

THE MILL AND THE CROSS' REVIEW, PAGE 7 Miller painting comes to life in new movie

LAMERS, PAGE 4 Madden Football video game curse continues to wreak havor on real-life players

**VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 6 Individual players** honored from WIAC



# STUDENT VOICE.com

November 11, 2011

Thank You, Veterans

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## IBR plan helps to reduce loan stress

Michael Brun

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Jake Fritz graduated with a marketing communications degree from UW-River Falls last spring. He left the University with optimism, new-found knowledge and nearly \$20,000 in federal student loan debt.

"I tried to borrow as little as possible because I knew paying it back would be difficult," Fritz said. All told, Fritz used federal student loans to cover approximately half of the living and educational expenses he accrued during his four years at UWRF.

Fritz is one of more than a million borrowers who could have their monthly student loan payments decreased next year because of an executive action made Oct. 25 by President Barack Obama.

Beginning in 2012, persons with federal student loans can apply to limit their monthly payments to 10 percent of their discretionary income. Borrowers who keep up with payments and submit yearly documentation could have their debt forgiven after 20 years.

The executive action will also allow current borrowers to consolidate their federal student loans starting in January. This will simplify the repayment process and lower interest rates, according to a White House press release.

Legislation passed in 2010 gives the same benefits to federal student loan borrowers starting in 2014. The executive action expedites the law, giving current borrowers the ability to apply for payment limits starting next year.

The executive action will help reduce monthly loan payments for 1.6 million borrowers, according to a White House press release.

The changes could potentially help nearly 5,000 students at UWRF in coming years.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, 63 percent of UWRF undergraduates and 37 percent of graduate students had student loans, UWRF Financial Aid Director Barbara Stinson said.

To receive benefits, borrowers will need to apply for an income-based repayment plan, or IBR, through the specific servicer of their student loans. Servicers will determine eligibility based on the borrower's debt relative to income and family size, according to the federal student aid website. In order to continue with the IBR, borrowers are required to submit to their loan servicer updated income and family size information

Obama commented on his executive action Oct. 26 at the University of Colorado in Denver.

"College isn't just one of the best investments you can make in your future, it's one of the best investments America can make in our future," Obama said. "We want you in school, but we shouldn't saddle you with debt when you're starting off."

Republican presidential candidates criticized Obama's plan Oct. 27 at an education forum in New York.

Minnesota Congresswoman Michelle Bachmann called Obama's executive action an "abuse of power" for sidestepping Congress, the Associated Press reported.

For recent graduates like Fritz, whose first loan payment is due Nov. 17, the new benefits provide a safety net in uncertain economic times. Fritz said he builds websites for a start-up company in Hudson, but is looking for more stable work.

"I was worried about my monthly payment for a bit, having just had my hours cut at my full-time job. But I found more work and should be OK," Fritz said. "It will definitely put me on a strict budget though."

Fritz said he plans to learn more about the IBR program before applying for it himself, but is glad to know that it exists. He said it will probably be helpful for his sister, a junior at UW-Madison.

"If I had a ton of loans like my little sister is going to have, then this plan would be a huge relief," Fritz said. "It's still a relief to know I could apply for it."

# Veterans Day 2011







Maggie Sokoloski/Student Voice Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice Left: A care package to be sent to the troops prepared during the Veterans' Week Care Package Drive.

Right: One of the approximately 6,300 flags outside of the University Center.



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice

UWRF student Sam Mayberry pauses to reflect on the flags outside of the University Center. Over 6,300 flags were on display to honor the men and women who gave their lives in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

# Falcon Promise initiatives spur growth, progress



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice **Director of Facilities Management Mike Stifter talks** with members of the Student Senate about the initiatives involved with the Falcon Promise. The initiatives focus on four key areas: tutoring, undergraduate research opportunities, increased student scholarships

and enhanced learning spaces.

Andrew Barker andrew.barker@my.uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls has started the Falcon Promise with hopes to improve student learning in the classroom and increase research opportunities.

The Falcon Promise is a "differential tuition initiative that will invest student funds in four initiatives of importance to students and to the success of UWRF," as defined in a UWRF administrative handout that was given out to Student Senate members on Nov. 1. These four initiatives include Tutoring, Undergraduate Research Opportunities, Increased Student Scholarships and Enhanced Learning Spaces.

An increase of \$88 per year is called for to fund the Falcon Promise which will phase in over three years and will come to an estimated \$166,000 per year. This will be additional to the \$72 students currently pay. When the amount is fully added, students will pay \$160 in differential tuition. The University will then match the amount students pay for the Falcon Promise, dollar for dollar.

Compared to all other UW schools, UWRF is still the third

lowest in differential tuition. Last year students at UWRF paid \$72 in differential tuition while the highest UW school, UW-La Crosse students, paid \$1,150.

The total amount of this first year of changes will be an estimated \$111,104. Of that total \$52,920 will be used for technology and \$58,184 will be used for facilities. As of right now an estimated 208 new desks will be purchased and sent to selected classrooms.

This money has already started to be utilized to improve several classrooms throughout the campus. Kleinpell Fine Arts is currently the main focus with six classrooms being renovated. Three other classrooms were chosen as well, one in North Hall and the other two in Centennial Science Hall. These renovations include improved technology such as new projectors, computers, desks and other furniture.

"Over time this will transform to provide a better learning environment," said Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "Some of these classrooms are 30 years old and this will allow us to take a step forward."

See Falcon Promise page 3

# Sobering consequences for drinking

Christopher Rohling
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Colleges have long been associated with parties, binge drinking and a bevy of other shenanigans. Students are made aware of the rules according to Johnson Hall Resident Assistant Dominic Sandmeier, but many do not know the ins and outs of the process or what happens with the money after a student is charged.

"We don't see the money," said Chief of Police Richard Trende. "That goes into a general fund for the state. It's divided up into different charges. The court system receives funding from it and the state receives the money. We don't see anything. There's nothing that comes to the police department at all."

Sandmeier said he worries about students who make drinking a large part of their

social life for more than just the financial blow that it can culminate in; a ticket for underage consumption runs a student \$263.50. "I feel like it affects our social life," said Sandmeier. He also said that he believes that it interferes with healthy sleep and social interactions.

Trende commented on another danger of over consumption. "Sometimes, when people drink, they think they're five feet taller," Trende said. "They get into situations that are over their head or they do things that normally they wouldn't do and there are consequences." Some of these things include fights and vandalism according to Trende.

"It's very easy for someone to drink quickly and overconsume," Trende said. "There is a physiological delay in the amount you consume versus the physical effects that you might initially have, so some-

times a person, especially with hard alcohol, will consume a lot. They don't feel it until it gets into their system and all of the sudden they are overly intoxicated."

Students should be wary of mixing alcohol with other controlled substances, according to Trende, including prescription medications.

Another worry of University Police and RAs is the physical safety of residents. "If there's overintoxication and they're not able to care for themselves, that would be a case where we would need to take them into emergency custody and transport them to a facility where they can receive medical treatment," Trende said.

Sandmeier explained the process that he, as an RA, goes through when dealing with a resident who has decided to partake in alcohol while under the legal age. First, the room is confronted

Senate Shorts:

Meet your Student Senate event will be held Nov. 30.

Hannah Carlson was appointed as an at-large Senator.

Sen. Kayla Edstrom was appointed as the director of Inclu-

Sen. Evan Biczkowski was appointed to the Student Af-

Sen. Regis Hillegas was appointed to the Inclusivity and

Sen. Hall, Sen. Hannah Klingfus, Chelsey Muenster and

Senators Hall and Klingfus were appointed to the Dining

Kayla Ellingworth was appointed to the Textbook Services

The next regular meeting of the Student Association Stu-

dent Senate will occur at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15 in the

Willow River Room of the University Center.

Morgan Czekalski were appointed to the University Center

Senator Riley Haynes has resigned.

fairs and Academic Services Committee.

sivity and Diversity Issues.

Diversity Issues Committee.

Services Advisory Committee.

Advisory Committee.

Committee.

according to Sandmeier.

"If you suspect something, you just ask for their compliance and usually they comply," said Sandmeier. "You basically have them dispose of it." Next, a document called an Incident Report is drawn up and given to University Police.

"If it's their first violation then they usually just get a course they have to go through online," Sandmeier said. This is in conjunction with the fine from the ticket.

If residents do not comply or the room is extremely out of hand, Sandmeier said that University Police is called in to aid in the situation.

RAs cannot confront residents who are visibly inebriated according to Sandmeier, but it is an obvious tip-off to watch that person's behavior. "They think we don't know what's going on as RAs but we are very aware," Sandmeier said.

## News Briefs:

#### Friday, Nov. 11

Veterans Week Care Package Drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Heritage Hall at the University Center.

The Ag Industries Club will be having their annual snow-blower tune-up from Nov. 5 through the 13. On Nov. 11, the tune-up will run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. in the Ag Engineering Annex. For more information, contact Daniel Alexander at daniel. alexander@my.uwrf.edu.

Think you know a lot about the world? Want to test out your trivia skills? Sign up a team and compete in International Jeopardy. Team sign-up will be on Friday, Nov. 11 at the UC.

#### Saturday, Nov. 12

Paul Nelson will have his Senior Recital (trombone) at 3 p.m. in the William Abbott Concert Hall (room 131 of Kleinpell Fine Arts).

#### Sunday, Nov. 13

The Chamber Singers Concert will be held at 3 p.m. in the William Abbott Concert Hall (room 131 of KFA).

#### Monday, Nov. 14

International Education Week is a joint initiative between the U.S. Departments of Education and State. It celebrates the benefits of understanding the world around us so we can better communicate and collaborate with others from different cultures. It is an ideal opportunity to inspire students to broaden their horizons through global learning, foreign languages, and international exchange. Check out the International Education Week webpage for additional details. https://www.uwrf.edu/NewStudentAndFamilyPrograms/InternationalEducation-Week.cfm

Meet international students, share your culture and language with each other, and learn about culture and language from around the world. There will be a reverse speakers corner to learn about life in other cultures from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14 in the Academic Success Cener at the library.

Think you know a lot about the world? Want to test out your trivia skills? Compete in International Jeopardy, which is from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14 in the Falcons Nest at the UC.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 15

Jacqueline Brux, a development economist focusing on Africa and co-director of the Association for International Development at UWRF, speaks on her philosophy of what constitutes poverty with dignity and what constitutes radical change from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom of the UC in her lecture: The Third World: Abject Poverty.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 16

The UWRF Gender & Sexuality Alliance will host their Annual Fall Drag Show at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16 in the Falcons Nest at the UC. The show will feature both student and professional performances from kings and queens alike.

#### Thursday, Nov. 17

Temple Grandin, professor of animal science at Colorado State University, will be giving a free presentation for the public at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17 in the Abbott Concert Hall of KFA. Grandin overcame the obstacles presented by her autism to become an internationally renowned public figure and pioneer for both animal welfare and the autistic community. The presentation is entitled "The World Needs All Kinds of Minds," and will be followed with a meet and greet with the

# River Falls Police / UWRF Police Department

No citations were reported this week. The reports from last week are still under investigation.

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

### River Falls residents approve one of three referendum questions

By 25 votes, the residents of River Falls approved question one out of the three questions that were put to vote by a referendum on Nov. 8. The other two questions failed by several hundred votes.

In question one, the residents approved \$19 million to be used to upgrade energy efficiencies, secure entrances, handicap accessibilities and maintenance improvements. The final vote tally was 2,004 to 1,979.

The second question, which asked for \$16 million for school expansion and renovations, was defeated 2,167 to 1,785.

The third question brought out even more opposition, as it failed 2,406 to 1,543. This question regarded updates and remodeling with the River Falls Academy building.

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## Campus security report shows increase in alcohol usage

Ashley Goettl

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Although the number of citations for underage alcohol consumption and drug use across campus has increased since 2009, Chief of University Police Richard Trende states that UW-River Falls is still among the lowest offenders when compared to the UW-System and that a one-year increase is not cause for concern.

"UWRF is a safe campus, and our job is to keep it safe," Trende said. "If we look at the data, an increase from one year to the next is not a huge concern. If it was over a 5-year span, then we would have

a problem."

The Annual Campus Security Report, which was emailed to all students and employees of the University, states that the total number of liquor law violations totaled 235 in 2010. This marks an increase from the 125 violations in 2009. Drug abuse violations have increased

from 17 reported incidents in 2009 to 71 in 2010. There has also been a general increase in incidents in all campuses in the UW-System.

However, Thomas Pederson, who took over late last year in the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, notes that there are several factors contributing to the increase at UWRF. The most notable is the increase from two full-time police officers to three. "With the additional staff, you are going to have additional opportunities to cover more areas," Pederson said. Pederson also added that the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities has had a more collaborated effort with the University Police to get a more accurate representation of the number of incidents throughout the community.

Before, Peterson noted, the campus had to rely on public safety, which is limited in the control they have over arrests and citations. The current system has the public safety office transitioning to a police department. Trende says the complete transition should be done in

While there are increased

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use, Pederson states that

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responsible choices.

two or three years.

With the transition to a police department, Trende says they are better equipped to protect the campus community. He noted that through the transition, the department is able to get state and federal grants to help cover the costs of equipment. "For example, we were

able to get all our radios replaced for free," Trende said.

Over the last few years, more UW schools have been transitioning to a police department rather than public safety. This stemmed from a task force that was established by former Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle and then by UW-System President Kevin Reilly in the



UWRF website
Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities leader Thomas Pederson.

wake of school shootings that occurred in places such as Northern Illinois University in 2008. Trende said that this set off nationwide efforts in which to develop plans for campus safety

The current department has an authorized staff of a chief who is a licensed police officer, three full-time police officers, three full-time public safety officers and six part-time police officers. Chief of Police Trende has been involved in law enforcement for over 40 years.

While there are increased efforts to curb



UWRF webiste
Chief of University Police Richard Trende.

underage consumption and drug use, Pederson states that ultimately it comes down to the individual to make responsible choices. "You make your own decisions, and those decisions have consequences," said Pederson.

The Annual Campus Security Report is published to comply with the Federal Law formally known as the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990, which was renamed the Clery Act.

To report a crime or to request assistance, the campus community should call the University Police Department at

715-425-3133 or the River Falls Police Department at 715-425-0909.

### The University Police Department is located in South Hall, room 227.

Melinda Mendez

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If you're looking to broaden your horizons about international affairs or need more information about the study abroad programs, look no further than the International Education Week at UW- River Falls. "International Education Week is a joint initiative between the U.S. Department of Education and State," said Shelby Rubbelke, a coordinator for international student services. "It celebrates the benefits of understanding the world around us so we can better communicate and collaborate with others from different cultures."

Last year there were around 350 students who did the study abroad program (either short-term or long-term programs). "We are hoping to increase that number this year to 400 or 450," said Meg Learman, a study abroad advisor in Global Connections. "Students literally go all over the world."

Some of the places visited include Australia, Belize, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Puerto Rico and many more. There are currently 89 international students from 19 coun-

tries on campus. Some of these countries are Finland, Oman, Australia, Japan, Turkey, Malaysia and South Korea.

International Education Week helps students expand connections globally

Through different events and activities scheduled for the week, students will be able to acquire the skills needed to communicate with others from different cultures and have a better understanding of other people's culture and way of life through global learning, foreign languages and international exchange.

From 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14 in the Academic Success Center, there is an event called the Reverse Speakers Corner where the English Language tutors of the English as a Second Language Speakers' corner step aside to allow international students to teach others about their language and their culture. This is a good opportunity to meet international students, share your culture, and learn about different languages from around the world.

From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15 in the Trimbell River Room of the University Center, there is an event called Talking Circles were students are encouraged to join in a student-lead discussion about intercultural transitions and new

cultural experiences. It will offer students an opportunity to ask questions to students who have already had a study abroad experience, as well as getting to know some of the international students on campus.

From 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17 in the UC Kinni Theater, there will be a documentary playing about the entire process of creating black pottery in Tangdui, a village in the valley of the foothills of the Himalayas in the Yunnan Province in southwest China. Some students lived in this village for a week and created a 32-minute film and an illustrated book in four languages on Master Potter Sun Nuo Qi Ling. Ling's family has been creating black pottery for more than four generations. There will be discussion and questions held after the showing.

International Education Week is not just for the students on campus, but for the entire community. "International Education Week means celebrating the rich culture here at UWRF, it means exploring education abroad opportunities and learning more of the world around us and finding out that we're really not that different from each," said Rubbelke.

For more information on all of the events going on visit the website:

http://www.uwrf.edu/NewStudentAndFamilyPrograms/InternationalEducationWeek.cfm.

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# Falcon Promise: More ideas for UWRF change

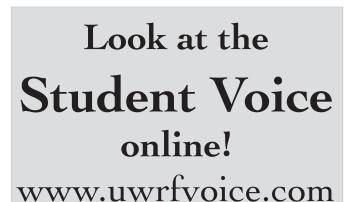
From page 1

On Tuesday, Nov. 1 members of the UWRF administration met with Student Senate and spent over an hour walking to each of the chosen classrooms for the Falcon Promise and answered questions as well as explained what is being changed and why. One of the main goals with the improved technology stemmed from student feed back.

"We would like students to not have to worry about knowing the technology," said Steve Reed, director of the division of technology services (DoTs). "We would like it to be the same in all of the classrooms."

New desks were also major concerns in some of these classrooms as the desks are becoming outdated. "A lot of faculty and students like to break down into research teams and learn in a group setting," said Fernando Delgado, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "We also have to be flexible with the space to try and match varying teaching methods."

During this first year, formal classrooms are the main focus. "We would like to add power and improve the wireless internet in each building," said Reed. Another focus that will be looked at in the future is informal study areas. "Professors have stated they want spaces to meet with small groups of students outside of class," said Mike Stifter, director of facilities management.



**EDITORIALS** 

## Students encouraged to honor Veterans Day

Veterans Day is upon us, which is a time that calls upon all Americans to thank the men and women who have served our country. UW-River Falls is honoring U.S. veterans killed in Iraq or Afghanistan since 2003 by displaying 6,300 American flags outside of the University Center, one for each service member killed as a result of the conflicts. The flags have been up since Sunday, Nov. 6 and will be taken down Saturday, Nov. 12.

There are currently around 500 students on campus who are veterans or who are dependants of veterans, which is approximately 5 percent of the student population. Around 250 of these veterans are utilizing education benefits. The Veterans Services office, located in room 220 of South Hall, offers veterans benefit and certifies those benefits as well.

The Student Voice editorial staff wishes to extend gratitude to all veterans, from all generations. Veterans day is about all veterans.

In troubled economic times such as these, there seems to be an overwhelming sense of disillusionment when it comes to being a proud American. But no American should take for granted all that they have readily available to them, or should forget the possibility of realizing the American dream. Our freedom has been carried on the backs of American soldiers.

Our American soldiers have fought hard, be it in training, peacetime deployment or war, they sometimes had to push themselves to the limit of their endurance, and even beyond.

Not all veterans paid every price or even saw combat, but all paid a price, and were willing to put their lives on the line for their country. For this, we owe them our thanks.

We also wish to extend gratitude to all of the families of veterans who have lost a loved one or who have a family member in active duty now.

You can support the troops even if you don't support the war. Throughout the week at UWRF, donations have been accepted for the care package drive and tables have been set up in the UC so that students could write "thank you" letters to the

Just because the events surrounding Veterans Day are almost over, doesn't mean its too late to send things to the troops.

Thank you, American veterans, past and present,

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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



Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the Student Voice per issue. A single copy of the Student Voice is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial

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David Recine/Student Voice

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Halverson asked to apologize

With regards to Student Senate President Tyler Halverson, I find it odd how he didn't even apologize to Wes OBrien. The way I see it, it means that Halverson doesn't care that he called a fellow student and constituent a vulgar term. Does this mean that Halverson has no sense of decency? Or could it be that he is such a political ideologue that he really feels that he said nothing wrong? I thought that UW-River Falls was meant to be an inclusive campus, but with students like Halverson making comments such as the one he made to OBrien, I find it hard to believe. After all, calling someone a "tea bagger" doesn't sound overly inclusive.

I would hope that Halverson has a good enough sense of decency to do something as simple as apologize. Instead he seems to think that by doing nothing, and paying no attention to it, that it will go away. As a student, I find this to be disturbing. All students should find this disturbing. Our own president thinks that he is above the rest of us, and that he can do whatever he pleases. The truth is, he is no better than us. Everyone makes mistakes. But it is those who admit that they made a mistake and work to correct it that have real character.

Luke Affolter Student

#### Student supports Halverson

As a student here at UW-River Falls, recent letters regarding our Student Senate President Tyler Halverson, sadden me. Through my years at UWRF, I have learned many things including humility, patience, respect, integrity and more specifically, the ability to have a healthy discussion with someone who has different viewpoints than me. I have had many of these discussions with Halverson in numerous capacities, as a fellow music student, co-worker and political enthusiast. As a young conservative, Halverson and I disagree on many political issues. However, I have never had a negative experience discussing politics with Halver-

Though I disagree with Halverson's views on the Voter ID Bill, I believe he was acting in the best interests of the students here at UWRF because it directly affects us all. Halverson is more than equipped to perform his duties as our Senate president, and I know he will continue to keep the students' best interests in mind. Being president is a difficult job, and I know Halverson has surrounded himself with a variety of people, both those who "agree" and "disagree" with him, to better perform his duties. Though we may not agree or approve of everything Halverson does as president, healthy, respectful discussion will help to continue to move our wonderful campus forward.

Jim Aerts **Student** 

# Exploring the homeland of an ancient civilization in Cozumel

Besides exploring

the temple ruins, you

can check out some

of the local wildlife,

particularly the sea

turtles found on the

beach.

Michael Leonard

Columnist

gin this week's travel column, I would like to wish you a happy Veterans Day. I want to extend a personal "thank you" to all veterans, both

Before I be-

past and present, dead and living, who have fought for our country and have kept it safe. Now, let's turn our attention to Cozumel, Mexico.

The island of Cozumel was first inhabited by the Mayan

Indians around the 1st Century AD. The Mayans built temples and the island soon became a popular place of pilgrimage. They lived peacefully until the Spanish arrived in the early 1500s. Hernando Cortez set foot on the island in 1519, destroying many Mayan temples, and those who didn't die during the destruction succumbed to smallpox. For many years, Cozumel was deserted, save for pirates who sought shelter there.

Life on the island didn't pick up until 1960, when Jacques-Yves Cousteau visited Palancar Reef, home to beautiful coral reefs and some of the best scuba diving in the world. By the 1980s, tourism revived the once deserted isle, becoming a routing stop for cruise ships. Despite a dismal 2005 Hurricane season, which saw Hurricane Wilma destroy much of the entire island, tourism has continued to bring in a steady stream of revenue.

The best place to scuba dive or snorkel is on the southern tip of the island, near the city of San Miguel. The Cozumel Reefs National Marine Park is protected, but tourists are free to explore this unique underwater park. Cozumel is close enough to the mainland where you can take a ferry to check out Tulum, one of the ancient Mayan civilizations which is also the third most visited archaeological site in Mexico (after Teotihuacan and Chichen Itza). It has been preserved well, especially having survived the first few years of when the Spanish occupied Mexico and when Tulum served as a prominent trading post, mostly for obsidian. Besides exploring the temple ruins, you can check out some of the local wildlife, particularly the sea turtles found on the

Of course, there is plenty to do and see in the main plaza

of San Miguel. Shopping is one of the staples of the city, where you can purchase jewelry, tequila, t-shirts, and other knick-knacks for next to nothing. In fact, there is one mega outlet mall on the main strip that could be compared to our dollar store chains here in the States—you collect it, they have it. If your stomach is rumbling there are over 300 restaurants on the island, so there is bound to be some cuisine that catches your eye. If you need a break from shopping or eating, the main

plaza puts on a Mexican folkloric dance, incorporating Precolonial, Colonial and Modern cultures. Traditional Mayan attire, with their exceptional footwork will make you feel as if you're back in ancient times! It's a perfect way to cap your day in Cozumel. We've spent plenty of time looking at the American and Spanish areas of the Caribbean. Check back next week to see what the French have to offer.

Lifestyle Enthusiast on the town:

# Solid hand shake globetrots the world



Christopher Pagels Columnist

I opened my mailbox to find, on top of the stack, a woman with golden skin, scarcely covered by a multi-colored blanket; dark brunette hair cascaded down her shoulders, white

cowboy boots, and a sombrero atop her head. The lady on this postcard was personally advertising a Mexican restaurant chain in Holland. It was sent to me by a woman I had never met before, nor have I been to Holland. In an articulate script, my expert opinion is that the ink is from a G-2 Pilot pen recommended that I visit this restaurant and take a vacation to the Maluku Islands of Indonesia if I am ever in the neighborhood. Even though I haven't been to Holland, my words scrawled a story on a picture of a Victorian woman in golden and cream colored clothing writing at a desk with a quill. My words are now in Holland. This postcard was sent to another strange woman that I am not acquainted with.

These unfamiliar persons and I are connected to a postcard network called postcrossing. A friend of mine from Kodiak Island in Alaska suggested this website and I leapt to it like

a kid to an ice cream truck. Since the summer of 2010, I have been sending corny handmade, and antique postcards to well-wishers, admirers, and family friends across the U.S. In the past few months my postcards have traveled over 55,000 miles across the world into 10 different countries.

The first postcard I received was an "old" copy of a painting of a cross-eyed Japanese monk with arched eyebrows and a well-rounded frown. With his hands drawn out, he looked ready to wrestle, if not wrestle then at least turn you into pudding with his goofy stare. Most of the postcards are a "how do you do" and "my name is" with a "well, here's my card, enjoy," which is really only what one can accomplish with a postcard. On one occasion, when I was hiking a long-distance trail I sent my dad a postcard that simply read, "Alexander Supertramp," an ode to Christopher McCandless from Into the Wild. An influential friend of mine once said that one of my greatest strengths was postcards.

All of the responses I have received have been in English. A man from Germany named Stefan, age 42, a curious person to say the least, decorated his postcard with stickers, drawings of clouds, and claimed that he lives alone with his cat "Lucy." Make of that what you will. I also learned that most European snail-mailers write their "1s" like "7s." Another man from Belarus wished to tell me all about the folk tales and legends of his land. This card went beyond the traditional pleasantries, while most of them feel like nothing more than

a firm handshake.

When I started this postcrossing project I endeavored to send and receive a postcard from every country, which is graspable. On the website it shows all the countries that are represented by willing individuals, even Antarctica has sent some. Most countries have participants except for parts in the heart of Africa and some independent island countries in the Pacific Rim. To my dismay, I realized that no one from Pitcairn's Island was on the list, rightly so, because there are only 60 residents. Pitcairn's Island was claimed by the mutineers of the Bounty led by Fletcher Christian that left their British Captain William Bligh and his loyal sailors of the crown adrift in a row boat. William Bligh safely guided the loyalists back home, eventually, while Christian began building up their new home with their wives they borrowed from Tahiti.

I sent an email to the government of this small nation requesting a reciprocal exchange of postcards. There has been to this date, no response. All's well, because postcards keep coming in weekly. Thus far, I have received postcards from Belarus, Japan, Finland, Germany (twice), Holland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. In this way, my handwriting, by extension of my mind, globe trots all over the world for only 98 cents per country.

#### Expand your thinking:

# Lifestyle improves by downsizing material possessions



Jaime
Haines
Columnist

American society is based on owning objects. Women are portrayed as "shopaholics" who love sales because then they can buy even more. Men are known to always

want more video games and faster vehicles. Families often wish for larger houses and for more things to fill them. With material objects as the focus of many desires, America must awaken and see the nonnecessity of these wishes. People in the United States want to own considerably more than they need, which results in forgetting to focus on the truly important facts of life. However, with examination of these values and by reprioritizing, lives can gain more meaning.

While the American mentality embraces the belief that money equals happiness, several studies show the strict limitations to that theory. Depending on the study, the dollar amount varies (about \$60,000 is a fair estimate), but all conclude the same thing: happiness and income increase together

until the income hits the specified amount. Then, happiness plateaus despite income continuing to rise. The theory holds that happiness increases as an individual's ability to pay for necessities increases, but once they can afford all the basics, along with a small indulgence or two, happiness ceases to increase.

Furthermore, downsizing the amount of objects owned increases life quality. Without thousands of items to keep track of and dozens of rooms to upkeep, life becomes simpler and easier to manage. Obtaining multitudes of things costs a significant amount of money; by limiting unnecessary purchases, money can be used to purchase high-quality, needed items in which the owner can take pride. By owning less, the focus of life shifts from objects and their superficial distractions to forming close relationships and spending time carrying out meaningful pastimes. Many families who choose to purchase a smaller home than their current residence find that their families become closer and more cohesive since they no longer spend all their time in separate rooms completing pointless activities.

To progress toward a less materialistic and more profound lifestyle, the following simple steps are of great help. Begin by downsizing what you currently own. Any objects, which

have not been used for over a year, can be donated. Even if it is difficult to part with beloved objects at first, the main idea is to continually assess what is truly needed and to quit purchasing more objects. Decide what time uses bring the most genuine fulfillment to your life, what uses detract from your life and then how to indulge without purchasing items. For example, libraries or rental stores are great options for movies, books and game lovers and allow hundreds of people to share items. Through downsizing, reducing purchases, and sharing goods, household clutter can be greatly reduced.

To improve our lives, we must change our mentalities surrounding material items. America constantly falls prey to the push of advertisers, who constantly, and wrongly, insist that we need more things to be happy. However, fulfillment is actually reached through closeness to others and well-spent time versus owning more objects than another person. By recognizing our false cognitions and actively working to reduce our ownership of superfluous items, our life quality will increase drastically.

Jaime is an exuberant puppy-lover and "House" addict. She plans to use her psychology degree to encourage activism and well-being through counseling, workshops, speeches, and the written word.

## STUDENT Voices

What is the most patriotic thing you've done?

Jenny Keul, Sophomore

"Made quilts and sent them to the troops in Iraq."





Kristina Boss, Sophomore

"Gone to the fireworks on the 4th of July."

Scott Neby, Junior

"I went to Washington, D.C. on Independence Day."





Kayla Plummer, Senior

"I went to Mount Rushmore."

James Ferderer, Freshman

"Put a flag on my grandfather's grave."



Compiled by Megan Rodriguez

# Approaching snow season is anticipated by some, but to other residents it is foreboding



Samantha Mayberry Columnist weeks into
November and
the temperature
is dropping. If
any readers are
like myself, that
dreadful "s"
word is rapidly
approaching and
you're not looking

The majority of leaves

have fallen from the trees

and Halloween has past.

Thanksgiving is right around the

corner, which means the ground

will be covered in a blanket of

snow within a month.

forward to it. For others, that "s" word is exciting and they can't wait for the white fluffy flakes to fall from the sky.

Snow, the cold and slushy aspects of late fall and winter. The majority of leaves have fallen from the trees and Halloween has past. Thanksgiving is right around the corner, which means the ground will be covered in a blanket of snow within

a month. I always say that I may have been born in Minnesota, but that doesn't mean I belong in the upper Midwest. Perhaps someday I can live in a warmer climate.

The freezing temperatures and the walking back and forth to classes is one of the struggles many college students face. I strongly dislike getting my shoes and cuffs of my pants wet with snow and then have to sit in class

for an hour. Thankfully, UW-River Falls has snow removal crews that make our pathways clear of mushy snow.

Most people heard about the heavy Minnesota snow last

Most people heard about the heavy Minnesota snow last year that caused the Metrodome roof to collapse. Along with the collapse, people were snowed in and had cars that wouldn't start.

Thankfully, residents of the northern United States are mostly used to the heavy snow we receive every winter and

It is now two always seem to find a way around problems that arise.

With the cold temperatures come more layers of clothing; no one wants to get frostbite or hypothermia. But sitting in classes with a winter jacket, perhaps a sweatshirt, gloves and a hat can be quite a pain. It may be cold outside but it gets rather toasty in the classroom with large amounts of people and the heat cranked. Not to mention you don't have a lot of room for all your gear while sitting at a desk.

On the plus side of having snow right around the corner, winter break will be here before you know it which gives students a break from homework and classes. It will give you a chance to re-energize yourself before starting another semester of school.

There are all kinds of winter activities that even anti-winter people can enjoy. For instance, a snowball fight is an activity no one is too old for. Going skiing or snowboarding is always fun too, even though I've only tried skiing once. I definitely

lack the coordination and spent the majority of my time sitting on the ground, but at least I gave it a chance. For those who aren't too keen on standing while going down a steep hill, there is always sledding or snow tubing. It's a perfect activity for friends and/or families.

Within a few months all of the snow will melt away and spring will be here. For those winter lovers, I'm sure you will be outside enjoying the crisp-cold air and snow while it's here. Winter can have

its downsides, but upsides as well. People can have a love/ hate relationship with snow, but they have to remember that it doesn't last forever and to just make the best of it.

Sam is a junior and is majoring in journalism. She is from Rochester, Minn. and loves to read, listen to music and take pictures.

# Find Freddy's Feather!

Be the first person to find the lost Freddy the Falcon Feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theater! The first person to report the find to editor@uwrfvoice.com
AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins.

# WIAC celebrates 100 years of greatness





University Archives

Above: Photos display the history of athletics at UW-River Falls. UWRF is part of the WIAC, which will mark its 100-year anniversary next year. The WIAC is comprised of nine teams based solely out of Wiscsonsin.

Left: A collection of the UWRF football memorabilia shows the history of the team. UWRF has been a member of the WIAC since its inception in 1913.

Jessie Behrman jessie.behrman@my.uwrf.edu

The Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) has its 100-year anniversary coming up next year and is celebrating the nine schools in the conference.

The WIAC had all nine universities: UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Superior and UW-Whitewater by 1917. Division III is the largest of the NCAA classes, according to the NCAA.

According to the UWRF website, all but UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout were in the conference when it first began in 1913. Stout joined in 1915 and Eau Claire in 1917. Milwaukee left the conference in 1964 to join Division I. The WIAC is the ninth oldest conference in the NCAA, which consists of approximately 100 conferences at Division I, II and III levels.

"The WIAC is a great conference and no matter what sport or if the Falcons win or lose, it's just another day in the WIAC," said Sports Information Director Jim Thies.

"We have great students and great athletes. They could be competing high up, but they choose the WIAC. In the classroom young men and women do a great job in all areas, that's what is so great about this league, it's well rounded," said Thies.

The WIAC has won more NCAA titles than any other Division III conference, according to the NCAA. UWRF has won four total national championships in men's hockey in 1983, 1988 and 1994, and women's outdoor track & field in 2008, according to the UWRF Athletic website. Division III has 436 active members compared to Division I's 340, and 314 in Division II

Athletic Director Roger Ternes said that with the way other conferences are breaking up and how schools jump to different leagues and are losing tradition, with UWRF still being part of the WIAC continues a tradition and demonstrates solidarity.

"UWRF has a consistent lead on all sports. You won't find anything like River Falls. It's an attraction to work in one of the best leagues in the country," said Ternes.

Thies iterated how many of the coaches at UWRF were once in the athlete's position as athletes competing in the WIAC themselves. Then there are others like the former men's hockey coach, George Deedley, who started coaching at UWRF and went on to coach at the University of Denver where the team won two national championships. A lot of UWRF athletes and coaches competing in the WIAC will go on and do

some great things, said Thies.

Junior Isaac Milkey, who is on the swimming and diving team, said he came into college with intentions of competing in swimming; and the conference and coaches here have helped push himself to become a better athlete.

"The WIAC, being a tough conference, gives us athletes a good push in striving to be the best we can and pushing ourselves to the next level in competing against all the amazing athletes in the conference," said Milkey.

Junior soccer player Carlin Bunting said that it is a privilege and a challenge being part of the WIAC.

"The advantage of participating in the WIAC is that anything can happen, no game is won or lost before it starts," said Bunting. "It also gets us ready for tougher games as the season goes along and we get into playoffs and the NCAA Division III tournament."

The WIAC has put together a two-year calendar for the years of 2012 and 2013, which are for sale in the Athletic Department. The calendar shows historical facts about the conference and most of the WIAC and NCAA championships are displayed. The calendar also recognizes current and former teams, student-athletes and coaches from each individual school.

### WIAC athletes of the week

Football players B.J. Letourneau, Mike Cano and Chad Blair have all been named WIAC Players of the Week according to league Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

The three Falcons were recognized after the team's come-from-behind 28-21 overtime win at UW-La Crosse. The Falcons scored the game-tying touchdown with just 54 seconds to play, and then won the game in overtime when halfback Taylor Edwards scored on a 2-yard run.

The Falcons end their season on Saturday, Nov. 12 when they host UW-Eau Claire at 1 p.m. at Ramer Field in the annual Parents' Day and Senior Day Game.

#### Offensive

Letourneau (Falcon Heights, Minn., Roseville) was one of the offensive leaders in the team's win on Saturday. Letourneau finished 24-45 passing for 257 yards and three touchdowns. He did not throw an interception. His touchdown passes covered 23, 17 and 9 yards. The 9-yard pass came with just 54 seconds to play in the game and tied the score at 21-21. Letourneau averaged 10.7 yards per reception and he was sacked just once. He was 4-6 on the last drive of regulation for 74 yards.

#### Defensive

Cano (Glencoe, Minn., Glencoe-Silver Lake) made several big plays in the game. Cano intercepted two passes and was credited with seven solo and eight total tackles. His first interception came at the UWRF 4-yard line to stop a La Crosse drive with the Eagles leading 14-7 at the time. His second interception came in the overtime session at the Falcon 13 to end the game.



#### **Special Teams**

Blair had a solid day kicking the ball in the contest. Blair (Oakdale, Minn., Tartan) made all four extra point attempts he tried. He also had four kickoffs and two went for touchbacks.

Information from then UWRF Athletics website

### Volleyball All-WIAC athletes

Four Falcons have been named to the 2011 All-WIAC volleyball teams. The Falcon volleyball team finished the 2011 season with a 16-18 overall record and they were 3-5 in WIAC play.



1st Team

Erin Green (Fridley, Minn., Fridley), who was named to the 2010 All-WIAC first team, led the Falcons with 429 kills, 35 solo blocks and 80 block assists in 2011. The middle hitter reached the 1,000 career kill milestone during the year and has 1,055 career kills now. She was named the WIAC Player of the Week on Oct. 18.

#### **Honorable Mention**

Jean Theis (Shakopee, Minn., Shakopee), also a middle hitter, finished the year with 279 kills, 13 solo blocks and 51 block assists. She finished third on the team in kills, second in solo blocks and third in block assists.



**All- Defensive Team** 

Courtney Preiner (Oakdale, Minn., Hill-Murray), who was named the team's Defensive Player of the Year in 2009 and 2010, led the Falcons with 637 digs this year. The 637 digs is a Falcon single-season record. She is currently fifth in career digs with 1,618.

#### All- Sportsmanship

Linnea Osterberg (Center City, Minn., Chisago Lakes), the only senior on this year's team, finished the year with 17 aces and 128 digs. The WIAC's All-Sportsmanship team is for individuals that displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season. The team included one member from each school as selected by that school.



Information from then UWRF Athletics website

### Calendar of upcoming sporting events

Friday, Nov. 11

lege at 7:05 p.m.

Women's Hockey at College of St. Scholastica at 7 p.m.

Men's Hockey vs St. Norbert Col-

Saturday, Nov. 5

Football vs UW-Eau Claire (Senior Day) at 1 p.m.

Men's Cross Country at NCAA Midwest Regional at 1 p.m.

Women's Hockey at College of St. Scholastica at 3:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey vs St. Norbert College at 7:05 p.m.

Women's Cross Country at NCAA Midwest Regional at noon.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

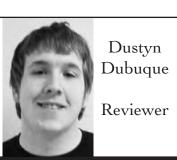
Men's Basketball at Viterbo University at 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs Gustavus Adolphus College at 7 p.m.

## Visually stunning, 'The Mill and the Cross' lacks narrative

Not only is "The Mill and the Cross" based off the 1564 painting The Way to Cavalry, but the movie is seemingly a painting in itself. In the painting of over 500 characters, we are able to see Christ walking amongst the crowd while carrying a crucifix. Even while this incredibly famous event is occurring, we get many people going about their everyday lives in the world around this polarizing figure. This shows that even when something important is happening there is just as much of the ordinary happening around the event.

"The Mill and the Cross" is a film of few words; dialogue seems unnecessary as the landscape and artwork do all the talking. The backdrop is practically a painting as most of the film is shot from a side angle like you are actually looking at the painting hanging up on



a wall. We follow multiple peoples' lives, some mundane while others have great importance.

One of the more important ones is of a man and a woman who live in the same quarters as their pet calf. They go to buy some bread when suddenly the man is whipped senselessly by men on horseback (that can be perceived as the Jews or the Spanish). Soon the man is killed, suspended high in the air on a wheel, and the birds begin to eat away at his face. Another life which viewers are treated to is that of the man who runs the mill that stands high above the town.

The mill is seen as the true figure in the sky and not that of Christ that is walking among the people. When the mill stops with its gears deadlocked, everyone in the movie pauses, as if you are looking at the painting. These few scenes really stand out in this film as artistic, fresh,

and new.

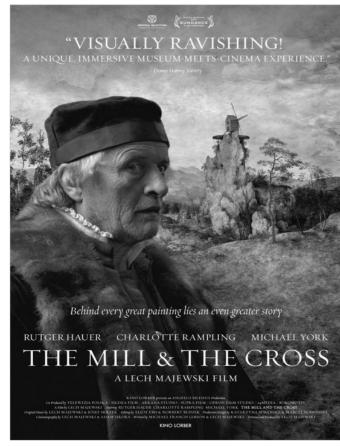
The only thing really keeping this film together and understandable is the few narratives made by the artist himself as he explains what is going on in the painting and with the people. It isn't until about 30 minutes into the movie that you hear from the artist, and by that time "The Mill and the Cross" was dull and confusing. The narrator helps gel the story, helping the viewer to understand why all of these different images are important, but do all of these images and side stories matter?

Some points in "The Mill

and the Cross" are just not made. I began to wonder if all the things that were unimportant to anything that could be called a storyline were really just supposed to be that, unimportant. This movie is slow, goes nowhere, and ends abruptly.

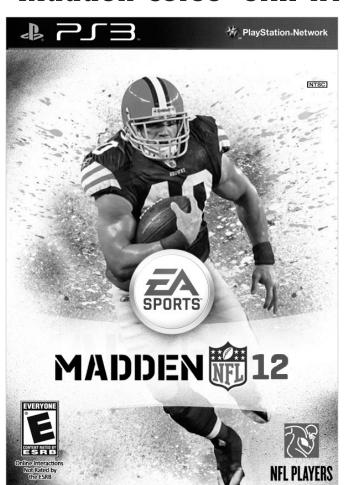
Even with all that, it had some lasting effect on my psyche. The look and feel of this film was just great and kept me going even when it began to drag at the halfhour mark. Now who do I recommend this movie too? Should I recommend this to someone who is religious, artistic, or a just a movie lover like me? If you do not fall into one of those three categories, I do not think "The Mill and the Cross" is for you.

Dustyn is a history major and geography minor that has a love and passion for film. He watches over 100 films each year and loves Academy Awards season.





## 'Madden Curse' still wreaks havor on cover athletes of popular game



Even the casual foot ball fan probably knows about the "Madden Curse." For those of you who are unfamiliar with this curse: since 1999 the Madden Franchise, run by EA Sports, has featured one of the top players in the NFL. Every year, whichever player has adorned the cover has befallen some sort of injury or dramatic decline in performance that season. Is the "Madden Curse" real? Let's delve in and find out.

In 1999, San Francisco 49ers running back Garrison Hearst became the first player to appear on the cover. In the divisional round of the playoffs that season against the Atlanta Falcons, Hearst suffered a broken ankle, which kept him sidelined from football for two entire seasons. Since he came back from the injury in 2001, Hearst never came close to the stats he had put up in 1998 and was ultimately out of football after the 2004 season.

For the 2000 installment of Madden, Barry Sanders was picked to be the cover

athlete. Some may argue this is where the Madden Curse began, despite the injury to Hearst. Before the season began, Sanders retired from football leaving the video game with no cover athlete. Quickly, EA Sports picked Dorsey Levens of the Green Bay Packers to be the cover athlete. Levens' season was shorted to five games due to an injury he suffered in the preseason, which eventually ended his season after a loss in Miami. Levens would never again start more than five games in a season or score more than four touchdowns in a year.

In 2001, Tennessee Titans running back Eddie George was the cover athlete. While George did not get injured during the season, he made many costly mistakes, including a late fumble, in a playoff loss at home to the Baltimore Ravens. After this season, George would never average more than 3.3 yards per carry in a season or score more than five touchdowns in a season again.

In 2002, Minnesota
Vikings quarterback Daunte
Culpepper appeared on the
cover. In the 2000-2001
season Culpepper had his
second best season ever as
a professional quarterback.
The year he adorned the
cover of Madden, Culpepper threw 23 interceptions
and set the NFL record for
fumbles as well. Three years
later Culpepper blew out
both knees, effectively end-

ing his career as an NFL quarterback.

In 2003, St. Louis
Rams running back
Marshall Faulk appeared
on the cover. That year
Faulk failed to rush
for 1,000 yards for the
first time in his career.
Faulk's yards per carry
also dropped over a yard
during the season. A mere
two years later, Faulk was
out of football.

In 2004, Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick was the featured athlete. In the second pre-season game, Vick broke his fibula against the Baltimore Ravens, which caused him to miss 13 regular season games. A year later Vick was found guilty of running a dog fighting ring and was sent to prison.

In 2005, Ravens line-backer Ray Lewis became the first defensive player to be on the cover of Madden. Lewis missed the final three games of the season after suffering a wrist injury late in the year. In addition, this season remains Lewis' only season in which he did not tally an interception.

In 2006, Philadelphia
Eagles quarterback Donovan
McNabb was featured on the
cover. In the first game of
the season, McNabb suffered
a sports hernia. Despite the
injury, McNabb continued
to play the season. That is
until he tore both his ACL
and meniscus in a game
against the Titans. This was
the first time in five seasons



Ben Lamers Columnist

that McNabb and the Eagles failed to reach the NFC Championship Game.

In 2007, Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander was on the cover. Alexander suffered a fractured foot, causing him to miss six games. A year later, Alexander broke his wrist in the opening game and was released at the end of the season.

In 2008, Titans quarterback Vince Young was the feature athlete. Young injured his knee early in the season. The next year, Young injured the knee again. This time Young was nowhere to be found leading some to believe he was contemplating suicide. Young is currently the third-string quarterback for the Eagles.

In 2009, it looked like EA Sports had the curse beat. Freshly retired Brett Favre was named the cover athlete. However, Favre returned to football and tore a bicep in his arm. The Jets finished the season in a tailspin and missed the playoffs. Favre retired again, temporarily, at the end of the season.

In 2010, Madden featured two cover athletes, Troy

Polamalu of the Pitts-burgh Steelers, and Larry Fitzgerald, of the Cardinals. Polamalu injured his MCL and was limited to four starts all season. The Steelers missed the playoffs. Fitzgerald, on the other hand, broke a rib during the season. However, Fitzgerald did not miss any games due to the injury. Many consider Fitzgerald to be the only "survivor" of the

In 2011, New Orleans
Saints quarterback Drew
Brees was the cover athlete.
Brees played the second half
of the season on a torn MCL.
He also set a career record
for interceptions and saw his
quarterback rating drop 20

This season features Peyton Hillis on the cover. Hillis has missed half the season due to a hamstring injury and illness. The Cleveland Browns have stated that they have no problem releasing Hillis after the season.

points.

The "Madden Curse" has stricken every athlete that has adorned the cover of the game. LaDanian Tomlinson, NFL running back, refused to be on the cover for fear of getting an injury. While many players get injured every NFL season; it seems like more than coincidence that every cover athlete has had something bad happen to them. The curse lives on.

Ben is a sophomore majoring in journalism and minoring in history. He is a huge Colts and Brewers fan.

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# Pies encapsulate fall holiday spirit, flavor

the filling.

There are four basic pie

crusts and each goes better

with certain fillings. Crumb

the crumbs from cookies, or

graham crackers, which can

be mixed with nuts or spices.

Because they are crumbly and

dry they are best with a cheese-

cake or custard type of filling:

Mealy crusts are the second.

something that is firm.

crusts are as the name suggests:

Baked from scratch or bought at your local bakery, pies are the hallmark of Thanksgiving dessert. They start with the short-sided crust, perhaps pastry or crushed graham cracker. Then there's the filling; varying from fruit to a rich creamy custard or chocolate. All of this is can be topped with whip cream or ice cream and sprinkled with chopped nuts, drizzled with flavored syrup, or garnished with chocolate shavings.

Baking or bringing a pie is a wonderful way to let your



Wendt
Columnist

Brittney

Pfenning-

family or Thanksgiving host know you are thankful for them. So with just the right combination of crust, filling and topping, you can be sure to impress your family this Thanksgiving.

Personally, I enjoy baking

pies from scratch. They are relatively simple to make, hence the saying "easy as pie," and serve as a great family tradition. Generally, in my family we will decide earlier in the week which types we are going to make. I suggest doing this so you have the necessary ingredients by the time stores close on Thanksgiving. Make sure you also have enough round pie pans (if you purchase a graham cracker crust a disposable aluminum tin is provided). The other thing you want to keep in mind is the crust. The crust should compliment

They don't have much texture after baking, consisting of flour and fat mixed evenly with a food processor. These withstand very moist fruit or custard fillings. Flaky pie crusts are a little more common. They are delicate, however, and must be chilled before and after working with them. Pecan and firm fruit are common flaky crust fillings. It will not hold up great with wet fillings. Sweet crusts are the last type, and they are commonly used for recipes that call for a double crust. Double crusts are usually seen with a fruit filling. The second crust is placed on top of the filling after holes for the steam have been precut. (Tip: these venting holes can be made by using fun shaped

Almost all pie crusts can be purchased premade or made from scratch, it all depends on how much time and effort you want to put into the process. There is nothing wrong with

cookie cutters as well.)

buying a premade crust, especially when you will be occupied with dinner prep as well.

As for the fillings, the choices are endless. Common Thanksgiving pies include pumpkin, pecan, apple, blueberry, and French silk. Canned filling is a popular route as it will cut down the time required as well as the number of ingredients. You might be surprised the first time you make a pie at how much fun it can be and just how simple they are. Before you know it, with a little work, your kitchen will be filled with the sweet aroma of home-baked pie right in time for Thanksgiving.

If you don't have time to bake one from scratch, don't fret, most bakeries advertise their pies this time of year. I recommend Perkins and Bakers Square. They both sell fabulous pies that are sure to please whoever is on your guest list. Just make sure to call ahead to ensure they have the type you are looking for as pies are in high demand around Thanksgiving.

Out of curiosity I wanted to see what the favorite pie was around campus. Many respondents inserted specifications. For example, Professor Kathy Olsen said her favorite is blueberry pie, "but it has to be made with Wild Northern Wisconsin Blueberries." I was shocked when a few people responded, "I don't like pie." To me it just seemed ridiculous. What's not to like when there are so many types you're bound to find one you enjoy?

there are so many types you're bound to find one you enjoy? Special thanks to Professor Glenn Spiczak for putting the survey up as a clicker ques-

tion.
In honor of the winner, the recipe for my Aunt Judy's French Silk Pie can be found

Judy's French Silk Pie

3/4 cup unsalted butter

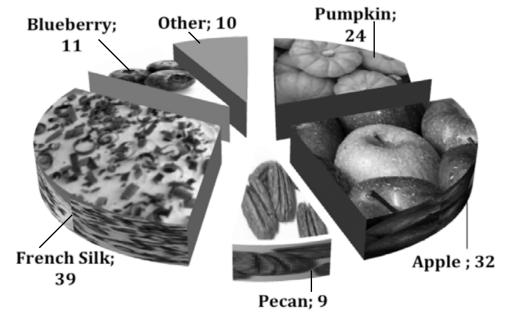
1 cup sugar

1 tsp. vanilla

3 eggs

3 squares unsweetened chocolate melted and cooled

Blend butter and sugar, add eggs one at a time. Beat two minutes after each egg. Blend in chocolate. Refrigerate at least an hour. Garnish with whipped cream and chocolate.



Compiled by Brittney Pfenning-Wendt A sample of 125 UWRF students' favorite kind of pie. Information gathered in class by Pfenning-Wendt through iClicker quiz.

# Remembering the past, honoring our veterans

Nov. 11 marks a very important day in the United States. It is Veterans Day, formerly referred to as "Armistice Day" or "Remembrance Day." This is a special day to honor every American who has served or is currently serving for our country, risking their lives every day just so we can live in freedom. However, it seems as if many of us do not realize just how important this day is.

This day of remembrance started on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, or Nov. 11, 1918. This officially marked



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the end of World War I.
The day was not officially recognized however, until June 4, 1926. On that day, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue another proclamation to observe Nov. 11 as a day to honor everyone who died in World War I. Finally, on

May 13, 1938, an act was passed making Nov. 11 a day that did just that – honor all the brave men and women who fought for our freedom in that deadly World War.

It was in 1953 that a
Kansas man named Alvin
King, an owner of a shoe
repair shop, had an idea
to not just honor people that
died during World War I, but
everyone who has served
for the United States. King
gained an abundance of
support from merchants in
this small town of Emporia
to turn "Armistice Day" into
"All Veterans Day." Emporia pushed a bill through

Congress to change the meaning of this day. It was on May 26, 1954 that President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed this new bill into law.

How do you commemorate Veterans Day? I know that the nearly 24.9 million veterans in the United States enjoy going out to eat and receiving the special "Veterans Day discount." That's what my Grandpa Bob enjoys doing every year on Nov. 11. My grandfather, Robert C. Lenz, fought with the Navy during World War II. He is still living and has many stories to tell. I have always admired Grandpa Bob for his service to our

country. He always tells one story that stands out in my mind. It was about how he had gotten shot in the knee on a Navy ship, and to this day, the metal bullet is still there. It always goes off in the airport metal detector, and every time he has to tell the story about how it is there because of the war. He has so many fascinating stories. If you have a parent or grandparent who served, vou should ask them to tell you their war stories. It will help you appreciate them so much more.

On Veterans Day, all federal offices are closed for the day and no mail is

delivered. A lot of people have a day off from school or work. Some schools do have to go to school or work on Veterans Day. Although, some of these schools that do not give a day off, like my high school, host a special assembly to honor the veterans. However you may commemorate the day, do not use it as just another day off. Take some time and remember who is fighting for your freedom.

Cristin is an English major and a music minor from Eagan, Minn. She enjoys writing, playing the flute, and swimming. After college, she would like to pursue a career as an editor.



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice

## **Veterans Day**

Approximately 6,300 flags were on diplay outside of the University Center in honor of the American veterans who have died in Iraq or Afghanistan since 2003.

Below: The Veterans Club conducted a care package drive throughout the week of Nov. 6-12.



Maggie Sokoloski/Student Voice

On Nov. 11, 2011 at 11:11 a.m., the names of veterans who have been killed in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan will be read aloud outside of the University Center.

Bottom left: Some of the donated materials to be sent to the troops. Bottom right: A close up of the flags on display.



Maggie Sokoloski/Student Voice



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice