



# STUDENT VOICE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS

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## New policy allows RAs to hold meetings

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A resident assistant policy was approved at the Board of Regents meeting March 10, affecting all campuses in the UW System.

All campuses in the system are now required to adopt the policy, giving RAs the opportunity to participate, organize and lead meetings and activities in their rooms, residence halls, or any place on campus with stipulations that the position held as an RA will not be used to influence other students on campus.

According to the news summary of the meeting, the policy states, "resident assistants are expected to work with student residents to create an open, inclusive and supportive residential community. At the same time, because RAs are students themselves, they are encouraged to participate in campus activities and organizations. As such, RAs may participate in, organize and lead any meetings or other activities, within their rooms, floors or residence halls, or anywhere else on campus, to the same extent as other students. However, they may not use their positions to pressure, coerce or inappropriately influence student residents to attend or participate."

The information in the new policy must be included when training new RAs, and each campus has the opportunity to develop a process where a student can complain about a violation to the new policy, stated in the meeting summary.

"We thought it would be better if each campus could look at the complaint if a complaint is brought forward," Reilly said, from the meeting summary. "I think we're trying to walk a fine line here."

It doesn't change any current policy at UW-River Falls, said Terry L. Willson, director of Residence Life and Staff Development.

"While there may have been incidents of supervisors discouraging such activities being conducted in RA rooms in the past, the Residence Life Office does not currently have any policy suggesting that RAs are prohibited from conducting activities such as Bible studies in their rooms," Willson said in a written statement.

According to a press release, the recommendation to add a system-wide policy came from UW System President Kevin P. Reilly.

In the same press release, it states "Concerns were raised about the role of RAs leading, organizing or recruiting students for certain activities in residence halls where they live and work, as well as restrictions on such activities."

The Resident Assistant Working Group was formed to study the influences an RA has in the residence halls of each university, according to a memo sent out by Reilly.

Each campus had representatives in the study group, Willson said.

Nick Cluppert, Student Senate president, and Gregg Heinselman, executive director of Student Services and Programs, attended meetings in January to assess the RA situations on campus.

In the UW System, 10 of 13 campuses didn't have a written policy that states whether or not there were any restrictions as to what kind of meetings and activ-

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## Blindsided

Professor regains vision after three-day blind spell, questions remain about eyesight

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The spring often brings new beginnings, and for Imtiaz Moosa, a UW-River Falls professor of philosophy, the season has brought a second chance to see the world around him.

Moosa, who has been living with the degenerative eye disease Retinitis Pigmentosa for 25 years, awoke the night of March 15 in absolute darkness; his vision had completely failed.

"It was a night of terrors - absolutely terrifying," he said.

After dialing 911, Moosa was taken to the Emergency Room of Regions Hospital in St. Paul, where he was directed to see an ophthalmologist. The specialist told him the blindness was permanent.

Yet three days later, Moosa's vision began to improve, and he now has about 75 percent of his eyesight back.

"Instead of being exhilarated, I'm mad at the doctor," he said. "He made me accept something that was not true."

Moosa said he feels like he is in a complete state of turmoil, unsure about what the future will bring.

"So now I'm confused," he said. "I don't know if I should put trust in my eyes or not."

Jim Pratt, a professor in the speech communication and theatre



Jen Dolen/Student Voice

**Imtiaz Moosa sits in his office at 309 Kleinpell Fine Arts. Moosa lost his eyesight the night of March 15, but regained about 75 percent within a week of losing his vision.**

arts department, traveled to the Twin Cities March 16 to support his colleague, and was with him when the doctor broke the news that the blindness was irreversible.

"Part of the reality with his disease is that he knew it was not getting better," Pratt said. "But it's still a surprise to lose sight in a single blow in the middle of the

night."

Moosa said it is unusual for a Retinitis Pigmentosa patient to lose so much vision in such a spectacular fashion. While he believes the recent episode was misdiagnosed, he said he will train for possible blindness in the future

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## Professor's devotion saves philosophy dept.



File Archive/Student Voice

**Imtiaz Moosa lectures during one of his many courses at UW-River Falls fall semester 2004.**

Through the years, the philosophy program at UW-River Falls has been through hardships with a lack of full-time professors because of budget cuts.

In 2004, the program was down to one full-time professor, Imtiaz Moosa. He taught four classes with around 220 students, and he took on an additional 40 students as an overload.

Moosa said it showed the demand from the students on campus.

Students were not getting the full benefit of the philosophy program without having another full-time professor, Moosa said.

Moosa said he hopes philosophy is a cornerstone of liberal arts and adds to the choices students have available to them. ■

In 2005, the UW-RF history and philosophy department added a new program for students interested in adding philosophy to the history major.

Moosa said it will provide another alternative for students. The new program is an opportunity to get a degree with philosophy and bring it into the mainstream of the program.

"It's a way to sell philosophy," Moosa said.

History and philosophy are closely aligned, said Betty Bergland, supporting the new program.

"It offers students another program, another major and that's a good thing," Bergland said.

Bergland said anyone with a liberal arts degree should have exposure to philosophy.

"I think it might strengthen the history department as well," Bergland said.

At the time, Moosa was the only remaining full-time philosophy professor on campus. With the demand from students for the program, Moosa was asked to teach five classes instead of four to accommodate for the students.

Even with the lack of faculty, Moosa said he wants it clear as to why philosophy is so important to keep on campus. He said philosophy asks questions other departments might be afraid to ask.

He said he wanted to make it clear as to why philosophy is so important.

Although philosophy creates critical thinking, certain questions people ask can only be answered with philosophy can answer, Moosa said.

"In philosophy you can ask politically incorrect questions and afford to be radical," Moosa said. ■

## Senator asks for campus smoking ban

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The Student Senate was divided at its March 28 meeting, after Senator Nate Cook introduced a motion to ban smoking on all UW-River Falls property.

The proposal came as a surprise to much of the Senate, as many expressed they weren't aware until earlier in the day that the motion would be introduced.

The motion uses UW-RF policy AP 4 as a foundation, citing, "It is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls that every employee, student and visitor be afforded a safe and healthful working environment within the scope of available resources."

Cook said allowing smoking on campus violates this policy.

"I decided that we all walk in between buildings," Cook said. "I thought that based on the administration's own policy ... the entire campus needs to be smoke-free."

Yet other senators felt otherwise, including Senate President Nick Cluppert, who passed the gavel to Vice President Bethany Barnett so he could participate in the debate.

"I can go around campus and find a number of places that are not safe for students," Cluppert said. "Student Senate is not here to be the parents of students; I don't think this is the right path to take."

Senators were also concerned about the impact the

See Smoking page 3

## Students review, critique professors on popular Web site

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This week professors will be getting this semester's teacher evaluations mailed to them, and are expected to have the students fill one out between April 18 and May 5. These evaluations will be used to decide tenure, salaries and are available for students to peruse in the library.

But other rating systems exist in sites like myprofessorsucks.com and ratemyprofessor.com.

The larger of the two is myprofessorsucks.com, recently renamed professorperformance.com. The site allows students to post anonymous comments about their professors and assign grades in worth, coolness, ease and an overall grade.

The site was developed when Kasey Kerber, developer and owner of the site, was sitting in class wishing someone had informed him about the bad professor who was teaching, he said.

"That gave me the idea to create a message-board-style site, which a few computer engineering friends and I eventually developed into the site you see today," he said.

The site has grown to include more than 71,000 evaluations of 21,251 professors at 1,734 universities, according to the site.

"[T]here are 'bad' professors at every institution in the United States," according to the site. "This page was not designed to seek them out and get rid of them, but make students aware of what they should expect when they step in such a professor's class-

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## Dance Theatre performs concert

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The UW-River Falls Dance Theatre's annual spring concert will have its last show April 1. The concert began on March 28. It is the Dance Theatre's largest performance of the year.

The show features 11 different modern dance pieces including lyrical, ethical and contemporary styles choreographed by students, faculty and guest choreographers.

Susan Sell, a UW-RF professor, has been with the dance faculty for four years.

Sell is helping with costumes for the Hawaiian dance piece, and choreographed the performance titled "Snapshots."

"There is about 35 students on this year's team, but every year is different," Sell said. "It's interesting to work with college-aged

students, and I really enjoy the fact that dance theatre has a mixture of people."

Auditions for the Dance Theatre began in October, and are held every year.

Among the many dances featured are an ancient hula dance, a Latin social dance, and a humorous dance based on a slumber party.

A UW-RF alumni, Cary Bittinger, has been with Dance Theatre since 1999. Bittinger is reading poetry about how dance can be a metaphor for life.

Karla Zhe, coordinator of the UW-RF Dance program and director of Dance Theatre for 25 years, described it as "a really powerful piece."

Zhe has worked closely with students and others in preparation for the show.

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Kirsten Farrar/Student Voice

**Dancers practice their performance at a dress rehearsal March 27 in the Davis Theatre of Kleinpell Fine Arts Building.**



VOICE SHORTS

LOCAL

Art dept. presents Hong Kong art exhibit

The Hong Kong Students’ Artwork Exhibition Reception is March 31 to April 8 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The exhibition is presented by the UW - River Falls art department, and will feature paintings and drawings by primary and secondary school students, as young as six years old, from Hong Kong.

Most of the students used their own daily events, surroundings and news, like the bird flu, in their artwork. The exhibit also features traditional Chinese calligraphy, ink paintings and studies based on famous work of western masters.

The artwork will be on display again at the Chalmer Davee Library from May 8 to May 28.

Wellness Challenge sign up ends today

Today is the last day to register for the UW-River Falls Wellness Challenge.

The Wellness Challenge is a free, four-week program from April 3- 30. It will provide students, faculty and staff with an opportunity to improve their health.

The program will encourage participants to have a healthier life through physical activity, nutrition, safety and overall wellness.

Resident halls, off-campus students, and faculty and staff will be divided into teams. Individuals and teams will earn wellness points based on a wellness point breakdown chart.

Prizes will be given to the top individual each week, and the top team of that week will be recognized. A final prize will be offered for the first place team.

Students, faculty and staff can register on the Student Health Services Web site.



REGIONAL

Insurance companies to pay for treatment

Gov. Jim Doyle signed into law a bill requiring insurance companies to pay for all routine cancer treatment, according to the *Hudson Star-Observer*.

Doctors who treat cancer say the bill will grant access to patients to the latest treatments.

Doyle said that cancer patients should have insurance coverage regardless of the treatment they choose. He also said the bill benefits individuals, and possibly society as well because more research could lead to better treatment and prevention of cancer.

Like many who have lost loved ones to cancer, Doyle’s father died of cancer.

Supreme Court justice plans to retire

Justice Jon Wilcox will retire at the end of his term next year. Wilcox has announced his decision very early to allow for other candidates to run.

Wilcox says that he will be retiring due to his old age. He has served on the bench since 1992.

Wilcox did say that he was optimistic about being reelected for another 10 year term but would still like to retire.

There may be other candidates that will now want to run because he will not be running then. There has been only one candidate to come forward and announce that he will now be running.



NATIONAL

Only 20 percent of teens get enough sleep

WASHINGTON — A recent poll released Tuesday shows many of America’s adolescents are not getting enough sleep, according to CNN.

A poll done by the National Sleep Foundation revealed that only 20 percent of teens get the recommended nine hours of sleep on school nights, and more than one in four report sleeping in class.

The Sleep Foundation poll interviewed 1,602 adult caregivers and their children between the ages of 1 and 17. The poll found that sixth-graders were sleeping an average of 8.4 hours on school nights, while 12th-graders slept only 6.9 hours.

The National Center on Sleep Disorders Research at the National Institute of Health recommends school-aged children and teens need at least nine hours of sleep a day to focus.

The agency also said there is growing evidence that a chronic lack of sleep can lead to an increased risk of obesity, diabetes, heart disease and infections.

Fla. House bill requires high school majors

TALLAHASSEE, Florida - The Florida House passed a bill proposed by Gov. Jeb Bush Thursday that would require incoming high school freshmen to declare a major.

According to CNN, the Republican-sponsored bill passed 85-35 on a straight party-line vote.

Under Florida’s plan, high school students would be able to major in such subjects as humanities, English, communications, math, science, history, social studies, arts, foreign languages and vocational skills.

It would also require them to declare a minor. Students would be able to change their majors and still graduate as long as they earned 24 high school credits.

Bush said the plan would better-prepare students for the real world and reduce the dropout rate by making school more interesting.

Last year, nearly 3 percent of Florida’s 800,000 high school students dropped out. While some educators support the proposal, others fear it would prevent students from receiving a broad liberal arts education, and put more pressure on young people.

Experts say if the bill is enacted, Florida would become the first state to pass such a bill.

Briefs compiled by Amber Jurek

SENATE

UC disappoints Senate president

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The March Board of Directors meeting of United Council was a disappointing one, according to Student Senate President Nick Cluppert, who attended as the UW-River Falls representative.

“This was a huge waste of time, and a huge waste of money for me to travel down there,” Cluppert said.

The Board of Directors, which includes one representative from each of the UW System campuses, meets monthly, and makes some policy decisions for United Council when the General Assembly can’t meet, Cluppert said.

The budget was supposed to be discussed and amended at the March meeting, however, not enough members were present to make any changes.

“We discussed the budget, but we couldn’t take any action on the agenda,” Cluppert said.

The budget will be changed in part because UW-Platteville chose to pull out of

United Council.

Representatives from United Council also attended the Senate meeting, including Organizing and Communications Director Maddy Melton, Shared Governance Director Taylour Johnson and two interns. The group was at the meeting to update Senate on issues United Council has been working on.

UW-RF had the largest delegation in the state at the March 10-12 Building Unity conference, Melton said. United Council is also actively working to oppose TABOR, she said, the proposed Wisconsin amendment that would limit state funding to education and eliminate tuition reciprocity.

Melton said United Council is continuing to work on a bill that will define alcohol as an intoxicant under the second-degree sexual assault statutes.

“We only have a few weeks,” she said. “We need to get the assembly to move on this.”

The bill is currently being held in the Wisconsin Assembly Judiciary Committee, where it has not yet been scheduled to receive a hearing.

Other Senate news

- Finance Director Adam Koski said a United Council General Assembly meeting April 7 and 8. Koski said more student representation is needed.
- Lindsey Burdick, Student Affairs and Academic Services chair, said amendments to the University skateboarding policy will be brought to administration.
- The UW-RF parking office is in the process of updating its software. Tickets will be applied to student accounts immediately, and officers will have the option of taking pictures for proof of violations. Ticket price changes are currently being discussed for the UW System.
- A grand opening of the Multicultural Programming room is planned for April 26.

Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Student Center’s Regents Room.



Submitted Photo

Sigma Alpha, a new sorority at UW-River Falls, has now been accepted. This semester is its first official semester as a sorority. The sorority is for women who are interested in agricultural, food and environmental sciences.

Sigma Alpha installed at UWRF

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This semester at UW-River Falls a new sorority emphasizing women excelling in agriculture has been introduced on campus. Sigma Alpha sorority is currently in its first semester as an official organization after

being sworn in by the national chapter on Feb. 18.

“Sigma Alpha is a professional sorority for women in agriculture,” said Kimberly Schoessow, one of the founding members. “It was started because there wasn’t another sorority that really offered what our president [Margaret Groth] was originally looking for.”

Sigma Alpha President, Margaret Groth first began looking at forming a new sorority at UW-RF more than a year ago. Groth and three other students from the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences found interested members of the agriculture community at the University,

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RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

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**March 21**

Sarah J. Mathewson, 21, was placed under arrest for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia around 10:30 p.m. in South Fork Suites.

Residents of the suites reported the use of marijuana to Public Safety around 10 p.m. Officers approached Mathewson’s door and knocked. When the door was opened officers report smelling a strong odor of marijuana. Public Safety officers then contacted River Falls Police for assistance.

When RFPD arrived, Mathewson only opened the door enough to fit her head through. Officers report that she appeared to be under the influence.

Mathewson eventually allowed the police officer into her room.

She told officers she had not been using drugs but had been burning incense. When the officer asked to see the incense Mathewson presented a bag of unopened incense.

Upon searching the room, the officer found a film canister containing marijuana on her desk and a glass pipe in her drawer.

Mathewson was then placed under arrest and taken to the River Falls Police Station. She was not issued a citation because officers found a prior offense that was unresolved.

The issue was turned over to the Pierce County District Attorney.

**March 22**

Molly A. Keifenheim, 19, was fined \$249 for underage consumption in Parker Hall.

**March 23**

- Melissa K. Davis reported suspicious activity in the Ag. Science building to Public Safety around 12:30 p.m.
- Davis showed officers a vent that had been tampered with in Stanley Schraufnagels

office. The wood on the right side of the air vent and three nails securing it had been removed.

- Damage to the door was estimated at \$40.
- Brandon C. Palesh reported the theft of his UW-RF parking pass from his vehicle around 3 p.m.

Palesh stated the pass had been taken from his truck between March 19 and March 20. The truck was parked in O-Lot.

Palesh told police he thought he locked his doors. He said he had encountered problems with his locks in the past.

The parking pass is estimated at \$57.

**March 25**

Spasimir I. Bodurski was fined \$356 for battery around 2:30 a.m. at the Library, 106 N. Main St.

Bodurski was arrested after he allegedly punched a Library bouncer in the face. Witnesses report the bouncer was standing on one of the speaker boxes monitoring the crowd when Bodurski allegedly pulled the bouncer’s shirt and struck him in the face.

Bodurski was escorted out of the bar and the police were called.

Bodurski told officers he had done nothing wrong.

Bodurski stated he had climbed up on the speaker box to high five a friend and the bouncer had allegedly pushed him off, causing him to hit his head on something.

While Bodurski admitted to grabbing the bouncer’s shirt he denied hitting him.

Bodurski had a cut on the back of his head and the bouncer had red marks and a swollen eye from the incident.

**March 27**

Mark D. Naughton reported to River Falls Police the theft of his UW-RF parking pass around 12:10 p.m.

Naughton told officers the pass had been in the vehicle at the time of the theft. His vehicle had been parked in O-Lot.

When he returned to his car he found a

rear window down and the driver’s side door open. Naughton told police he leaves his rear window partly open when he drives because of exhaust fumes.

Naughton said the pass was stolen between March 19 and March 24.

The pass is valued at \$175.

**Pierce County Court**

**James F. Allen III**, 18, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Jan. 27.

**Alden Anthony Bauman**, 18, pleaded no contest to a second-offense underage consumption on Jan. 27.

**Amber B. Berning**, 20, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Jan. 25.

**Derek L. Bunnell**, 35, pleaded no contest to soliciting on Jan Feb. 8.

**Justin D. Eloranta**, 20, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Jan. 27.

**Nathan M. Garrett**, 20, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Feb. 19.

**Theresa M. Jeske**, 19, pleaded not guilty to underage consumption on Jan. 25.

**Mark E. LaScotte Jr.**, 19, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Jan. 27.

**Julia S. Meier**, 19, pleaded no contest to a second-offense underage consumption on Feb. 19.

**Saralyn M. Mundt**, 19, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Feb. 11.

**Mark D. Naughton**, 19, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Jan. 27.

**Stephanie J. Nelson**, 19, pleaded no contest to underage consumption on Feb. 11.

**Jesse E. Rise**, 19, pleaded no contest to a second-offense underage consumption on Feb. 10.

**The Pierce County Court information is from a monthly court date for all fines issued by Public Safety**



Rating: Web site shares information about professors’ performances

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room.”

Some professors don’t buy it, like Kiril Petkov. “My impression is that two categories [of people] post there: 1. morons, and 2. misguided and disgruntled students,” the history and philosophy professor said in an e-mail. The last time he visited the site was spring of 2005, and he tried to reason with some of his students who were posting on the site, he said.

“[A]fter seeing no way you can reason with morons I gave up even looking at the site,” Petkov said.

Petkov has 35 evaluations on the site with an overall grade of C- but he received a B- on last semester’s teacher evaluations that students are asked to fill out at the end of each semester.

Teacher evaluations do not assign letter grades or even give an average score, but by finding the average points a professor obtains and dividing that into a ‘perfect score,’ a percentage is given. A letter grade is then assigned based on the accepted grading scale.

The evaluations are available in the library for anyone to access.

“If students are not very happy with a professor the evals will show it. So will myprofessorsucks.com,” said Connie Foster, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies.

Foster puts more faith in the student evaluations than the site, she said, but the site isn’t all bad.

“The only good thing about myprofessorsucks.com is that there is a little more feedback,” she said.

She points to the fact that student evaluations lack a comment area, thus restricting students’ answers to the handful of pre-selected responses.

The written comments can be crucial for administrators looking for feedback, especially professors looking to become tenured.

Chemistry professor Daniel Marchand also realizes the drawback of the student evaluations so he made his own that allows for comments.

“I put stock in what my students tell me,” he said. “I trust these students.”

But he is not sold on the idea of a site like professorperformance.com.

“I don’t put any stock in it,” he said, even though he received an A from 12 evaluations on the Web

“I appreciate having the data for my own personal use and often encourage my students to use the sites to express their opinions, whether negative or positive.”

Travis Tubré,  
psychology professor

site, which reflects the A+ he received from the University’s teacher evaluations.

Other professors encourage students to provide feedback no matter what the medium is.

“I appreciate having the data for my own personal use and often encourage my students to use the sites to express their opinions, whether negative or positive,” psychology professor Travis Tubré said.

Tubré said he checks the site occasionally and uses it as a sounding board.

“I’ve seen that I ‘talk like an auctioneer,’ am ‘arrogant and moody,’ and ‘need to get over myself,’” he said, statements that are not fun reading, but they still help. One student posted that Tubré agreed to meet during office hours, but failed to show up for the meeting.

“That is something I have tried to work hard at avoiding since then, no matter how busy I might be when a student stops by,” he said.

Overall, however, Tubré receives an A from the student evaluations and from the Web site. He also has the most evaluations from UW-River Falls on the site with 100, 15 of which he considers negative.

Kerber is now also a teacher, and shares Tubré’s view on criticism.

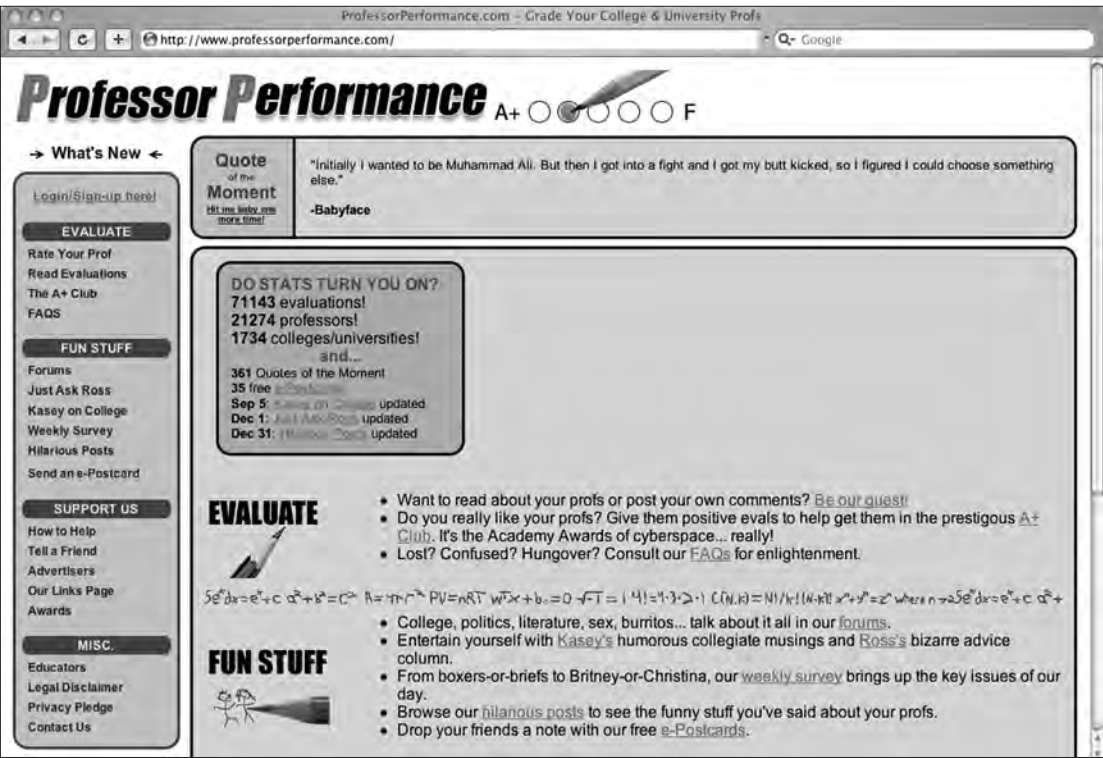
“I still see the value in such criticisms,” he said. “Every year I let students evaluate me and consider those comments before I teach again in the fall.”

Freshman Shannon Knudson, who had never heard of the site before, said Tubré deserves the praise he gets from the site.

“I might minor in [psychology] ‘cause I just like his class a lot,” she said.

But she would be inclined to give a negative evaluation if a professor called for it.

“If the teacher kinda’ sucks you don’t want to give them a good eval.,” she said.



Screen Shot/Student Voice

The screen shot of professorperformance.com shows the many different options students have on the Web site. The site is used for critiquing and reviewing professors’ performances. Students submit reviews about professors from more than 1,734 universities.

Some students use that type of information on the site to decide on their class schedule.

“I actually read it to see what foreign language teacher to take,” senior Amber Swanson said. She wouldn’t say whether it helped her or not.

Both students and professors agree that when the comments go negative, they’re very negative.

“[N]egative comments on the online sites are much nastier and more personal (than constructive comments),” Tubré said.

Tubré manages to avoid getting attacked personally on the site. Others are not as lucky.

“Sticking a pencil in my eye sounds like a much more enjoyable time than sitting through her class. Run away. Run away,” read a comment about a UW-RF professor.

Another UW-RF comment read, “This guy couldn’t teach Einstein to wipe his ass.”

Foster said that is to be expected.

In something as voluntary as professorperformance.com it will only attract those with a motive, she said.

“It seems to cater to two extremes,” Foster said.

“But the vast majority of faculty fall in the middle.”

The site is no different than what students have been doing for years on college campuses - sharing information with each other, Kerber said. He said it is more feasible for students to look at his site instead of perusing teacher evaluations.

“I tend to think of our site more as a recommendation service. How many students make schedules based on a friend who has taken the class or professor they were considering?” he asked rhetorically.

The site has a disclaimer stating it has no intentions of letting false statements onto the site to get professors in any trouble with the administration.

The site’s name changed in order to garner more respect from administrations, Kerber said.

“Every school has good professors and lousy ones,” Kerber said. “Professorperformance.com is simply a tool which can be used to find the excellent professors and avoid lame ones like the avian flu.”

Moosa: Faculty, students offer assistance to help professor

from page 1

by learning Braille and acquiring equipment for the visually impaired.

“The greatest adaptation is the psychological acceptance of who you are,” Moosa said, adding that he loves the outdoors, and was forced to temporarily face the reality that he would no longer be able to take annual solo canoe trips. “I had to kill certain parts of my personality.”

One aspect of life Moosa was not willing to give up was his career.

“The students are going to be well-served whether or not I am blind,” he said. “My profession deals with ideas that are perennial ... this profession is ideally suited for a blind person.”

While Moosa now has a diffi-

cult time reading, he developed a solution by having students read his e-mails and exam papers when needed. Faculty and staff at UW-RF have also been helpful, offering assistance in any way possible.

“I want to express my appreciation to the dean [Terry Brown], and Jim Pratt,” he said. “They were there supporting me in my time of great need.”

Outside of work, Moosa said he wants to make the best of the second chance he has been given.

“When such events happen, then you ask yourself, what do you want to live for, and what is important to you?” he said. “You come to appreciate the majesty of the sense of sight.”

While Moosa said he is hopeful that his vision will stay strong

for the next 10 years, he doesn’t plan to waste any time in the dark.

“I want to spend more time walking and hearing music - it gives me a lot of comfort,” he said. “I want to look at a lot of great works of art ... do meaningful readings, and concentrate on things that are more significant and personally important.”

Although it has only been a few weeks since Moosa lost his vision, the three days he spent living in darkness helped him come to terms with the realities of life.

“Sight is a lovely sense; people don’t realize that,” he said. “I want to carry with me the memory of all the beauty in the world.”

Policy: All campuses in UW System adopt new rules for RAs

from page 1

ities RAs can hold in their rooms, Willson said. The three campuses that have written policies are UW-Madison, UW-La Crosse and UW-Milwaukee.

UW-RF is among the 10 campuses that did not have any written policy that stated whether or not a student could conduct special meetings or activities in a room that was not related to any activities associated to the position, Willson said.

“It wasn’t a huge issue for us,” Willson said. “It is not particularly a controversy on our campus.”

“The UW policy recommendation, if approved, does not change anything for RAs on our campus,” Willson said. “We agree with the recommendation

“It wasn’t a huge issue for us. It is not particularly a controversy on our campus.”

Terry Willson,  
director of Residence Life and Staff Development

that RAs ‘may not use their positions to inappropriately influence, pressure, or coerce students to attend or participate’ in such meetings or activities. We may consider adding similar specific language to our RA employment information.”

Smoking: Senate focuses on student input for proposed ban

from page 1

proposed ban may have on the campus community.

“How are you going to pull this off without ticking off a lot of people?” said Senator Allison West. “I agree that it [smoking on campus] is a problem, but it’s too risky.”

Cook said he expects people to be angry about the ban, but suggested that they visit Health Services for information on how to quit smoking.

“If we make smokers mad, they can walk across the street - it’s not that far,” said Senator Joe Eggers, who seconded Cook’s motion.

The discussion moved from smoking to alcohol, when Senator Carolyn Schenk addressed the current policy that allows alcohol on campus.

“I do want to caution some things,” Schenk said. “Alcohol is allowed in residence halls, so this could snowball.”

To this, Cook argued that the effects of alcohol don’t compare to those of smoking.

“You can’t get secondhand drunk,” he said.

But Cluppert and Senator Jim Vierling disagreed, pointing out that alcohol can create violence, rape and car accidents.

With the safety concerns aside, Cluppert voiced his fears about future enrollment declining as a result of the ban.

“I don’t know if there’s any other campus in the nation that has an outright ban on campus,” Cluppert said. “I don’t think that we should jeopardize the loss of students not wanting to come here.”

Cook said the ban could make UW-RF a leader to other universities.

“Secondhand smoke is a very real threat,” Cook said. “This is not discrimination against people who choose to smoke.”

Questions also arose about implementation of the proposed ban, with Senators asking how it could be enforced and who would take on that responsibility.

“Public Safety has enough to do,” said Vierling. “It may be a policy that we’re not going to be able to enforce.”

Senator Lindsey Burdick suggested Senate work on implementing fines for violators of the 25-foot rule before taking the step to ban smoking on all University property.

“I personally believe that the 25-foot rule is faulty no matter how you enforce it,” Cook said in response. “Our duty is to represent the interests of students.”

But it was argued that the actual interests of students may not be known at this time, resulting in further debate about the motion.

Cluppert questioned the amount of student input taken into account before the motion was written, and suggested that Senate hear from both smokers and nonsmokers before taking a stance on the issue.

“Most of us, if not all of us, are nonsmokers,” Senator Vang Lor said. “It’s not fair ... we need to hear from some smokers. I think it’s going to create a lot of riots and discussion.”

Cluppert said he spoke with some students about the ban prior to the Senate meeting, and found many people to be very upset that Senate might pass the motion.

Vierling said Health Services also has information about how students feel about smoking on campus from a student survey taken a year ago.

After a lengthy debate among senators, a recess was called, and the motion was eventually tabled by a vote of 7-6. Senate did pass a motion to include a question on how students feel about smoking on campus on the April elections ballot.

Concert: Students perform, choreograph their performances

from page 1

“The students have worked really hard at choreographing dances and performing.”

All the performers are students. Some have dance minors. UW-RF does not offer a dance major because “we want to give students the opportunity to do what they want to do without having to declare a major,” Zhe said.

Penny Reinhold is one of the students who choreographed some of the dance pieces.



Kirsten Farrar/Student Voice

**Dancers practice a performance for their annual spring concert on Monday. The concert will be held in the Davis Theatre of Kleinpell Fine Arts at 8 p.m., March 28-April 1.**

The annual spring concert has two shows left. Tonight and April 1 at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale at 6 p.m. both nights, and are \$5 for students and seniors, and \$7 for non-students.

Sarah Mickens, a performer in the concert, said the audience

has been big and seems to enjoy the show. “Everything goes smoother when the energy starts flowing,” Mickens said.

“It has been a lot of hard work, but it’s paid off. Every morning I went to the theatre, put on music and just danced. I used my ability to improvise to choreograph,” Reinhold said. “I have found out a lot about myself through dancing because I found my strengths and weaknesses. I found a passion inside of me.”

Penny Reinhold,  
student

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Know a UWRF



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April 17

Graduating Senior?



EDITORIAL

# Student voices needed in vote on referendum

In what seems to be a never-ending debate on the UW-River Falls campus, participation in United Council has become a hot topic again.

Some recent decisions by UC have turned some student senators against the non-profit organization. A referendum is scheduled for April 4 and 5 for UW-RF students to vote on whether or not we should continue to be a part of UC.

UC is a state student association that represents 23 of 26 UW-System schools. The organization lobbies the state legislature on behalf of the UW-System schools.

Issues were raised with UC this year after Student Senate earmarked faculty salary and academic advising incentives as top priorities for the upcoming budget. UC cut advising from its budget completely, and greatly reduced raises for faculty.

This decision by UC has caused an uproar amongst some student senators, and has developed into a major decision for the UW-RF campus. As students, we must make the decision of whether to continue devoting funds to UC, or to use our money elsewhere.

For those who don't know, each semester \$2 is collected from each student to pay membership fees to UC. Over the course of a year more than \$20,000 is paid to UC.

This is a large amount of money that is devoted solely to lobbying state legislators. While lobbying is a necessity, it is also important to realize that this money could be used to fund other things - especially when the athletics department is requesting student seg. fee increases to aid its department.

At the same time, UC has made some significant advances for students over the years. Recent victories include linking financial aid increases to tuition increases, and strengthening the UW System's non-discrimination policy.

But UC's lobbying decisions haven't always been so widely applauded.

In years past UW-RF students got upset over UC's decision to lobby such issues as changing Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day, and acquiring more unisex bathrooms on campuses of transgendered individuals.

However, whether or not you agree with UC, it is our obligation to vote on the upcoming referendum. In a nation that is stripping away funding and financial aid from students, it is vital that we take a strong stance on an issue that concerns more than \$20,000 of student money.

In 2003, a similar referendum was voted on by UW-RF students. Three years ago more than 1,000 students voted to stay a part of UC. It is time again to let your voices be heard.

But don't make an uneducated decision.

Visit [www.unitedcouncil.net](http://www.unitedcouncil.net) and talk to your student senators. This is not a simple issue, and it requires a well-informed decision.

But don't let this chance to make a difference slip by. There is too much at stake for the University and future students at this school.

Make the effort and vote on the UC referendum April 4 and 5.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS	
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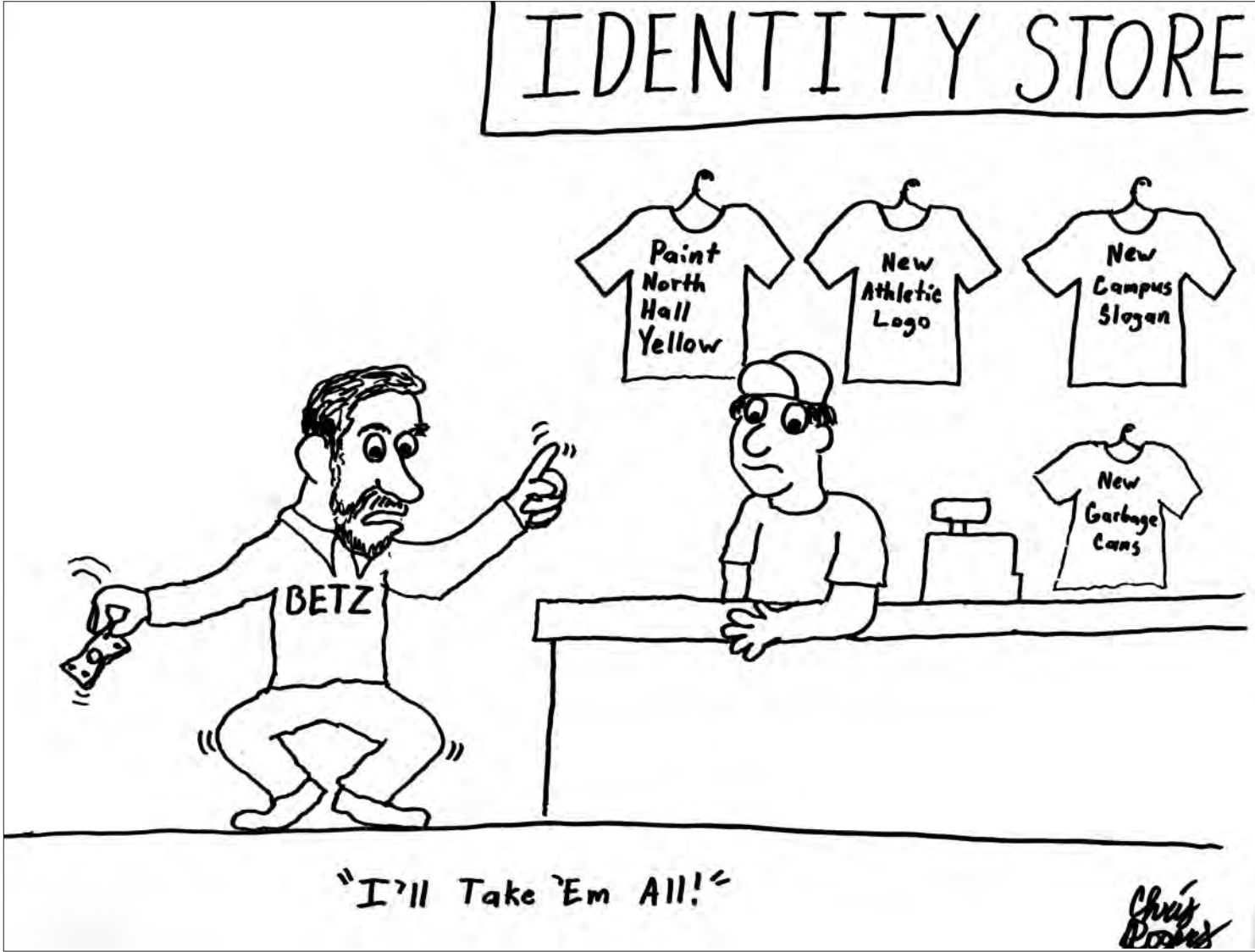
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All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads, and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Tuesday at 11:59 p.m.

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



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### One last energy push

ECO Club would like to thank everyone who has participated in the Residence Hall Energy Conservation Contest so far. We are delighted to report a 3 percent overall decrease in energy consumption since the contest began in January.

However, I think we can do better. Since we are now on the downhill side of the semester, I think we can put forth one last push of effort and save even more energy.

And the ironic thing is that saving energy does not require much energy. It involves doing simple things, like keeping your windows closed, turning off unused electronics and taking shorter showers (even one to two minutes shorter helps).

By conserving energy we are limiting potential tuition increases, reducing our ecological footprint, and saving our natural resources for generations to come. Don't forget that the three residence halls that perform the best receive healthy cash prizes.

Let's push for a 5 percent overall decrease for next month. Keep up the great work!

**Matthew Meyer,**  
ECO Club

all UW schools. United Council also led the effort to kill legislation that would have eliminated "same-day" voter registration, and has successfully lobbied for legislation that provides tuition discounts for Wisconsin veterans.

And we're not done. We are close to securing another legislative victory that would strengthen sexual assault laws by including alcohol in the definition of an "intoxicant."

All of this, plus opportunities to gain personal skills and knowledge by attending United Councils two annual conferences, Women's Leadership and Building Unity, at no cost to you.

Additionally, if you are interested in shaping the priorities that United Council works on, you can attend any or all of the multiple General Assemblies across the state. We encourage everyone to vote 'yes' on United Council April 4 or 5.

**Ashley Olson, Amber Rowley and Sean Eberle,**  
students

### UC not worth University dollars

United Council is a state-wide organization that does not represent students on our campus. We pay as a campus more than \$25,000 a year to this organization. The only time students see United Council on our campus is when they want us to remain members of UC. We currently pay \$2 a semester to this organization, but do not see anything in return. In the past four years tuition has increased more than 50 percent. United Council is supposed to be fighting for an accessible UW-System; clearly they are failing. There has even been talk within the United Council staff of wanting to propose an increase in their fee to \$5.

United Council is a failing organization that is losing member campuses and should not see a fee increase until they can change many campuses' negative views of their organization. United Council is not interested in the needs of UW-River Falls. Time and again their organization has failed to take stances on issues that pertain to our campus. It is time to give United Council

the boot and vote against them on April 4 and 5 online.

**Shaun Priesgen,**  
student senator

### Positive increase in RF athletics

Student Senate and UW-River Falls Student Body:

The UW-RF Student Senate, representing the entire student body, voted last week for a modest increase in student segregated fees for the athletic department. It is extremely gratifying to see the students take a bold but necessary commitment to the future of our department.

As director of Athletics representing the coaching staff and the over 450 UW-RF student athletes, we say thank you. Your commitment is an example of why this school and the students representing us are so special. We will continue to work hard to represent you and bring pride to our university.

Our most sincere thanks to you.

**Rick Bowen,**  
director of athletics

### Reviewer slips up

I just wanted to point out there was a mistake in the movie review of the film "V for Vendetta" in the March 24 issue.

Nick Welsh said that "V for Vendetta" shows how Great Britain may be if the Allies had lost." This is very false. The film has nothing to do with WWII. The film shows what Great Britain might be like in the future if the war in Iraq progresses, and it shows what happens when citizens of a country give up their rights to a government in turn for so-called protection from the government.

There is clear evidence throughout the film that supports this idea!!! In the future, the critics should take more caution when writing a review so they get all their movie information correct.

**Amy Bohrer,**  
student

# Nazi, U.S. similarities drawn

I don't want my columns to start sounding like all I do is think about how terrible the American government is right now, but I just can't miss this opportunity.

I've encouraged people to learn from my mistakes, and I've learned from others,' but it seems like most people have to try things their own way and learn lessons the hard way.

I went to the Dachau concentration camp from World War II and had a moment of American pride quickly squashed by a note that I read at a church at the memorial. The note said that the anonymous author felt bad for all of the victims of the camp, but asked, "When will we learn, when will the killing stop?" They're right.

Seeing the first concentration camp the Nazis set up and modeled others after, and learning its history, I couldn't believe some of the things that were happening then compared to some of today's situations.

Some of the things about the camp must be understood to understand why I was thinking

the way I was.

Dachau was a slave labor camp; the Nazis forced the prisoners there to work very hard, often leading them to death. It was different than other camps, such as Auschwitz, that were death camps where prisoners were systematically killed.

At Dachau an iron gate was put up that said "Arbeit Macht Frei," which translates to "work will set you free." In the early years of the camp some groups of people were set free, but often people would die before they were freed.

At one point the people were required to tear down the existing camp and completely rebuild it. When it was rebuilt it was made to accommodate 6,000 people. In 1945, when the American troops came to liberate the concentration camp that had opened 13 years prior, there

were 32,000 prisoners to save.

I was with some travel mates walking through this, and we started talking about the impact of war and the effects it has on people, soldiers in particular. Many men who fought in World War II don't talk much about it. I was wondering if that's how my peers will be when this war is over and they come home.

We concluded soldiers must have to train themselves to hate in order to kill the people they're being told to. We are raised to treat everyone like equals and to think we are all on the same level. How can people be expected to turn on a hate switch just because some people think you should?

That's traumatic enough and would make me not want to talk about the whole experience too.

Why are we putting soldiers through this, and taking more than 2,000 of their lives and causing even more casualties of

the Iraqi people? Has the administration seen the aftermath a devastating war can have on people?

The Nazis took prisoners from many European countries because of their personal beliefs or practices and executed them.

I couldn't help but look at the treatment of the victims of WWII and then the way much of the world now thinks of Germany's role when they think back to that war. I know many people don't think highly of the United States because of this war and the rumors surrounding illegal treatment of prisoners, so I hope that we don't get the same reputation.

While democracy works for us, do we have to impose it on others? Why does the administration feel the need to open the doors to worldwide animosity by having this war?

To me, it seems it would be wiser to examine history and the lessons it has taught, and use that when making decisions.

"When will we learn, when will the killing stop?"

We await an answer.



Keighla Schmidt



Remembering  
past professor

I wasn't a columnist for the *Student Voice* last year, but if I had been, I would have written an column on the ways that deceased professor Ed Peterson affected my life. This column is therefore dedicated to his memory, as well as to all of the people still feeling loss now a year later.

It was one year ago today when I finally heard about the passing of Peterson. The memory is still quite vivid.

I had just gotten home from a relaxing spring break in sunny Florida, and was about to head over to my sister's house for a birthday party. Before heading out, I figured I should check my e-mail because I had been out of contact for an entire week.

I still remember opening the letter that rocked my world.

Growing up, I had always had an image of the perfect teacher in my mind that somewhat resembled Robin Williams in the Dead Poets Society. I believed that someday, someone would come along and help me figure out what I really wanted to do in life, thereby providing me the inspiration to follow my dreams.

To me, Peterson was that teacher.

I still remember my first lecture with Peterson. He dove right into the lecture material, stating that he wanted us to get the full value out of our education, and therefore would not waste a single minute of time.

I remember being upset that we weren't going to be let out early, but now I appreciate the extra time we got to spend with him that afternoon.

I also remember leaving class the first day, my hand cramped and in pain from so much writing, absolutely amazed at the life he had lived and the knowledge he had gained.

To make a long story short, I eventually began corresponding

with Peterson quite regularly through e-mail. He asked about my life, how things were going with my other classes, what I wanted to do when I graduated, and also offered advice on a broad range of topics from living in the residence halls to knowing when you've found the right girl.

He impressed upon me the importance of following your dreams, even if they seem out of reach. If he could learn German in a bombed-out schoolhouse and then marry a woman whom he met while serving in Germany, anything was possible.

After learning that I aspired to be a writer, he encouraged me to pursue it.

Here I am, a year later, writing about the way he impacted me. I've also begun writing the book I had been planning since I was 15.

Although I feel my work lacks eloquence, I'm still out here every week trying my best. Learning doesn't have a set formula; it is a process that continues throughout an entire lifetime.

In the end, what Peterson taught me is that it doesn't really matter what the rest of the world is doing, so long as you approach every task with an open mind and leave with a clear conscience. Being a good person can go a long way toward being successful in this world.

Peterson was one of those people you only meet once in a lifetime, and although his life ended abruptly, the legacy he leaves behind stands as a testament to what can be accomplished when you live life to its fullest.

I only hope that when it comes time for me to leave this world, I can look back at my life without any regrets, knowing that I gave it my all.

I think that would make Peterson happy.



Hans Hage

Rolling stone provokes thought

I had only recognized a few of Bob Dylan's songs the day I went to one of his concerts, and I remembered his name from the radio and from the cassette tape cases lying around my house. But something meaningful was going to happen at Bayfront Festival Park in Duluth, Minn. I had that feeling. Something told me that Dylan was going to be much more to me than a singer on the radio.

It was a warm, muggy day in July of 1998, and my brothers and I were standing near the front of the entrance line - it must have been a mile long. My feet were already beginning to ache and my legs were growing tiresome from waiting.

I sprinted past all the old folks with their rheumatic knees and lawn chairs in tow. I didn't know why I was sprinting, but it felt like the right thing to do.

I took a spot next to an older man. He was about 50-years-old, and he sported a long, graying ponytail.

"How's it goin'?" Ever seen Bob before?" he asked me in a thick Minnesotan accent.

"No. First concert," I replied. Out of his pocket he took a small plastic bag filled with weed. He rolled a joint and started

smoking it right there in front of me. I was amazed. He offered me a hit, but I shyly denied. He reminded me of The Dude from "The Big Lebowski," so that's what I called him for the rest of the evening.

"You'll like him. He speaks the truth," The Dude said. "Whatever that's supposed to mean," I was thinking to myself. Surely he was going to start talking about pink elephants dancing on stage and fire-breathing dragons or something like that.

Once Dylan finally took the stage, the crowd was ecstatic. There was a profound connection I could practically see between Dylan and each member of the crowd.

Then he walked up to the microphone, pointed to the Duluth hillside behind the crowd, and said, "You see the hill?" Everyone turned their heads and looked at the silhouetted hillside. "I was born on the hill over there," Dylan said with a smile on his face.

The crowd erupted in an enormous cheer. The Dude took one last drag from his



Ben Jipson

Senator calls for Bush censure

Recently, the Democratic senator from Wisconsin, Russ Feingold, introduced a resolution to the U.S. Senate calling for a censure of President Bush.

As I found myself asking several questions, I thought it would be appropriate to address these questions in my column. First of all, I did not know, and I don't believe most students would know, exactly what a censure is. Second, why is Sen. Feingold asking for a censure of the president?

According to the United States Senate Web site, <http://www.senate.gov>, a censure is a formal statement of disapproval, but does not call for the removal from office. A censure has been used against a president in the past, as it was used against Andrew Jackson while he was in office. Sen. Feingold believes that President Bush's actions justify a censure.

It has become apparent through leaks to the media, that under President Bush the National Security Agency has been allowed to participate in no-warrant domestic surveillance.

Any citizen of the United States, in a phone call with a person who the Bush administration has deemed a "suspect of terrorism," has been monitored without any sort of warrants or court approval.

The 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) created a court system labeled the FISA courts, which are a legal means for the federal government to wiretap any suspects with ties to terrorism. Under the FISA courts the federal government is allowed to wiretap immediately.

If a suspect with terrorism ties is seen making or receiving a phone call, the government may immediately tap into the conversation in order to gain intelligence. The government then has 72 hours to bring the case in front of the court, where a judge will either approve or disapprove of the actions, and monitor how the surveillance is being conducted to ensure the protection of citizens' rights.

The FISA courts has been an extremely effective legal and constitutional method in which presidents may monitor sus-

pected terrorists and protect our citizens both from harm and civil liberties.

This has been a court system utilized by every presidency since its creation.

However, after Sept. 11, Bush decided he would ignore this legal method to protect our citizens, and authorized illegal wiretappings throughout the country. These wiretappings have not been warranted, have not been approved by any court and are bypassing all protections of our civil liberties in the name of protection.

One of our founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, perhaps said it best when he said, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Feingold addressed the thoughts of the founding fathers when he was quoted saying, "The founders anticipated abus-

es of executive power by creating a balance of powers in the Constitution. Supporting and defending the Constitution, as we have taken an oath to do, require us to preserve that balance, and to have the will to act."

Bush has bypassed a congressionally approved act creating the FISA courts, which has been approved by courts as constitutional. By ignoring the legislative and judicial branches of our federal government, Bush has dangerously disrupted the government's balance of power, and has violated our constitutionally protected civil liberties.

I applaud Feingold for his call for a presidential censure, and encourage all freedom-loving citizens to support this effort.

To quote famed journalist Edward R. Murrow, "We cannot defend freedom abroad by deserting it at home."



Nate Cook

Pointers for graduates seeking jobs in real world

Well it is almost here, the moment that many of us have been waiting for. It is graduation time.

Well not quite yet, but it is definitely time to start thinking about it. Many of you are graduating this spring, and you need to start to thinking about the new job that you are going to have and how well you will fit in when you get there. But most of you probably do not have a job lined up and are still looking for a job to use that fantastic degree that you have received.

The first thing you have to remember is you do not have to get a job in the exact field that you have your degree in.

A lot of places accept graduates that have any bachelor's degree, and will put you in a higher position. I know for a fact that manufacturing plants will take applicants that have a B.S., and will then call them engineers. Even a person with

a degree in accounting could land a job as one of these engineers and could move up in the company from there.

So keep your options open and look around; there are many positions out there that are just like this.

The next thing to do is to clean up your Facebook account. I have a very extensive profile with many drunken pictures and messages that I could very well say are not even rated PG-13.

I have heard from many sources that employers are now looking their new applicants up on Facebook to find out who this future employee is. This could be very bad for a lot of us, and I know if someone looked at my Facebook profile they would not be very impressed and that could cause me to not get the job.

Also look at your screen names and e-mail accounts to see if they may be vulgar or not politically correct. Employers could also look at this, which could have some effect on whether or not you get the job.

The most important thing to do is network. I know a lot of you heard this word many times in the last four to five years and are sick of it, but how many of you are actually using it?

Networking works very easily. All you have to do is talk to your friends and acquaintances and ask and tell them that you are looking for a job and if they know anyone who is hiring.

I have seen this work many times, at least in finding a job, which is the No. 1 goal. You may

not find the best job this way, but a job is a job and you need to pay the bills somehow, right?

So use this skill as much as you can. The more people that know you are looking, the more people you have on your side looking out for you.

And you could get very lucky and find that perfect job that you always wanted, which is exactly what you went to school for.

All these tools will help in the job search, and hopefully will be helpful to you. But as I always say, keep an open mind and apply for many jobs so that you have a choice when it comes down to your first day.

You will have many more jobs after this one, so yes this is a big deal to go out into the real world for the first time, but you have to remember you do not have to stay there forever, just until you find another job.



Jason Conway



Demetri Petrellis, sophomore

"Turn off the hallways' lights at night, turn off lights in residence halls and classrooms when not in use, and of course, more efficient toilets."

STUDENT  
Voices

Emily Ambrose, freshman

"Use more motion lights so that when someone is not around the lights will automatically turn off, which will greatly reduce the energy used throughout the campus and in turn lower energy costs."



How can UWRF  
reduce the cost of  
energy on campus?

Arik Weix, freshman

"They can turn off everything in the buildings at night that are not being used, like computers."



Steve Kletecka, freshman

"They can turn down the heat for one. That is why everyone has their windows open. Most people should keep their dorm lights off during the day and open their windows."



Lisa Abel, freshman

"In the hallways at night they can turn off half the lights. We need some lights, but we don't need as much as we have."

Reily Yerigan, freshman

"They can definitely turn down the heat in the residence halls, for sure."



Student Voices by:  
Kirsten Farrar



# Excitement for Major League Baseball builds



Sarah Packingham

So a friend of mine told me a couple weeks back that cheering for Duke is like cheering for the Yankees. He laughed at me when I told him that I thought Duke was going to win the Big Dance this season, but he laughed at me even more when they fell apart and lost last Thursday.

It's not that I'm a huge Duke fan; I just statistically thought it

## I would never be a Yankees fan, even if I moved to the heart of New York City.

was time for them to win. So how dare he ever compare me to a Yankees fan.

I would never be a Yankees fan, even if I moved to the heart of New York City. They have a good team year after year because they can afford to. They can afford to keep the best players in Major League Baseball in their roster.

The Yankees' winning records are what keeps the fans in the

seats, but that is not what being a true baseball fan is about. Just cheering for a team when they're winning is not the way to be a true fan.

I was born and raised in Minnesota, so that has made me a Twins fan for the last 20 seasons. The Twins aren't stellar every season, which is what makes them an exciting team to watch and follow.

You can go to a game on any day during the season and not know what to expect.

Some days the Twins bats could be on fire hitting balls out of the park and other days it appears that the bats have just decided to stop working.

But no matter what the day, when the Twins are playing in their home of downtown

Minneapolis, fans are there by the thousands cheering for their hometown team.

I love Major League Baseball so I'm really excited for this season to start.

Opening day is April 3, and I think that all Twins fans have a lot to look forward to this season.

They have done well in the spring training games thus far, so hopefully the successes will continue and they will do well in the regular season too.

I've already seen the Twins beat the Yankees and the Red Sox.

The Twins' first game is April 4 in Toronto against the Blue Jays.

I'm excited to see how a handful of my favorite Twins will fare this season including: Joe Mauer,

Torii Hunter, Johan Santana, Michael Cuddyer and Justin Morneau.

Joe Mauer is without a doubt my favorite.

He's not much older than I am, and is a hometown Minnesota boy, so naturally he would be my favorite.

He's also a fantastic catcher, and this season I think we can expect great things from him both behind the plate and at bat.

Torii Hunter is my other favorite Twins player. He hit 14 home runs last season and I'm looking for him to better that number this year. His great glove also saved the Twins more than a time or two last season and will continue to do so this season.

Even though the Twins have a lot of pitchers, Johan Santana

and his great record saves the Twins and will hopefully pitch even better this season.

Players like Michael Cuddyer and Justin Morneau may not be as well known or have as good of numbers as others, but they will be key to the Twins hopefully returning to the top of the American League Central.

However, the Yankees play on April 3 against Oakland, and their opening day game is going to be televised on ESPN.

My roommate, who loves the Yankees has already decided that the game will be showing in our room.

She said she'll be watching the game in its entirety unless she has to work.

Hopefully, she has to work.

# George Mason acts as spoiler

GUEST COLUMNIST



Chris Schad

On Sunday afternoon, I did what most people did around America. I sat down with my bracket, which was symbolically bleeding red ink, and watched the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

I still had a chance to win some money in a massive pool from some friends from high school, as two of my Final Four teams were still remaining. It was crucial that Villanova and Connecticut win their games on Sunday if I wanted to get my money back after a terrible run through the tournament.

At the source of my pain was No. 11 seed George Mason out of the Washington, D.C. bracket.

The Patriots were only supposed to go one and done in my bracket, and it was one of my most confident picks. However, No. 6 seed Michigan State couldn't get the job done and fell to the Patriots who were without Tony Skinn, their second leading scorer who was suspended for punching a Hofstra player.

and their dog's (especially Huskies) pick to win the National Championship. ESPN even called them the "All-Future NBA Team."

They had such big, strong and powerful forwards. Quick, agile and deadly guards along the edges. In the middle of these two units was a hybrid named Rudy Gay. Gay is expected to be the first pick in the 2006 NBA Draft, should he decide to forgo his senior season. He is arguably one of the best players in the country behind Gonzaga forward Adam Morrison and Duke forward J.J. Redick. However, those two stars weren't able to shine on the stage of the Final Four.

This was Gay's opportunity. The game started much to my excitement. Connecticut jumped out to a 12-point lead in the first half, just like the North Carolina game. George Mason kept fighting and was able to keep the deficit to 9 points at halftime.

Then came the second half, when the fun began.

George Mason would achieve a turning point as George Mason guard Lamar Butler threw up a three pointer and was fouled. The shot went in and George Mason had the lead with about 20,000 screaming fans behind them, as their Halifax, Virginia campus was

## At the source of my pain was No. 11 seed George Mason out of the Washington, D.C. Bracket.

about 20 miles away from the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C.

I stared at my TV not only in anger, but disbelief as this tiny school from something called the Colonial Athletic Association was making one of the best teams in the country look like my fifth-grade basketball team.

However, after that four-point play, I realized this was the best possible thing that could happen for the tournament. Every year there's been a team that's overachieved, but nobody ever pulled the big upset to get to the biggest stage in college basketball.

They were given no respect by fans (outside of Halifax) and commentators such as Billy Packer who questioned the selection committees decision to give George Mason an at-large bid over bigger schools from bigger conferences such as Cincinnati and Michigan. Before Sunday, Buster Douglas had never knocked out Mike Tyson in the NCAA Tournament.

The game went on and I found myself losing self-control and tearing my bright red bracket to shreds and cheered for the underdog and enjoyed every minute of it. I leaped several times for every Jai Lewis hook shot that went in, and cringed when Tony Skinn missed a free throw that set up a layup by Connecticut's Denham Brown to send the game to overtime.

However, Connecticut was

## ...was making one of the best teams in the country look like my fifth-grade basketball team.

So the Patriots came into this game as this year's "Cinderella" in the tournament. Another mid-major school playing out of its mind and would get to the Elite Eight. None of these teams had ever broken into the Final Four and it looked like it wasn't going to happen this year, because the mighty Connecticut Huskies stood between George Mason and the Final Four.

The Huskies were everyone

See Schad page 6

# Falcons pick up two wins in Iowa



Ashley Bertrand/Submitted Photo

Falcon catcher Ashley James prepares to catch a strike thrown by a Falcon pitcher at the Rebel Spring Games in Florida. The Falcons are fresh off the road at the Coe College Tournament, however, where they went 2-2 on March 25 and 26.

## Women go .500 over the weekend

Sarah Packingham  
sarah.packingham@uwrf.edu

The warmer temperatures that have been recorded around River Falls as of late make it not so hard to believe that spring might truly be here.

For the UW-River Falls softball team, the spring season has been here for a while already as they have played 16 games this season.

The Falcons have done quite well for themselves thus far, holding a 9-7 record. The Falcons were also supposed to have their first home game March 28, but due to the amount of snow that was still on the playing field, the game against Hamline University had to be postponed.

"It doesn't mess up our schedule," junior Margo Taylor said. "It just bums us out that we can't play."

The game that was originally set for 3 p.m. will now be played on April 11 at 4 p.m., weather permitting.

Over the course of a two-day tournament at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the Falcons played well and went 2-2. This tournament took place on March 25 and 26.

March 26 results									
Cornell	001	000	0	-	1	6	0		
River Falls	001	001	x	-	2	8	0		
Batting									
Cornell College	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so			
Anderson, 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1			
Hopper, lf	3	0	1	0	0	1			
McCune, cf	3	1	2	0	0	0			
O'Rourke, 1b	2	0	1	1	1	1			
Cox, dh	2	0	0	0	0	2			
Moeller, ph	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Stef, rf	3	0	1	0	0	0			
Raymond, ss	3	0	1	0	0	1			
Preiss, c	2	0	0	0	0	1			
Weir, ph	1	0	0	0	0	0			
Carlson, p/ph	2	0	0	0	1	1			
Total	25	1	6	1	2	9			
UW-River Falls									
Rudiger, ss	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so			
Syverson, 2b	2	0	2	0	0	0			

"We wanted to win all four games; we played some tough competition," junior Brittany Rathbun said. "We just had to go in and play our game."

**"We're going to be really competitive this season. We're a small team..."**

Kelly Quinn,  
freshman softball player

The Falcons faced a tough foe on the first day of competition playing William Penn, and their opponent proved to be more than they could handle as they lost 8-2. Even though the Falcons had five hits, it wasn't enough to win as they committed six errors.

Mindy Rudiger was one of the best Falcons at bat going 2-3, while Angie Quance went 1-1. Ashley Bertrand was the losing pitcher for River Falls.

Rathbun said that the Falcons played down to William Penn's level and should have won their first game of the tournament and then ended the weekend with a 3-1 record.

But the Falcons didn't let the loss keep them down for long as they went on to beat Mt. Mercy in their second day of competition, 4-0. The Falcons had seven hits in this game and committed

Pitching									
Cornell	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	bf		
Carlson	6.0	8	2	2	2	7	27		
Total	6.0	8	2	2	2	7	27		
River Falls									
Bertrand	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	bf		
	7.0	6	1	1	2	9	28		
Total	7.0	8	1	1	2	9	28		

March 26 results

only one error. Emily Howlett went 2-3 at the plate for the Falcons. Bertrand started the game and the game ended when Rathbun came in to relieve her and earned her third save of the young season.

UW-RF started the second day of the tournament with another loss, losing to Central College by a score of 5-1. Breamber Syverson went 1-2 for the Falcons during the loss. Bertrand started again for the Falcons and was credited the loss.

For the second straight day, the Falcons won their second game of the day beating Cornell College 2-1.

The Falcons finished the day with eight hits and their good play was rewarded by committing no errors. Syverson went 2-2 for the Falcons. Bertrand played all seven innings and recorded nine strikeouts.

Freshman Kelly Quinn was one of a number of Falcon newcomers to take part in the Coe Tournament. She has found success jumping into the Falcons program.

"Everyone is so nice," Quinn said. "We have a lot of sophomores and juniors who are expected to do well. We don't have any seniors."

The Falcons hope to return to play this weekend at home against St. Scholastica on April

Central									
River Falls	100	220	0	-	5	7	1		
	000	100	0	-	1	5	3		
Batting									
Cornell College	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so			
Nissen, ss	3	1	1	0	0	0			
Freese, pr/ss	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Wares, 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0			
P. Anderson, ph	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Shimok, 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1			
Harris, c	4	1	1	0	0	2			
Overturf, cf	4	2	3	0	0	1			
L. Anderson, lf	3	1	2	1	0	0			
Frye, 1b	2	0	0	0	0	1			
Boyington, dh	3	0	0	1	0	0			
Engholm, rf	2	0	0	1	0	0			
Jens, rf	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Total	30	5	7	3	1	8			
UW-River Falls									
Rudiger, ss	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so			
Syverson, 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0			

1 and St. Mary's on April 2. Both games are scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. But the Falcons will find out on the morning of March 31, if the games are to occur or not. The Falcons are expecting rain for Saturday's game, and possibly traveling to St. Mary's for the second game.

"The chances of having these games are not very good," Taylor said. "The snow is gone, but now the field is all wet and

## "We wanted to win all four games; we played some tough competition."

Britany Rathbun,  
junior softball player

mucky."

Fans can expect good things from the team that has already started off strong.

"We're going to be really competitive this season," Quinn said. "We're a small team, but good."

In order to do well this season there are just a few things the Falcons need to continue to accomplish.

"We need to work on being consistent," Taylor said. "We need to work on the fundamentals and doing the little things to win games."

Pitching									
Cornell	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	bf		
Swingen	3.2	5	1	1	3	4	18		
Rethmeier	3.1	0	0	0	0	7	10		
Total	7.0	5	1	1	3	11	28		
River Falls									
Bertrand	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	bf		
Rathbun	3.1	4	3	2	1	1	18		
Total	7.0	7	5	3	2	8	33		



SPORTS WRAP

Wallace named All-American



Jenny Wallace

UW-River Falls junior Jenny Wallace was named to the AHCA First West All-American.

This was the second year in a row that Wallace earned that honor.

Following the seasons’ end Wallace was also named to the All-NCHA team, which was also for the second time.

Wallace didn’t miss a game for the Falcons en route to becoming the second leading scorer on the team. She had eight goals and 11 assists for 19 total points this season.

The All-American Team names 12 players to its team. Of the 12 players six come from the West region like Wallace and six come from the East.

Wallace was not expecting to receive this honor.

“I was really shocked. I feel like I didn’t have a great hockey season,” Wallace said. “I guess the best word really could be shocked.”

Wallace also didn’t think she could have accomplished this award without her teammates.

“It’s almost like a team award,” Wallace said. “The better teams have players on the team.”

Fans invited to celebrate at Brandy’s

On April 3 Brandy’s will be hosting a NCAA Basketball Championship Game Party. The party will start at 7 p.m. and last until 10 p.m., depending on the time of the game itself.

Students attending the celebration will be able to see the game on more than one big screen TV, and there will be free food.

Hot dogs and brats will be served fresh off the grill, and students can enjoy chips and soda as well.

Brandy’s and the Leadership Center hope for a large crowd to watch the biggest college basketball game of the year.

Healthy Heart Walk to take place

UW-River Falls and the River Falls Allina Hospital are joining together to put together the first ever Healthy Heart Walk.

This event hopes to raise money and awareness about heart disease. Any money raised by this event will stay in the River Falls community.

The Healthy Heart Walk will take place on April 29 starting at 10 a.m. The event is free to participate in. T-shirts are \$10 for seniors and children, and \$15 for adults, but that is only if you register before April 7.

The price of the shirts goes up if you register any later.

The Healthy Heart Walk will take place on the trails on the UW-RF campus.

Sports Wrap compiled by Sarah Packingham

Varsity Sports Week

Saturday, April 1

Softball vs. St. Scholastica, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 2

Softball vs. St. Mary’s, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Softball at North Central, 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

Softball at UW-Oshkosh, 3 p.m.

Friday & Saturday, April 7 & 8

Track, Falcon Invitational, 9 a.m.

Standings

Fastpitch		
W	L	
WIAAC Standings		
UW-Whitewater(6-0)	0	0
UW-Stevens Point(8-2)	0	0
UW-Eau Claire(13-3)	0	0
UW-Superior(11-7)	0	0
UW-River Falls(9-7)	0	0
UW-LaCrosse(6-6)	0	0
UW-Platteville(5-7)	0	0
UW-Oshkosh(5-9)	0	0
UW-Stout(3-11)	0	0
For complete stats check out UW-RF Sports Information Web site at www.uwrf.edu/sports		

Check out Pure Radio 88.7 WRFW to keep up to date on all Falcon sports.

Season ends, playoff predictions begin



Matt Zinter

The NBA season is soon coming to a close and some teams are making a strong push for the playoffs. The Detroit Pistons is the only team that has won its division so far, and there are less than 15 games left. So I am going to make a prediction on how the playoffs are going to unravel.

In the East, the Pistons and the Heat are running away with the conference, although the Nets

are on a nine-game winning streak, which could give them momentum to be a solid team in the playoffs. The Bucks were one of the worst teams in the league last year. This year, they are holding the seventh seed in the playoffs. The Celtics and the Bulls were two teams last year were the third and fourth seeds respectively last year. This year, the Bulls are two games out of the eighth seed 76ers, and the Celtics are four games out.

In the West, there is a heated battle in the Southwest between the Spurs and the Mavericks for the first seed in the playoffs. The Spurs have an easier schedule to end the season, so they will win the division and ultimately, get the No. 1 spot in the playoffs. The Hornets was an

This year, the Bulls are two games out of the eighth seed, and the Celtics are four games out.

awesome team this year, led by rookie Chris Paul, but started to choke in the end and had a losing streak of eight games, and now are on another losing skid of four games. They had the fifth seed at one point in the year, but lost it. They are only two games out of the eighth spot, so if they get back to how they were playing earlier in the year, they could still have a shot at the playoffs.

Now for the playoff picture.

Coming out of the east will be the Detroit Pistons. You can not pick any team but them; they are too good to pass by. The Cavaliers will give them some competition, though. You can’t count out Lebron James when it comes to crunch time. He is considered the best player in the NBA today. Coming out of the West will be either the Mavericks or the Spurs. Those two teams are the teams that no other team can stop in the West. The Suns are going to take the second seed, but former MVP Steve Nash will not be able to take this team to the finals.

So my prediction is the Pistons, and either the Spurs or the Mavericks in the finals. Either way, the Pistons will repeat as the NBA champions.

A Day on the Pitch



Abby Piette/Submitted Photo

The UW-River Falls men’s rugby team played in their first game of the spring season against St. John’s at the intramural fields on March 25. This game was the first for the spring season. Despite the snowy conditions the Falcons managed to fight through and beat the Johnnies. They also played in front of a number of hometown fans.

Baseball club begins on campus

Falcons seek return of baseball next season

Matt Zinter  
matthew.zinter@uwrf.edu

Baseball at UW-River Falls has been scarce for the past four years and students are eager to get baseball back. Some students have started up a baseball club for this upcoming spring.

“I love baseball,” freshman Alan Knaeble said. “I just wanted to start up a club so I could play again.”

Four years ago, baseball was dropped from the UW-RF athletic program, along with men’s wrestling and women’s gymnastics. The sports that were added that year were men’s track and

“The old middle school has a varsity field right next to it.”

Alan Knaeble, baseball club member

field and women’s golf.

“It was a complex situation to drop baseball,” athletics director Rick Bowen said. “We just didn’t have quality coaches that could put in the time.”

The 2001-02 season was the last season that the Falcons played on the diamond. That year, the Falcons went 14-25 overall with a record of 11-16 in the WIAC.

After Knaeble advertised for

this club, about 44 students were interested in playing on the team.

“I set up meetings for people to go to,” Knaeble said. “I would say only half of the people that signed up will actually play.”

Knaeble has already set up the team to play in a league. This league is the National Club Baseball Association. Teams in this league include UW-Eau Claire, Michigan Tech, UW-Whitewater, Marquette University, and UW-Madison.

“It is definitely going to be scary playing against teams like Madison and Marquette,” sophomore Drew Hruska said. “We will just go in there and do our best.”

Once they get this team ready, the Falcons will be playing on

“We just didn’t have quality coaches that could put in the time.”

Rick Bowen, athletics director

the old middle school field, since the old field was taken down to put up the new tennis courts, located by the Knowles Center.

“The old middle school has a varsity field right next to it,” Knaeble said. “It will work for now.”

The baseball season has already started for the WIAC. Next year, River Falls’ season will start too.

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Applications are due April 19 at 5 p.m. in 304 North Hall.

Schad: George Mason gives basketball fans a run for their money in tourney

from page 6

somehow overmatched in overtime and the dust finally settled after a final three point attempt by Denham Brown missed.

It happened, a mid-major team was going to go to the Final Four.

The Patriots taught me a lesson during Sunday’s shocking upset.

It wasn’t about trying to win my money back. It wasn’t about them destroying every favorite in the Washington Region. It was about the team that could.

It was about the team with players who would never give up on their dream.

The team which was led by a wise-cracking coach who before

Superman pounded kryptonite at the beginning of the game, jumping out to a 16-2 lead.

Sunday’s game said that CAA stood for Connecticut Assassin’s Association.

Finally, the team that has most of America behind their back will travel to Indianapolis to take on the Florida Gators in a National Semifinal game April 1. I would say that it’s time that we all take a look at the Patriots, then again we already have.

Who George Mason beat to get to the Final Four: Michigan State, 75-65

North Carolina, 65-60  
Wichita State, 63-55  
UConn, 86-84

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# First Wellness Challenge for UWRF Summer session opens up for all

Shalena Brandt  
shalena.brandt@uwrf.edu

The first UW-River Falls Wellness Challenge will be held April 3-30. The event challenges all students, faculty and staff to become healthier and improve the wellness of the campus.

“Whether you want to lose a couple of pounds before summer or just maintain a healthy lifestyle, the Wellness Challenge is an easy way to motivate yourself and encourage others around you to start being a little more healthier,” said Miranda Biteler, a senior majoring in health and human performance and a student intern at Student Health Services.

By submitting a free application through a paper file or online at [www.uwrf.edu/student-health-service/wellness\\_challenge](http://www.uwrf.edu/student-health-service/wellness_challenge) by March 31, students, faculty and staff will be competing individually and campus-wide.

The program was planned and implemented by Biteler. Late registrations will be accepted, but must be in no later than April 2 to be involved with the competition, she said.

“We wanted something that involved students and staff, and to motivate them to be more active,” Biteler said.

Participants will be divided into three categories for teams, she said. Students will be placed

“Knowing that summer is coming, people are more willing to be active when it’s warm outside.”

Miranda Biteler,  
student

in a team based on their residence hall. Faculty and staff will be on a team consisting of their academic building. If a faculty member’s office is in South Hall, the points will be entered into that team. The third team is off-campus students.

When all applications have been submitted, Biteler said she will be sending out an e-mail to the participants to remind them of how to submit the weekly points, and the link for the Web site.

“They should first put the point breakdown sheet and their log somewhere where they can see it everyday,” she said. “Then, just record their points daily on their log so they can total them up on Sunday easily.”

The participants of the challenge must keep track of points each week, she said. The week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. Each week, the points need to be submitted by Tuesday for the following week. Participants do not need to show how each point was obtained.

The point totals for different activities are available on the

ness, and for advice on how to remain healthy, she said.

“We want people going out and doing stuff,” Biteler said.

The timing of the event was a large factor in hopes that people would participate.

“I really wanted to pick a time before summer,” she said. “Knowing that summer is coming, people are more willing to be active when it’s warm outside.”

The UW-RF Health Fair occurs during the competition, giving participants the opportunity to get more information and points for that specific week.

A large response for registering has come from faculty, Biteler said.

“I think right now we have a larger response from faculty and staff because we have advertised to them more,” she said. “It’s also hard to get students involved because sometimes they just aren’t interested or they get bombarded with advertising around campus from so many posters up all over.”

The design of the event came from looking around the Internet and examples from other communities around River Falls, Biteler said.

“I enjoyed giving our campus the opportunity to be motivated,” she said. “It’s another motivation to be active.”

Jennie Oemig  
jennifer.oemig@uwrf.edu

This summer, students looking to add a few credits to their transcript or complete a general education requirement on their degree audit report (DAR) have a variety of courses to choose from.

“Hundreds of classes are offered,” Katrina Larsen, director of outreach programs, said. “Virtually every program has some offerings.”

Deans and department chairs decide which courses to offer based on what students need and want, Larsen said.

Summer session allows students a chance to pick up credits toward their major or minor. Students interested in making up a course he or she previously failed or dropped may also do so during summer session. This will keep students from falling behind in their program come fall semester.

“It’s an opportunity to get ahead on a degree or fix a bad grade,” Larsen said.

In order to accommodate the busy schedules of students and instructors, summer course schedules vary.

“Some courses are two or three days, some are a few weeks and some last the entire summer session,” Larsen said. “There are varying lengths to meet the needs of teachers and students.”

UW-River Falls offers five formal sessions during the summer, the first beginning May 22, and ending June 9. Registration for summer courses began Feb. 20, and will continue through the day each session begins. Those seeking to take a summer course may do so by registering on eSIS.

“We encourage people to register early so we know how many students will be taking certain

courses,” Larsen said, adding that classes with only a few students enrolled are likely to be canceled.

There are also some courses being offered for specific programs and will not be canceled regardless of the number of students enrolled. Sue Tarr, professor of health and human performance will be teaching some physical education courses this summer.

“They are part of a specific certification program, so I will teach the class with low numbers so those students can complete the program,” she said.

When selecting courses to offer

“We encourage people to register early so we know how many students will be taking certain courses.”

Katrina Larsen,  
director of Outreach  
Programs

## Installation: New members of Sigma Alpha to bring agriculture into the classroom

from page 2

and completed the necessary steps to become part of the Sigma Alpha national organization.

“It was a lot easier than I thought it was going to be,” Groth said when questioned about the process of starting the group. “We formed our executive committee and then took a verbal survey ... and found out we had a lot of people interested.”

The process moved quickly, using interviews and applications to find women who were motivated, and possessed similar goals as the founding members and the national chapter.

On the night of its installation as the Beta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Sorority, 20 girls were sworn in, including the four founding members acting as president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

One of its priorities is to bring agriculture

into the classrooms of younger students and teach them how important it is in daily life.

Currently, the new sorority is experiencing its first recruitment period as an official organization. Members are seeking people who showed interest in the group throughout the semester, and students who may not know what Sigma Alpha has to offer.

After summer, these interested members will become membership candidates, and be involved in various activities with the current members before being initiated into the sorority.

Though students have been the driving force behind the creation of Sigma Alpha, as an official organization on campus they are required to have faculty advisers. Tamia Trulson of the agriculture education department and Gerald Madison of the agriculture department serve as faculty contacts and University support.

“As a chapter we have 20 extremely moti-

vated and goal-oriented women. Individually, all of us have our own goals for the chapter, but our main goal ... is to be outstanding when it comes to our national chapter,” Groth said. “We really want to go into this with a bang. There are a lot of awards that are out there to be recognized for, and that’s probably one of our number one goals.”

Sigma Alpha has only been an official organization more than a month, but has high hopes for the future. Eventually the group would like to see a house be created for members to live together, and it would like to be recognized for achievements as a group by the national chapter.

“I would like to see the group thrive, to become something that all agriculture girls want to be in,” Groth said. “I want us [Sigma Alpha] to become very involved on campus.”

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YAY — OR — NAY



To the snow melting and spring finally arriving

To George Mason ruining NCAA brackets everywhere



To baseball season kicking off this weekend

Falcon Favorites



Troy Jilek  
Professor of animal science

Jilek teaches genetics, biometrics and introduction to animal science. He is also trained to teach animal breeding.

In the 25 years he has been teaching at UW-River Falls, he has taught 140 sections of genetics.

Jilek graduated from UW-RF in 1964 with a degree in agricultural education with a minor in chemistry.

Jilek's favorite part about teaching is, "working with students, especially watching students develop from freshmen and leave as seniors, and seeing the transformation that takes place."

"Its an exciting type of job, being able to help students develop into professionals they will be," Jilek said.

Jilek said the downfall to the job is not being able to help some students.

"The approach we take is a lot of hours and we work really close with students being advisors, advising and clubs."

Other than teaching, Jilek is the advisor of the Rodeo Club. He is also working with some universities in Nicaragua and is doing some consulting work with the universities in Mexico.

Some advice Jilek has for students is "If you have a dream, go for it. Set your goals high."

Campus Calendar

Friday, April 7

5 p.m. - Dr. Edward N. Peterson Plaque Dedication Ceremony and Reception

Please join the campus community and friends in a reception and plaque dedication ceremony honoring the late Dr. Edward N. Peterson.

For further information, please contact the history and philosophy department at 425-3164 or email susan.m.voelker@uwrf.edu.

Location: South Hall Alumni Room and 224 South Hall

Monday, April 10

2-3 p.m. - Wisconsin Taxpayers Protection Amendment

State Sen. Sheila Harsdorf (R-River Falls) and Rep. Kitty Rhoades (R-Hudson) will hold an informational session about the Wisconsin Taxpayers Protection Amendment.

The format will feature an overview of the intent of the Constitutional Amendment and timeline for consideration by the Legislature and voters. For more information, contact Mark Kinders at ext. 3771.

Location: Presidents Room, Student Center

Wednesday, April 12

10 a.m.-2 p.m. - UW-RF Health Fair.

The annual UW-RF Health Fair is an interactive event that everyone is invited to participate in. There will be many free or reduced cost services such as cholesterol testing, massages, blood pressure checks, body composition analysis and body fat measurements, hair up do,s, hearing screening; and spinal exams and consultations. There will be lots of health related educational materials and interactive activities.

For more information contact Natalie Hansen at Student Health Services at (715) 425-3293.

Fee: Free

Location: Karges Gymnasium

FALCON REVIEWS

Band creates Controversy

Erik Wood  
student.voice@uwrf.edu

“How many times have you heard the words ‘next big thing?’ Well, theAudition is it. Not your average, mediocre rock band, theAudition is a downright addictive dance-rock-pop-punk band from Chicago, Ill.” according to Victory Records.

I’m guessing you’ve probably heard that saying ten-fold when it comes to sports, trendy gear or just another fashion fad. When it comes to music, bands like theAudition possess a passion for music which most bands tend to lack when attempting to achieve stardom.

I wouldn’t classify theAudition as overnight rockstars, but with Victory Records behind them, and a line-up of bands like Hawthorne Heights, Bayside, Atreyu, Silverstein and former Taking Back Sunday, theAudition will have no problem getting its name out to thousands across the country.

The band’s debut, *Controversy Loves Company*, is an album that most bands could not produce within three to four years of existence. The vocal range expressed on this album is limitless.

Although tracks sound relatively similar and express no true variety, it

does not take away from the solid lyrical artwork.

The album was recorded in just a little over a month. According to Victory Records, “Ryan (Drums) said of the recording experience: ‘Recording *Controversy* was one of the best experiences of my life. John Naclerio is a great guy and is amazing at what he does. Being the first time in a real studio, everyone was a little nervous about what to expect but John made everyone comfortable and that helped us all with making the record we wanted to make.’”

Naclerio worked with many bands such as My Chemical Romance, Senses Fail and Brand New. By working with bands as “big” as those listed, theAudition received some valuable help when recording *Controversy Loves Company*.

My personal favorite tracks on the album are “Approach the Bench,” “The Ultimate Cover Up” and “Don’t Be So Hard.” I would have to say out of all that this album has given, these three tracks portray a great deal of talent in many areas such as vocals, guitar work, and a vivid flow between lyrics and down-right energetic dance-pop punk music.



Ratings for music reviews are based on a scale from one to five. An album that scores a five is worth a listen, while an album that scores a one is better left on store shelves.

But honestly, I must say theAudition has a long way to go in comparison to the luck of bands like Panic! at the Disco, Fall Out Boy, and The Academy Is.... The band just does not possess the framework needed to achieve the success other

bands have seemingly found overnight.

The verdict is, theAudition is highly talented and within two to three years, maybe even less, we may see the next Fall Out Boy or Panic! at the Disco.

3.0

out of five points

Du jour

Cable Car

**Ingredients:**

1 1/4 oz. Captain Morgan

3/4 oz. Orange Curacao

1 1/4 oz. Sweet and sour

**Mixing instructions:**

Mix all ingredients into an ice-filled shaker. Shake. Strain into a chilled, sugar and cinnamon rimmed cocktail glass.

Amaretto Paradise

**Ingredients:**

3/4 oz. Amaretto

3/4 oz. Malibu rum

3/4 oz. melon liqueur

Pineapple juice

**Mixing instructions:**

Mix alcohol over ice. Fill glass with pineapple juice, shake and serve.

Dog House Dew

**Ingredients:**

4 1/2 oz. Vodka

Mountain Dew

Lemon juice

**Mixing instructions:**

Pour vodka into glass. Fill with Mountain Dew. Add a few splashes of lemon juice and ice cubes. Stir.

The Student Voice does not condone underage drinking. If you are of age and choose to drink, please do so responsibly.

Audiences taken ‘Inside’ heist

“For the love of God, when are they gonna shoot a hostage?!”

Ten minutes into the movie, that’s all I cared about. The robbers kept making threat after threat to kill someone, but nothing ever happened, let alone a shooting.

And that goes for the entire movie - it was just a long-winded heist.

Spike Lee, what were you thinking? That you could just put Denzel in another cop movie or hostage movie and we wouldn’t notice how bad it was? You should be ashamed to even put your name on this.

But it’s not just Lee’s fault; every other actor in this movie should be equally embarrassed to be a part of it.

Willem Dafoe has played amazingly complex characters, especially the main detective in the film “Boondock Saints.” How humiliating for him that he should be reduced to a bumbling street cop.

Clive Owen is the mastermind behind the bank robbery, but you couldn’t even tell because his face was almost always covered with sunglasses and a neck warmer. What happened to the sexy, leather trench-wearing, prostitute-saving Owen, whose accent girls secretly lusted over in “Sin City?”

Now he just looks like one of the fat Baldwins after a crazy bender. No one wants to see that.

Jodie Foster popped up for a good five minutes in this film, but I’m not sure what she did except rip off the president of the bank, played by Christopher Plummer. (Whose grave did they find that guy hiding in, anyway?)

But on the upside, one of the characters does call Foster the C-word (the really naughty one) - which I’ve been wanting to do ever since she decided not to do anymore Hannibal Lector films. So I guess this film wasn’t a total waste of two and a half hours.

The plot was also completely unrealistic and even comical.

To start the bank robbery, Owen and the other conspirators use smoke bombs to scare everyone onto the floor. Then it cuts to a couple walking by the front doors,

smoke pouring out of them, and they casually tell a passing cop that maybe he should check it out.

Seriously, if someone even lit a match in a bank on Wall Street, we all know that the SWAT team would be there instantly, and the terror alert color would shoot up to hot pink.



Jenna Lee

And in the end, what does it all come down to? What was so important to steal from this bank besides the millions of dollars in the vault?

Only proof that the bank chairman (Plummer) was a Nazi, and accepted money and diamonds that rightfully belonged to Jews sent to the concentration camps.

Now, I understand that Nazis are bad, very bad - but does everything have to come back to them? Should we start blaming them for global warming too?

The point is, let’s quit putting them at the end of movies. It’s not a surprise anymore because we know they were bad to begin with, and their organization reached around the globe.

Just stop it. In fact, just stop making movies like this in general, and we will all be better people for never seeing them.

Jenna is a sophomore majoring in journalism and music history. he enjoys watching dark comedy movies.

Last week the film “Inside Man” was released, and even though it may seem like the typical bank-heist movie, I’ve gotta say it was pretty good.

The film begins with a headshot of Dalton Russell (Clive Owen), who tells us that he plans to rob a bank, believing it to be the perfect crime.

Next thing we know, he and three cohorts walk into a Manhattan bank masked from head to toe in painters outfits. He takes out the cameras, locks the doors and takes everyone by surprise.

Gas canisters are thrown to keep everyone uncoordinated, attracting a beat cop who calls it in and bringing hostage negotiator Keith Frazier (Denzel Washington) in.

Frazier hopes to talk his way out of this hostage crisis, but Russell shows us his clever, meticulous nature. He proves unwavering and absolute to achieve his goal.

Eventually, it gets to a point where it seems as though Frazier is the one who is in command of the situation and giving orders.

I must say, Clive Owen certainly does give a highly convincing performance. He often shows us his apathy and brutality towards other people, yet is capable of showing a gentle, father-like persona to a small boy.

Russell’s actions prove confusing to police, making his next move always impossible to predict.

One example would be having all the hostages dressed in the same outfits as the gunmen, thereby making



Nick Welsh

identification nearly impossible.

But although he would be classified as the bad guy, I still couldn’t help but cheer for him.

As time rolls on, his plan proves to be ingenious, and I found myself thinking ‘if he pulls this off, then hats off to him.’

The bank’s founder, Arthur Case, is fearful of some damaging documents that may be found in a safety-deposit box after learning of the robbery.

To avoid the scandal he hands the documents over to Madeline White, a woman who seems to have all the connections. All I can tell you is that they prove that Case did terrible things in World War II.

After several hours the situation at the bank continues to intensify. Because Russell’s demands are few and mostly essential (like food and water for the hostages), Frazier begins to suspect that he’s stalling.

I hate to admit it, but the film did appear to be stalling.

Though it never got to the point where I was looking at my watch wanting it to end, I couldn’t help but think that it was taking longer time than needed to tell the story.

One flaw I noticed was that we never do learn what White does for a living. For all we know, she could be a lawyer or harboring criminals on the run.

Another flaw I noticed dealt with Case’s age. To be that active in World War II, today he’d have to be in his 90s, which he clearly is not.

We also learn that these documents were a primary reason Russell decided to hit this particular bank. But how did he learn about them in the first place? We are never told.

Though the film does have its flaws, it still provides plenty of wit and humor (especially in relation to an accused Arab and a videogame).

The story does prove engaging with surprising intelligence and twists, but personally I felt it might have been better off if the film was shortened.

However, “Inside Man” still proves to be an enjoyable flick.

Nick is a junior majoring in history. He enjoys watching comic book superhero films.



Ratings for movie reviews are based on a scale from one to five. A film that scores a five is a stellar movie worth seeing at least once. A film that scores a one is a horribly acted or directed film with no substance.

1.0

out of five points

2.5

out of five points



# Gallery showcasing Hong Kong artwork

The UW-River Falls art department is proud to announce it will be showcasing paintings and drawings created by primary and secondary school students from Hong Kong. Some of the artwork was created by students as young as six years old. Many of the works cheerfully depict the youngsters carrying on with daily events. Some images also depict issues

in the news, such as the bird flu panic. The artwork that will be featured includes traditional Chinese calligraphy, ink paintings and studies based on famous works of the western masters. The exhibition is being held in Gallery 101 located in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building between March 31 and April 8.

The artwork will be on display again at the Chalmer Davee Library between May 8 and May 28. For more information, please contact Peter Mak at peter.mak@uwrf.edu. A reception for the Hong Kong Students' Artwork Exhibition will be held on Monday, April 3 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Gallery 101.

# Deadline for annual photo contest nears

Attention Photographers: the UW-River Falls Annual Photography Contest has begun, so get those cameras out and start snapping pictures. Color photographs will be judged in a number of categories, including landscape, animals, objects, personality and feature. Black and white photos and digitally manipulated photos will be judged in separate categories. The deadline for the contest is Wednesday, April 12, so get those spring break shots at the beach or in your own back yard developed. Entries must be submitted to the journalism department office at 310 North Hall no later than 3 p.m. A panel of three professional photographers will be judging entries for first, second and third places in their respective categories. Judging will take place in 318 North Hall at 6 p.m. on

April 12, and will be open to the public. This is your chance to finally prove to everyone that you really are a good photographer. For more information, rules and entry forms, go to [www.uwrf.edu/journalism/photocontest](http://www.uwrf.edu/journalism/photocontest).



# STUDENT VOICE

The campus source  
for news and information  
for 90 years

# SIGN UP

for 2006-2007  
Fall Housing & Meal Plan

## ON-LINE RESIDENCE HALL SIGN UP

- You will need to know your Falcon Account username (example: w2500000) and password.
- Go to <http://www.uwrf.edu/student-services>
- If you will be requesting a current student or a new incoming student as a roommate, you must know his/her eSIS ID (example: w2500000).
- Projected Fall Semester double room rate is \$1558.00
- Projected Fall Semester single room rate is \$1708.00

**REMINDER: Residence Life will be enforcing the Board of Regents' policy that all 1st and 2nd year students live in the residence halls.**

In order to be eligible to live off campus, you must have at least two complete years of full-time course study **OR** have received an exemption from Mr. Terry Willson, Director, Residence Life, to live off campus for the 2006-2007 academic year.

If you sign up for 2006-2007 Fall and are eligible to cancel your housing contract (must fall within one of the above guidelines to be eligible to live off campus), you will receive a refund of your housing deposit **if canceled in writing by May 1, 2006.**

Throughout the sign-up process you may view the contract booklet on-line at [www.uwrf.edu/student-services/rs/pdf/contract2006-07.pdf](http://www.uwrf.edu/student-services/rs/pdf/contract2006-07.pdf).

The following wings/floors are guaranteed single wings: 1st North Crabtree (male), 1st East Parker (female), 1st West Grimm (female), 1st East McMillan (male), and all of 1st floor Johnson (both).

**PHASE ONE: March 27 - 28 (after 8:00 A.M.)**  
A current hall resident may reserve a space in his/her present room online. If already on a guaranteed single wing, you may reserve your same room at this time.

**PHASE TWO: March 30 - 31 (after 8:00 A.M.)**  
A current hall resident may reserve a space in his/her present residence hall online. NOTE: Guaranteed single room sign-up not available during phase two.

**PHASE THREE: APRIL 3 - 7 (after 8:00 A.M.)**  
Any current student may reserve a space in any hall online, including any open guaranteed singles.

If you have questions regarding sign up, please email us at [housing@uwrf.edu](mailto:housing@uwrf.edu)

## ON-LINE MEAL PLAN SIGN UP for your Fall Semester Meal Plan NOW!

Choose your Meal Plan when you do your Residence Hall Sign Up. Your 2005-2006 plan DOES NOT carry over to the new academic year.

**All Freshmen and Sophomores residing in the University Residence Halls ARE REQUIRED to participate in one of the approved meal plans.**

**Projected 2006-2007 Fall Semester Board Rates:**

- 19 Meal Plan \$965 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Flex 19 Meal Plan \$1150 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Any 14 Meal Plan \$935 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Flex 14 Meal Plan \$1100 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Any 10 Meal Plan \$900 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Flex 10 Meal Plan \$1050 w/ \$30 bonus points
- Take 5 Meal Plan \$832 w/ \$165 bonus points

**\*\*Upper Option \$575 w/ \$50 bonus points**

**\*\* The Upper Option Meal Plan does not meet the mandatory requirement for Freshman and Sophomores residing in the University residence halls. It is for students that are not required to participate in a standard plan. (Juniors, Seniors, commuters, 21 years old, those with independent status)**

Detailed information regarding the meal plans can be found on our Dining Services web site at [www.uwrf.edu/student-services/fs](http://www.uwrf.edu/student-services/fs). Contact the Dining Services Office at [food@uwrf.edu](mailto:food@uwrf.edu) if you have any questions.

# What are your job plans for next semester?

## Work for the Student Voice.

### All positions are open.

### Applications are due April 19.

## THE STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES:

# Countdown to Leadership!

### 10 REASONS TO RUN FOR SENATE:

1. Make Student Issues a Priority
2. Have a Say about How \$ is Spent
3. Improve Communication Skills
4. Network with Community Leaders
5. Challenge Yourself
6. Gain Organizing/Event Planning Experience
7. Have Fun and Meet New People
8. Travel to Conferences and State Events
9. Make Changes on Campus
10. BE A LEADER!

### HOW TO RUN FOR SENATE

Pick up a petition at the Leadership Center Front Desk in the Student Center. The petitions will be available on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. and will be due on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m. President and Vice-President Candidates are required to collect 100 signatures of currently enrolled students at UW-RF. Students running for Senate seats in the spring election will need to collect 50 signatures. Students may begin to campaign only after the petitions are turned in.

### OPPORTUNITIES

There are a variety of positions available for you in your Student Senate. Involvement in Senate is rewarding for you and for the campus. Senators serve as representatives of the UW-RF student body by leading and participating in campus decisions. Senators elected in the spring serve a term of one academic year, beginning May 2nd 2006. Get Involved!

# WHICH CAR IS YOURS?

## Brand New

## Smashed Up

(Okay, so maybe this isn't quite what you drive...but you get the picture!)

**69% of UWRF Students have never driven a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.**

**88% of UWRF Students have not been in a vehicle with an intoxicated driver.**

Data From UW-RF Alcohol and Other Drug Use Survey, Spring 2005

## Student Health Services

715.425.3293  
Located in East Hathorn

**68% of the student body drinks zero to five days per month.**

Larissa Filides Spring 2006