom, Lorri, was diagnosed with lupus when Lorri was 13 years old.

“Were selling t-shirts and accepting donations for the Lupus Foundation of Minnesota. It’s more of an awareness game, we want people to recognize this disease and hopefully raise some money for the Minnesota Lupus Foundation and it’s research,” Book said.

In the first game, UWRF defeated UWP 14-0. The hits started piling up in the 2nd inning for UWRF starting with Patty Olson, who singled to right field and drove in two runs. Hayley Buchanan doubled to center field and drove in another two runs.

“It’s more of an awareness game, we want people to recognize this disease and hopefully raise some money for the Minnesota Lupus Foundation and it’s research.”

Dana Book, Falcon shortstop

The hot hitting continued with Sarah Fern singling to center field and driving in Buchanan for another RBI. Single runs were also driven in by Jamie Klein, Nicole Lubahn, and Jessica Lundgren. UWP stayed scoreless in the 3rd, while UWRF scored two



Lezli Weis/Student Voice
Top: Rose Tusa pitches during a softball doubleheader. Right: Sarah Fern bats against UW-Platteville. The Falcon’s won both games to go 16-6 in the season.



more runs. Tara Conlin singled to left, making it around to 2nd base. Ashley Goettl followed with a homerun to right center. In the 4th, Goettl did it again, driving in Kelsey Taylor, Lundgren, and Fern. In game two, UWRF continued their strong offensive effort with a win 8-5 over UWP. After UWP scored two runs in the first, UWRF had to play catch up. Buchanan doubled to left center, driving in Lundgren and Olson for two RBI. UWP caught up in the 3rd, scoring two runs. In the 5th, UWRF scored five runs. Goettl drove in Olson. Rose Tusa drove in Buchanan, and Taylor tripled to right field, driving in Tusa, Book and Brittany

Duellman. Both teams went scoreless until the 6th and 7th. In the 6th, UWRF Goettl popped up the ball to second base, allowing Lundgren to score. UWP attempted a comeback in the 7th, with a single to center and one RBI. However, UWRF pitcher Jamie Klein closed the game out with a strikeout. According to Sports Information, shirts are on sale at the UWRF Knowles Building. The cost is \$10 and all proceeds will go to the Minnesota Lupus Foundation. The Foundation, over its 30-year history, has aspired to help people attain a better quality of life while still maintaining a realistic grasp on their lupus. The organization has always shown an intense commitment to research, including more than \$750,000 channeled to lupus genetics research in just the last five years.

NFL Draft time arrives as teams attempt to upgrade

We are a little over two and a half months removed from Super Bowl XLIV, but the NFL hits the national spotlight this week as we have arrived to the NFL Draft this weekend. This year, the draft will take place on a different format instead of their traditional first and second round coverage on Saturday and third through seventh round coverage on Sunday. This week Thursday will have the first round coverage; Friday will have the second and third round; and Saturday will have the fourth thru seventh round coverage.

Leading up to the NFL Draft, every sports site and almost every fanatic football fan comes up with their own mock draft of the first round picks, or in the case of the fanatic football fan, they come up with a list of players they wish to see their team take in the draft. I won’t come up with my own mock draft here, but I will take the two most popular teams, the Packers and Vikings, and address what their glaring needs are and who they should take in the first round. Depending on which sport site you visit or which fanatic football fan you talk to, the Packers have a different player that they think will be drafted in the first round; whether its an offensive tackle or guard or a defensive tackle to address their secondary needs in drafting a cornerback or safety.

I tend to agree with those saying the Packers need to address their offensive line needs in the first round. Aaron Rodgers was sacked 50 times last year and 34 times the year before. Being sacked 84 times in his two first years as a full-time starter means he’s either holding onto the ball too long or his line isn’t keeping the defenders off of him. I’m sure it’s a combination of both, but the need for an offensive lineman is there. In this year’s draft, only one offensive guard is projected to be taken in the first round. Mike Iupati, an offensive guard from Idaho. There are a couple teams in the draft ahead of the Packers that could be looking at him. The New York

Giants, San Francisco 49ers and Pittsburgh Steelers are three teams also looking to bolster up their offensive lines in the draft, and Iupati would fit their needs.

If the Packers are looking to take an offensive tackle instead of a guard, their best bet would be Anthony Davis from Rutgers. Davis is ranked fourth at his position and 21st overall in the draft. The three tackles ranked ahead of Davis: Russell Okung from Oklahoma State, Trent Williams from Oklahoma, and Bryon Bulaga from Iowa, look to be off the board before the Packers select their pick. Many teams will be looking to improve their offensive line this year, and with many good tackles in this year’s draft, there is a possibility of five or six even

tackles being drafted in the first round.

Back to the Packers though, the Packer’s first choice should be Iupati. If he is off the board by the time of the Packers select, then they should go with Davis, unless any of the three tackles ahead of Davis slip down to the 23rd spot where the Packers are selecting from this year (unless they decide to trade the pick away). Other areas the Packers need to address in the draft would be the secondary, whether its cornerback or safety, and also defensive tackle. The Vikings glaring need isn’t so much finding an immediate starter from the draft, but to add depth to any of the positions on the team. The only key departures from last season for the Vikings is running back Chester Taylor, and while nobody knows if Favre is coming back or not, but everyone seems certain he will return for a 20th season. Also, cornerback Cedric Griffin is coming off of knee surgery in the offseason and might not be ready for the start of the season. That could play into what the Vikings will do in the draft as it looks like their biggest need will be adding depth to the cornerback position. Four cornerbacks stand out right away to me, but only three is have a chance to be available in the 30 spot, where the Vikings will pick in this year’s draft (unless they decide to trade the pick away).

The Packer’s first choice should be Mike Iupati, the offensive guard from Idaho.

If Favre does come back he only has maybe a year or two left in the tank. If Favre doesn’t come back the Vikings are stuck with Tavaris Jackson, who has had chances to take over this team and really hasn’t shown much progress, and Safe Rosenfels, who has been a back-up for most of his career.

Joe Haden from Florida is ranked first at the cornerback position and could be a top 15 pick, and the Vikings have a

The Vikings glaring need isn’t so much finding an immediate starter from the draft, but to add depth to any of the positions on the team.

slim shot at acquiring from the 30th spot. The other three cornerbacks: Kareem Jackson from Alabama, Kyle Wilson from Boise State, and Devin McCourty from Rutgers are the three others

that stand out. All three are projected to be picked between 20 and 32 in the draft, and one of the three could land into the Vikings lap. Also, there have been talks of the Vikings drafting Maurkice Pouncey, who is a center from Florida. Another position that has been talked about for the Vikings is quarterback. Whether Favre comes back or not, the Vikings need to address their quarterback situation soon.

If Favre does come back he only has maybe a year or two left in the tank. If Favre doesn’t come back the Vikings are stuck with Tavaris Jackson, who has had chances to take over this team and really hasn’t shown

much progress, and Sage Rosenfels, who has been a back-up for most of his career. He has had starting opportunities with the Miami Dolphins and Houston Texans and has not been able to handle it. Tim Tebow from Florida and Jimmy Clausen from Notre Dame are two possibilities if the Vikings are going to pick a quarterback in the

first round. Tebow, Clausen and Colt McCoy from Texas all look to be picked by the second or third round.

The Viking’s first choice should be cornerback Jackson. Second choice for the Vikings should be Pouncey. I highly doubt any of the three quarterbacks will be available when the Vikings pick in the second round, but if Tebow, Clausen, or McCoy are available in the for the Vikings, than that would be the opportunity to take one of the three quarterbacks.

Derek Johnson is a journalism major. His interests include: playing/watching sports and writing music. Derek also spends his time broadcasting sports for WRFW.

Weekly sports wrap April 15-21

Track and field at UW-Lacrosse

On April 16, the men and women’s track & field teams traveled to UW-La Crosse for the La Crosse Invitational. Samantha Nyre placed second in the women’s 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.27. In the 100-meter dash, Jennifer Aronson placed third, and Sophie Lasko finished fourth, running in 12.66 and 12.73, respectively. Paul Dalbec finished second in the men’s 100-meter dash, and Scott Degner finished third in the men’s 1500-meter run. Natasha Arnold took first in the women’s 400-meter dash, running it in 57.68; Paul Schreiner finished third for the men in the same event with a time of 50.20. In the women’s 800-meter run, Leah Korf placed fourth, running the race in 2:20:81. Megan Rasmussen wrapped up first place in the women’s 400-meter hurdles with a time of 66.92. In the field events, Rebecca Ponick placed first in the women’s javelin throw, throwing 35.25 meters. Maranda Dohrn managed to place fourth in the women’s shot put, and Aronson placed

the same spot in the women’s long jump, leaping 5.39 meters. Max Anderson finished second in the men’s high jump at a final height of 1.84 meters. Dohrn placed third in the women’s high jump at 1.57 meters. After 20 events scored, the UWRF women’s team finished fifth behind Winona State, UWLC, UW-Eau Claire and Wartburg. The men’s team placed fourth, after 19 events were scored, behind UWLC, UWEC and UW-Stout. On Wednesday, the men’s team traveled to the Macalaster Invitational. UWRF men and women will travel to the Drake Realsys on April 23 and 24.

Women’s softball goes 2-2 on weekend

The UWRF softball team had back-to-back home matchups on April 17 and 18. On the 17th, the Falcons took on UW-Platteville. The Falcons beat the Pioneers in the first game, 14-0. First baseman Ashley Goettl had five RBI, and Jessica

Lundgren and Sarah Fern both went 3-4. Goettl and Lundgren each had three runs as well to aid in the win. Rose Tusa picked up the win for the Falcons. In the second game of the night, UWRF beat UWP again, 8-5. Kelsey Taylor led the team with three RBI. Lundgren went 3-4 again, and Patty Olson batted 3-3. It was Lundgren and Olson who also led the team with two runs a piece. Tusa managed to pick up the win again. On the 18th, UWRF played UW-La Crosse. The Falcons lost to the Eagles 4-3 in the first game. As a team, the Falcons had only three RBI in the game. Olson batted 3-4, and Bunchanan went 3-5. The team also only had three runs. Nicole Osmonson took the loss for UWRF. In the second game, the Eagles beat the Falcons, 4-1. In this game, the Falcons managed only one RBI, coming from Fern. They had seven hits and one run. Lundgren went 2-2, and Fern batted 2-3. Jamie Klein picked up the loss for the Falcons. The team’s next game is at UW-Stout on April 22 at 4 p.m.

Gucci’s materialistic lyrics paint a life of luxury

Despite the minor fact that rapper Gucci Mane is currently incarcerated, he’s still releasing densely-packed mixtapes at a prodigious rate, the latest entitled “The Burrprint (2)”. After serving six months in 2009 for violating parole, Gucci was back behind bars less than eight months later for the same offense. However, not only has his imprisonment not stopped his music flow, he appears to still be living life to the fullest—he’s seen on the cover of the mixtape looking relaxed in his prison cell with a full plate of lobster, filet mignon and an HD television. As he states in the intro, which was recorded over the phone in jail, “My jewelry game is at an all-time high right now.” He may be in



Andy Phelps

prison, but the first thing he wants to discuss is his shining Lamborghini. Gucci certainly isn’t for everyone; in addition to being somewhat hard to understand, his preferred lyrical includes his jewelry, his cars and... well, not much else. In addition, he motors through his songs and albums at a steady clip, never pausing for inflection or any sort of emphasis. The result is that his hooks and punch lines sort of all melt into a single long ramble that doesn’t really fluctuate or evolve in any way from beginning to end. However, upon closer inspection, there are notable inventive and memorably funny moments on almost every track; although Gucci constantly reminds us that he never

went to college, his words betray a clever mind and quick wit. Paired with the heavy synth beats he unfailingly implements, the result is a southern hip-hop cocktail that is never disappointing. The final product is never very intellectually sophisticated, but intoxicatingly catchy nonetheless. The second installment of Gucci’s Burrprint series immediately perfectly conveys this carefree vibe, as it takes him only about 30 seconds into the first track to mention, “Birds, in the living room it’s like Atlanta Zoo / Lions, tigers minks crocs and gators for my shoes / Monkey niggas in my hood I’m living in the zoo.” He also can’t resist name-dropping his favorite expensive champagnes with flawless cadence: “Cases of Ace of Spade bitch getcha wasted / The waitress-I made her reload it like the Matrix.” The 24-track Burrprint features an

impressive roll call of guests: Ludacris, DJ Khaled, Trey Songz and Nicky Minaj, among others. Even though Gucci isn’t a free man, the music paints a lifestyle in which the alcohol is still flowing, his ice is still shining, and the party goes on: simple rhymes for simple times. The track “Shining for no Apparent Reason” is perhaps the best track on the album. “Walking graveyard, it’s a murder scene / Dead people falling out my jeans / Dead guys, we’re talking presidents / Rookie to the game busting like a veteran,” he brags. And honestly... a hook simply consisting of “shining on these hoes for no apparent reason?” Only Gucci could be so bold.

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

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Reviewers divided about characters in newest superhero film

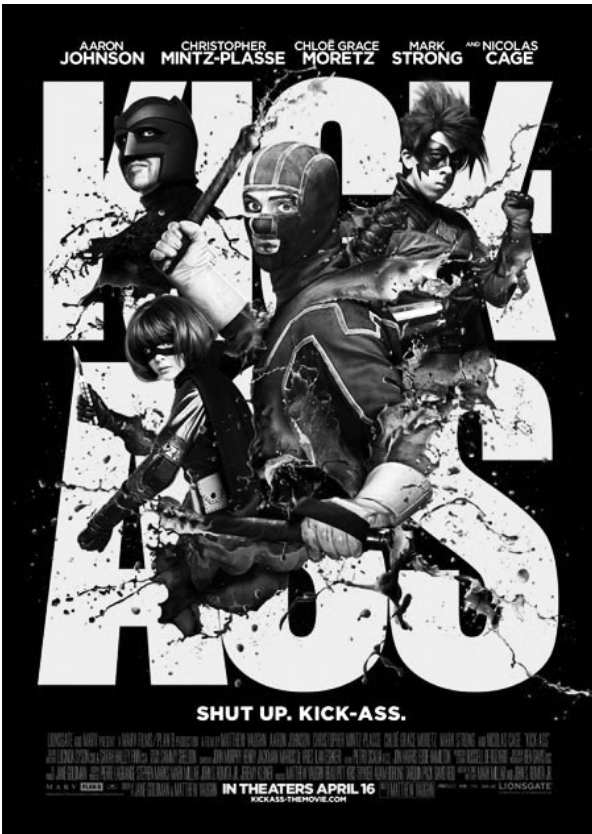
Although “Kick-Ass” certainly lives up to its title, I think that it was named after the wrong character. The real star of the film is 13-year-old Chloe Moretz as the pint-sized assassin Hit-Girl. Forget Pretty Pretty Princess; all this diminutive dynamo wants for her birthday is a pair of imported butterfly knives. She swears constantly, kills without mercy and delivers gut-busting comedy with the timing of an old pro. “Kick-Ass” is consistently entertaining, but it truly shines when Hit-Girl is on the screen. Based on the comic book by Mark Millar, “Kick-Ass” follows average high school student Dave Lizewski (Aaron Johnson). While sitting around with his nerdy friends, Dave ponders why no one has ever tried to become a superhero. With nothing better to do with his life, he sets out to do just that. Donning a turquoise scuba suit and calling himself Kick-Ass, he hits the streets to, well, kick some ass. Dave’s first attempts at being a hero end with him getting thoroughly thrashed, but news of his exploits soon reaches Damon and Mindy Macready, a father/daughter vigilante team dedicated to bringing down the mob. Inspired by Kick-Ass’ costumed antics, the duo get their own ridiculous outfits and begin knocking off criminals. “Kick-Ass” is comparable to such adult-oriented comic book adaptations as “Sin City” and “Watchmen.” It’s funny, stylish and incredibly violent. The gore is disturbingly graphic, but what’s even more disturbing is that the bulk of it is committed by a preteen girl. In one of the more over-the-top scenes, Hit-Girl spins around a room with a double-bladed sword, slicing off limbs with wanton abandon. As I sat there watching this unfold, I almost couldn’t believe that they got away with showing it. But by the time she flattens a mobster in a car crusher, I was having too much fun to care. Clearly “Kick-Ass” is a violent film, but the bloodshed is mostly of the cartoonish variety. The overall tone of the film is very lighthearted, with narration by Aaron Johnson that had me cracking up from the get-go. The film also features Christopher Mintz-Plasse (who should just change his name to McLovin already) as a mob boss’ pampered son. He basically plays his same character from “Superbad,” but I still can’t



Michael Brun

help but laugh at him. Director Matthew Vaughn doesn’t have too many films under his belt, but if “Kick-Ass” in any indication of his talent as an action director, I’d say we can expect great things from him in the future. There are too many awe-inspiring action sequences to describe them all here, but the one that stood out to me as the most memorable featured Nicolas Cage dressed like Batman shooting up a warehouse full of goons to that Godspeed You! Black Emperor song from “28 Days Later.” Very cool stuff. My biggest gripe with the film is how quickly it abandons its initial premise. What starts out as a what-if story about a normal kid trying to do the right thing soon turns into just another superhero movie when Hit-Girl and her Big Daddy show up. The movie feels torn between Hit-Girl and Kick-Ass, and unfortunately, most of the screen time goes to the less interesting Kick-Ass. The ending sets it up for a sequel, but what we really need is a Hit-Girl spin-off. If you’re a fan of comic books and superheroes, then “Kick-Ass” is a no-brainer. Even if you’re sick of these movies, it pokes enough fun at genre conventions to feel witty and fresh. It’s overly silly, frequently offensive and the ending is the hokiest that I’ve seen since “RoboCop 3,” but it’s definitely worth checking out.

Michael Brun is a journalism major with a minor in film studies. Although he is a self-professed gorehound, he can also be emotional - he cried like a child at the end of Terminator 2.



Kick-Ass was very different from what I expected it to be. That’s not to say it was horrible, but it certainly wasn’t as great as it could’ve been. Kick-Ass is Dave Livewski, a regular high school student who loves comic books. One day he is inspired by all these comic books to become Kick-Ass, a superhero with no powers. Later, he is joined by Red Mist, Hit Girl and her father Big Daddy and they form a vigilante team, fighting drug dealers and vandals. The previews showed the film on a primarily humorous side. There was humor, but there was a lot more serious action and brutal violence. There was something disturbing about seeing an 11-year-old-girl kill 10 or so people within five minutes, as well as watching her get beat up by a grown man. The beginning of the film was actually a lot like what I had expected: a teenager becoming a superhero while getting beat up quite a bit with no real powers to protect him. The beginning was humorous and refreshing, showing that anyone can try to be a superhero, but there will most definitely be some drawbacks. The acting in the film was good, but the characters were strange. Big Daddy and Hit Girl were two of the strangest characters that I’ve seen in a film in a long time. Big Daddy, played wonderfully by Nicholas Cage, is a father hell-bent on avenging the death of his wife and will stop at nothing,



Natalie Conrad

even enlisting his young daughter as part of his army. At first, seeing the character give his daughter weapons is humorous, but soon after it becomes quite disturbing. When Kick-Ass gets involved with Big Daddy and Hit Girl, the film starts to go in a different direction. Big Daddy and Hit Girl attempt to show Kick-Ass how “real” superheroes run things, by killing large numbers of people with no mercy. This is when the film begins to contradict itself. What was supposed to make Kick-Ass so great and different from other superhero films, was that it was realistic. Big Daddy and Hit Girl were nothing like any real people one would ever come across. By taking this turn for the worst, the film that was supposed to be so different from all the other super-hero flicks became just another unrealistic super-hero film. The action sequences were definitely well-choreographed, but very graphic and usually disturbing, as most of them involved a young girl cutting people’s throats or killing them. One of the things that set the movie apart from other superhero films is that the heros killed the bad guys with no hesitation-and they didn’t just kill the central bad guys, they killed everyone else in the room. Certainly there have been many superhero films where the audience would be fully pleased with the bad guy getting killed, but how many deaths, if any, are justified at the hand of a hero? The deliberate and sometimes irrational killing sprees by the so-called heros of the film left me wondering at times if I was rooting for the right team. It seemed that the good guys killed more people than the bad guys in the film. Kick-Ass was definitely a fun and action-packed film, but was not marketed in the right way and could’ve been so much better. If only it hadn’t gotten so caught up with unrealistic things, like brutal violence at the hands of a young girl and far-fetched characters, it wouldn’t have completely contradicted the point that it was trying to make. We can all be superheroes to some extent, but to be honest, we wouldn’t be very good at it. Kick-Ass is only set in reality for the first half hour or so, and everything else is a wild super-hero ride that doesn’t really have anything new or realistic to offer.

Natalie Conrad is a junior journalism and marketing communications major and French minor. She enjoys running, reading, writing, playing guitar, and traveling.

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Find Freddy’s Feather

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Unity in the Community brings students together



Sally King/Student Voice

Above: Monks work to create a mandala sand painting at UWRF Unity in the Community event. The annual event included a clothing and shoe drive, Courage Center and Minnesota Northstars Quad Rugby Demonstration, a Community Art Project, the Asian American Student Association egg roll sale, stage performances and the UWRF Gay Straight Alliance bi-annual drag show.

Above right: Community members pedaled stationary bikes for Bike to Uganda in the University Center in an attempt to bike the 7,873 miles from River Falls to Kampala, Uganda.

Right: Last year, Bike to Uganda raised nearly \$4,500 and more than 150 people participated.



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UW-River Falls held the 17th annual Unity in the Community event, a campus and city-wide celebration of diversity and inclusivity, on April 15.

It started with monks creating a mandala sand painting and ended with a drag show. This year there were some new events, which included the clothing and shoe drive, Courage Center and Minnesota Northstars Quad Rugby Demonstration and a Community Art Project, along with some returners like the Asian American Student Association egg roll sale, stage performances, and the UWRF Gay Straight Alliance bi-annual drag show.

The events officially began with the opening ceremony for the mandala sand painting at noon on April 12. The mandala sand painting was created by the Buddhist monks of Drepung Loseling. Student Senate passed a resolution to provide funding in conjunction with Falcon Programs to bring the monks to create the mandala sand painting, which focused on conflict resolution and peace.

The central day of unity kicked off with Bike to Uganda starting at 8 a.m. Bike to Uganda allows UWRF and the River Falls community to attempt to “bike” the 7,873 miles from River Falls to Kampala, Uganda for the second time. This year more than 75 people biked on stationary bikes and nearly \$1,400 was raised, which put the total earnings for Bike to Uganda over the two years it has been held to over \$15,000.

There was a group of students already working with the nation-wide non-profit Building Tomorrow and Bike to Uganda was a new event started last year to raise money for the academies being building around the community of Kampala, Uganda , according to the Event Coordinator Ali Funk.

“Holding events on campus like this makes giving back easy and convenient for students,” Coordinator of Bike to Uganda Ali Funk said. “Two Lattes are nearly worth \$10 which was the donation we were asking for so making that sacrifice and also giving up 30 minutes of your day to bike really isn’t asking too much..”

A group of five students from communication studies Professor Dr. James Pratt’s persuasion class came up with a way to combine a class project and a way to help the community. The students had to create a campaign that involves persuading people to do something; their campaign persuaded people to donate clothes and shoes to the Courage Center in River Falls as part of the Unity in the Community events, according to one of the students, Amanda Kogle.

“I love the fact that this event is very unifying for the different types of people in our community and it also reminds you that we do have a community,” Kogle said. “It takes people away from their own internally-focused selves and kind of opens their eyes

to other things and other people, whether it be through channels of diversity or just different students coming together. It’s good to take the focus off oneself for a day, if not more than one day.”

Another important component of the event was the community art project headed by student Lauren Evans. The idea was to create a project that anyone from the campus and the community could contribute to, according to Evans. Students and community members had the opportunity to stop by and paint a small square canvas that will become part of a giant portrait of a hot air balloon to be displayed somewhere in the University Center.

“I think this is a great project, because it allows so many people to put their work into something with other people,” Evans said. “This is a perfect example of unity in the community.”

The Falcon Fellows, a group of mostly freshman and sophomore students completing 300 hours of volunteer service in the community within one year through the AmeriCorps Programs, decided to do an Earth Day bag project this year for Unity. The project allowed participants to decorate a coloring sheet displaying earth-friendly facts and attach it to a paper grocery bag to be distributed at the local EconoFoods, according to Falcon Fellow Kathy Boldt.

“Unity in the Community helps get the campus involved with the community and help volunteer, because volunteering is so important and donating is as well,” Boldt said.

Another new addition to Unity in the Community was the Courage Center and Minnesota Northstars Quad Rugby Demonstration. The demonstration even allowed some students to participate in the demonstration by bringing extra chairs for students to use.

The celebration of unity included many more activities and opportunities for students and community members. There were many hands-on activities, such as henna tattoos, a sushi class and demonstration and food demonstrations with recipe cards and samples. There were several stage performances going on throughout the day as well that included the Native Pride Dancers, Mu Daiko Drumming and several student performances, such as belly dancing, slam poetry, hip-hop and other various forms of dance. The day finished off with a night performance of the UWRF Gay Straight Alliance bi-annual drag show.

“I think Unity in the Community is a great way to be aware of all the diversity that is in the River Falls community,” student performer Marwa Fayez said. “It’s a great way to share different performances that represent different cultures and to show people the beauty of difference and how it all comes together to make an amazing and tasteful environment.”

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