



SUDANESE REFUGEE, PAGE 10
**Refugee shares stories
with UWRF students**

MUSIC REVIEW, PAGE 9
**Reviewer dislikes latest
release by Arctic Monkey**

RUGBY, PAGE 6
**Men's rugby team
uses spring season
for preparation**



STUDENT VOICE

April 27, 2007

www.uwrfvoice.com

Volume 93, Issue 24

EXPECTATIONS IN EDUCATION

Technology changes skills utilized in classrooms

Jennie Oemig
jennifer.oemig@uwrf.edu

New technological devices continue to change the way students learn and the format professors use to educate those students.

Many instructors utilize D2L to post handouts and keep their students up to date with the latest happenings in the course.

Economics professor and Associate Dean of the College of Business and Economics Brian Schultz said he uses D2L to send out mass messages to students to let them know about schedule changes and upcoming due date for assignments.

Marketing communications professor Tracy O'Connell said she uses D2L not only to post similar content, but also has students use the dropbox to upload assignments. She said she also utilizes D2L to post students' grades.

"I think D2L is great because it enables students to get work in even if they can't come to class ...," she said. "I am able to give feedback without [having] to write neatly. I just need to type and I can go into edit mode and show right in the document where there's something specific to mention."

O'Connell said D2L is more convenient when it comes to returning graded assignments as well. Instead of physically handing back assignments, D2L allows her to grade assignments and post remarks electronically.

"I think it's more efficient, and I think most students like it," she said. "As someone concerned with the environment, I also like the reduction in paper and toner used with the 'paperless classroom.'"

Freshman Crystal Rakestraw is one student who finds the use of D2L convenient.

See **Technology**, page 3

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is the fifth installment in a six-part series. Next week look for two columns about the future of academics and the impact of the ever-increasing technology to end the series.

UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Above: William Kirkland, left, and Abeselom Semere, members of Kappa Alpha Psi, perform a tap-dance routine for an outdoor event during Unity in the Community Wednesday. The day-long festivities included many performances and table activities by UWRF, River Falls and other area organizations to promote unity throughout the campus and community.

See page 9 for more Unity in the Community coverage.

CBE receives accreditation

Josh Dahlke
joshua.dahlke@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls College of Business and Economics (CBE) now joins only a small percentage of colleges that have been accredited by one of the most elite accreditation organizations, showing the college's commitment to a superior higher education.

According to a UWRF Public Affairs news release, CBE was informed on April 12 that they had been successfully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

"Accreditation bodies have developed over the years to establish a seal of approval," said Barb Nemecek, dean of CBE.

She said CBE was new at UWRF six years ago, and at that point they implemented a self-evaluation to assess the department's current standing. After gathering information, they developed a plan to make the department better.

The accreditation from AACSB comes after an intensive evaluation of the college by three deans from other universities. Over the course of their evaluation they reviewed

See **CBE**, page 3

Tuition may be based on credit load

Amber Jurek
amber.jurek@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls administrators discuss the possibility of having students pay for tuition according to the number of credits taken per semester rather than paying for credits under the current plateau system.

Under this system, tuition is the same amount for students taking 12 credits a semester and others taking 15 credits. The per-credit tuition system would require students taking 15 credits to pay.

"The idea is not to generate more revenue at all," Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Mary Halada said. "Per credit makes the mechanics very much easier."

Halada said this will become more important as transfer agreements between other colleges are signed, which allow students to take classes at two different colleges.

See **Tuition**, page 3

UWRF launches sustainable institute for new development, goals

Lee Ann Bjerstedt
lee.bjerstedt@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls has always supported sustainability principles, both on campus and off. In the face of new sustainability issues involving growth and change in the surrounding communities, UWRF created the St. Croix Institute of Sustainable Community Development (SCISCD).

In February, Chancellor Don Betz introduced the strategic plan, "Living the Promise 2007-2012," in

a campus-wide meeting. The set of 10 goals is expected to reinforce core values and help the University carry out its mission to help students become productive, creative, ethical, engaged and informed citizens and leaders. These goals will employ sustainable principles with the intention of UWRF will becoming "a leader in upholding the principles of a sustainable society in which current needs are met without compromising opportunities for future generations," according to the University's strategic planning Web site.

Betz said the intent behind the SCISCD is not only to move the strategic plan along, but to ensure that sustainability becomes a primary focus throughout all aspects of the University, on campus and off.

"We want to explore a full range of issues," Betz said. "It's not only how do we preserve [what we have], but how do we continue to develop responsibly. It's not just campus, but communities around and in the St. Croix River Valley."

UWRF takes part in both national and global sus-

tainability organizations, such as the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Betz is also one of the founding participants of American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment as well as a charter member of its



Don Betz

See **Institute**, page 3

Rodeo arena torn down for new facility

Chris Acker
christopher.acker@uwrf.edu

The rodeo arena on Lab Farm 1 was torn down last week to prepare for the beginning stages of excavation for the new facility to be erected in its place.

The rodeo arena served the University's needs for over 20 years, but due to its age and poor conditions, the Rodeo Club decided it was time for an upgrade.

"Footing for animals was poor and the lighting was insufficient," Rodeo Club member Dan Baugh said.

Nathan O'Connor, professor of animal science, is a strong proponent for the new facility, and its many improvements.

"The main reason for the new facility is the safety issue," O'Connor

said. "The previous facility was unacceptable for the public viewing the events."

Due to the age and the inadequacy of the facility to properly accommodate the animals, the University aided the Rodeo Club to increase safety and efficiency.

"The whole facility was due for a major revamping," Vice President of the Rodeo Club Mitch Whyte said.

The new features will include a new ground footing for the livestock, which includes six inches of hard limestone base and two-and-a-half inches of sand on top. This is designed mainly for jumping horses.

"The animals, horses in particular, can move very well on this surface, and it will [be] more of a horse-friendly arena," Whyte said.

The facility will also be equipped

with a new stock handling system. This is an alley where the livestock can easily make their way into the arena from the new holding pens being built.

"This feature will make it less stressful and not as congested," Baugh said.

With the addition of this feature, the animals will be able to move into the arena with less contact and easier to handle.

The new arena will benefit the surrounding community. The facility will be available for rent, which will bring more shows and attention to the University.

"The facility can be used for many different classes and clubs on campus as well," O'Connor said.

See **Rodeo**, page 3



Niki Paton/Student Voice

The gate to the rodeo arena restricts entry to the grounds before construction for a new facility begins next week with the grand opening slated for fall.

VOICE SHORTS

Study to look at design of UWRF campus

UW-River Falls has initiated a design study of the campus mall, extending from South Third Street near the Agricultural Science building to South Sixth Street near Centennial Science Hall. During the study, consultants from the design firm of Johnson, Johnson and Roy will lead the University through exercises to determine the problems that need to be solved. Design workshops will also be held to obtain ideas from participants on design opportunities in the campus mall. The first workshop will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. May 1 in the Willow River Room of the University Center. Students, staff and faculty are invited to attend. For more information, contact Campus Planner Dale Braun at dale.k.braun@uwrf.edu.

Meeting to discuss Cascade Avenue project

A public informational and input meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. April 30 in Conference Room C located in the UW-River Falls Regional Development Institute Building to discuss plans for Cascade Ave. The meeting is part of an effort between River Falls and UWRF as well as the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to develop a design plan for Cascade Ave. from Spruce Street to Wasson Lane. Students, staff and faculty are invited to attend the meeting. For more information, contact Campus Planner Dale Braun at dale.k.braun@uwrf.edu.

Student receives new service award

UW-River Falls student Sarah Ressel was awarded the new Robert G. Sievert Student Employee Service Award. Ressel is a veteran of UWRF Student Services and Programs, serving as a StuCrew desk assistant and building manager. She has also worked as a residence hall desk assistant, a conference services assistant and a campus reservations assistant. Ressel received the award from Bob Sievert in the newly dedicated Robert G. Sievert Fireplace Lounge located in the University Center. The award was established after Sievert’s retirement in honor of 35 years of devoted service to the University. It is given to a University Center student employee who demonstrates dedication to the University.

Event displays campus community research

UW-River Falls will host RSCA Day from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. May 1 in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center. The event celebrates student research, scholarly and creative activities and provides faculty, staff and students the opportunity to share their work with colleagues, visitors and friends. Students display posters chronicling their work, ranging from scholarly activity in theatre, English, chemistry and horticulture. The event is free. Students, staff and faculty are invited to attend. For more information, contact UWRF Grants and Research Office at 425-3195.

Reception held to honor science professor

A retirement reception for Tony Jilek will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 3 in the Alumni Room located in South Hall. Jilek is an animal and food science professor. The reception will celebrate Jilek’s 26 years of service at UW-River Falls including collaboration with international agricultural universities. Students, staff and faculty are invited to attend. Contact Doreen Cegielski at 425-3704.

Wisconsin tax may be added to soft drinks

A group of several Democrats and two Republican legislators want to put a tax on soda in Wisconsin to pay for dental care for the poor, according to the Pierce County Herald. Sen. Mark Miller is the lead sponsor of the bill, which would place a 21 cent tax on every gallon of bottled soft drinks sold in Wisconsin in any given year. It would also include powders for ready-mix drinks and would place a \$2 a gallon tax on soft drink syrup. The money would then be put into a dental access trust fund, which would be used to reimburse dentists for patients using the state’s medical assistance program. Currently, few dentists across the state accept medical assistance patients because of the state’s low reimbursement rates, which means fewer low-income patients are being seen. Sen. Dan Kapanke said that between the additional revenue and current state funds, the state should be able to come up with the money without additional taxes.

Administration postpones position search

The search for the assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs position was postponed April 13 after all the candidates withdrew their applications. Provost Charlie Hurt said he hopes to fill this position soon. In coordination with Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Mary Halada, Hurt said he believes they can raise the offered salary slightly. The money will come from the excess money brought in from tuition. As enrollment increases, excess tuition is allocated and used for situations like this. The provost will be contacting the former candidates with the new salary aspect to see if anyone is still interested. If none of the candidates accept the position with the change in salary, Hurt said the University will implement an interim assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs through the summer or until they determine how best to proceed.

Briefs compiled by Amber Jurek Corrections

- In last week's article, "Nine students receive Chancellor's Award," Vang Lo was referred to as a female in the story, when Lo is a male. In the same article, it was stated that Ashley Olson could not be reached for comment, when, in fact, she replied, but was not quoted in the article.
- In last week's article, "Women's lacrosse completes seventh season, could reach varsity status," it was stated that another men's sport would need to be added if women's lacrosse was made a varsity sport. This is not the case. Title IX does not require an equal number of male and female sports, but emphasises that participation levels should match gender percentages on campus.

SENATE

Election results unofficial, grievances filed

Beth Dickman elizabeth.dickman@uwrf.edu

Even though elections took place Monday and Tuesday in the University Center, results were not part of any conversation during Tuesday night’s Student Senate meeting. Currently, Derek Brandt stands as president with Sara Deick as vice president. Though a grievance was filed about the vote for United Council, the unofficial result is that it did not pass. Complete results will become available next week. The motion presented Tuesday that

sparked the most discussion dealt with the changing of Student Senate bylaws. Last spring the bylaws were changed to require motions to go through a committee for approval before being presented to Senate during a meeting. Before the change in bylaws, the process for motion approval was expedited by allowing them to be moved by a Senate member, seconded by another member then presented directly at a meeting with any involvement of a Student Senate committee. The motion presented Tuesday reverts back to the old bylaws allowing motions to skip over the committee-approval step. Facilities and Fees Board Chair Jim

Vierling opposed the change in bylaws. “It allows the committees to be involved and more aware of what’s going on,” Vierling said. In response to Vierlings concerns about committees being kept out of the loop, and finances being approved before the finance committee is aware of what’s going on, Eggers added a friendly amendment stating that all motions dealing with money must go through the finance committee first. “Motions themselves are usually useless,” Eggers said. “There is a clause that motions can be referred back to committees if something does come up.”

Duck nests near Ag. Sci. annually

Phillip Bock phillip.rock@uwrf.edu

Students walking from the Agricultural Science building to the Agricultural Engineering building might notice a duck nested in a peculiar spot. The duck, a female mallard, has chosen to lay her eggs in a nest right up next to the rear-left window. “It seems like a very odd place for a duck to lay eggs,” student Michelle Murphy said. “She blends right in with the rocks; I didn’t even notice her at first.” Female mallards have brown feathers with black spots and can easily blend in with their surroundings. “Mallards are very adaptable and obviously thrive in areas where other wild birds would not be found,” wildlife biology professor Mark Bergland said. “This particular location seems odd, though, I must admit.”

According to professors in the Agricultural Engineering building, the duck has returned to the same spot for the past couple years. “I’ve seen him the last two or three years,” said Bill Connolly, who has an office near the bird. “But, other professors down here will tell you longer.” According to the Department of Natural Resources Web site, it is the male’s job to protect the female duck after the eggs have been laid. Larry Baumann, the campus veterinarian, said he does not think the male duck is doing his job. “I saw the male duck in the parking lot this morning,” Baumann said. “But he disappears most of the day.” Both the male and female ducks leave the nesting site unguarded at times.

“We get worried when she’s not there,” Connolly said. “Other animals might break the eggs.” There are animals in the area that seem to be interested in the duck. “There is a squirrel that keeps getting dangerously close to the nest,” Connolly said. “Sometimes I go out there and chase him away.” According to the Department of Natural Resources, all of the eggs hatch together after about 26 to 30 days. The ducks stay in the nest for about 10 hours. When the ducklings are ready to leave, the nest is abandoned and the mother duck leads them to water. There are disagreements among professors in the Agricultural Engineering building as to what happened to the eggs last year. Baumann suspects a squirrel broke the eggs, but Connolly thinks that they hatched.



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

A female mallard nests near the Agricultural Science and Agricultural Engineering buildings each spring. The duck, pictured here Thursday, is unphased by passersby.

“The last couple years the eggs were broken open, and I never saw any ducklings,” Baumann said. Those who know about the duck do not want to draw attention to it. “We mostly just leave her alone,” he said. “We worry that students might pick on her.” Teasing the duck could result in a fine. Chapter 18, Section 6 of UW System Administrative Code states, “No person may remove, destroy, or molest any bird, animal or fish life within the boundaries of university lands except as authorized by the chief administrative officer or except when this provision conflicts with a special order of the Department of Natural Resources.” Those who know about the duck have grown quite fond of it. Students and professors look forward to seeing the mallard each year. “I hope it keeps coming back,” student Nicole Rud said.

R.I.S.E. UP comes to River Falls

Rachel Ogrodnik rachel.ogrodnik@uwrf.edu

The Ride to Inspire Student Engagement (R.I.S.E. UP Wisconsin) event came to UW-River Falls Thursday in hopes of increasing youth’s commitment to civic responsibility. This one-time event consisted of workshops geared toward college and high school students, faculty, staff and community members of River Falls. The big, yellow school bus, filled with service-learning, community resources and 20 AmeriCorps volunteers from across the state visited five Wisconsin cities in total. In addition to River Falls, the R.I.S.E. UP bus drove to Milwaukee, Fox Valley, La Crosse and Wausau. Each of the stops featured hands-on, service-learning workshops. Lauren Hauser, an AmeriCorps*VISTA with UW Colleges and UW-Extension in Madison said she visited the UWRF campus April 25 in preparation for the event. “We’ll be checking out the site, talking with our regional coordinator, Aaron Gilbee, and making sure everything is all set for the visit,” she said. Hauser is the co-director of R.I.S.E. UP along with Jamie Racine. “Our R.I.S.E. UP tour originated in the north woods of Wisconsin at an AmeriCorps

retreat when my fellow VISTA member thought up an idea to take a bus around the state,” she said. “I jumped on board. How could I not?” Hauser said at a media workshop roundtable, a small group was brainstorming ideas to help raise awareness of what AmeriCorps does and awareness about the programs and people they work for. “Me, being the person I am, drawn to the light of a great idea, joined right on board,” she said. “Many of our fellow VISTAs felt slightly skeptical, but Jamie and I wanted it to work.” After receiving approval from the project director, Hauser and Racine got to work. “We made partnerships across the state, and R.I.S.E. UP became what it is today,” Hauser said. “It became a pretty awesome idea, but with a focus on some pretty awesome people.” R.I.S.E. UP’s Web site states its mission is involving youth in improving their educational opportunities and participation in their communities. Hauser said the event should be of interest to everyone. “We wanted this bus tour to bring back the visuals we used to see of social change movements,” she said. “In this day and age, we are bombarded with messages and media telling us what to do, what to wear

and who to like, but rarely are we bombarded with real issues and real excitement such as student engagement and social change.” Hauser said though River Falls was the smallest city that R.I.S.E. UP visited, the community has the largest turnout. “This is incredible and speaks to the state as a whole,” she said. “This will put River Falls up there in the state-wide tour and it will be highlighted at the Wisconsin State Capitol and with our state superintendent.” Hauser said being an AmeriCorps member is an amazing experience. “I have been given infinite possibilities and connections,” she said. “I have been able to not only accomplish major goals at my host site, but I have been able to help direct this awesome project.” Though registration was necessary to participate in the event, the visit was free of cost. Hauser said the training spots were full, but other activities were open to all of River Falls for about an hour. The event was sponsored by the UW-Extension, Wisconsin Campus Compact, Department of Public Instruction, Serve Wisconsin and State Farm. For more information on a next possible visit, the Web site <http://riseupwisc.org/> is available.

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

Beth Dickman elizabeth.dickman@uwrf.edu

- April 18**
- Joel M. Dernovsek, 22, and Rudolph A. Raatz, 22, were both cited \$83.80 for a burning violation. Police responded to an anonymous noise complaint when they discovered Dernovsek and Raatz burning beer bottles, plastic and garbage in a Weber grill less than five feet away from a house, according to reports. They were in violation of the municipal ordinance 8.20.040 which bans the burning of waste and refuse.
- April 19**
- Graffiti was found on a green utility box on the south side of Stratton Hall. The markings appeared to be in the form of a smiley face. More graffiti was found upon investigation of the area. No suspects have been located, according to reports.
- A bike was reported stolen by Joseph M. Paul, 22. At approximately 9:30 a.m. he noticed the lock on his chain had been cut when it was locked up outside Johnson Hall. There was no value

- reported for the bike and no suspects have been located, according to reports.
- A laptop was reported missing from the Wyman Education Building at approximately 9 p.m. The laptop was described as a white Macintosh G-4. At press time, Information Technology Services could not be contacted for more information about the laptop, according to reports.
- April 20**
- Graffiti was found on light poles outside the north entrance of the University Center. No suspects have been located, according to reports.
- April 22**
- Beau L. Moriarty, 23, was cited \$172 for disorderly conduct.
- April 23**
- Ariana E. C. Mueller, 19, reported two slashed tires on her car parked in W-Lot, according to reports. She did not know who caused the damage.

CBE: College joins top business programs through accreditation

from page 1

the department as a whole, including intensive investigation of faculty, students, programs and anything that has to do with the way the department operates.

“It’s a very long, hard detailed process to get through,” Nemecek said. “A lot of schools don’t make it through the process.”

AACSB has been around since 1916, and has developed strict standards that business programs must meet in order to be accredited.

“They look at really every aspect of offering a business degree,” Nemecek said.

She also said the entire process forced the department to improve and will continue to do so. Every five years the accreditation must be renewed, but progress is checked annually by the organization to ensure that the college is still a candidate.

According to a pamphlet they publish, “AACSB International business and accounting accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.”

Nemecek said this accreditation exerts several positive influences on UWRF and the department.

“If you’re accredited, you have that baseline of the measurement of quality,” Nemecek said. “That degree means more in the corporate world today.”

She said many employers select schools that are accredited as a way to find potential employees.

“If you’re accredited, you have that baseline of the measurement of quality.”

Barb Nemecek,
dean of CBE

“It does wonders for my résumé and my job hunting experiences,” said Joel Beadles, a senior in accounting and finance. “It should make it a lot easier for me to find a job when I graduate next May.”

There are three other accrediting bodies, but AACSB is considered the most elite. Only 10-15 percent of business programs have received accreditation by the organization, and UWRF joins only nine that were accepted this year.

Professor of Economics Glen Potts was one faculty member to share his feelings about the leap forward for CBE. He said it would have a very positive influence on students in the program.

“I expect to see an increase in recruiting on campus and to see an increase in the willingness of employers to have a career day for UWRF students,” Potts said. “This happened recently with the Hartford that invited only UWRF and U of M students to a career day.”

He also said the accreditation would enable students to get into more prestigious graduate programs and UWRF to recruit first-rate faculty.

Institute: Sustainability remains UWRF’s goal, commitment

from page 1

Leadership Circle of presidents and chancellors.

Last August, Gov. Jim Doyle announced four universities in the UW-System, including UWRF, will take part in a pilot program to make their campuses completely energy independent within the next five years, according to the governor’s Web site. To help this along, the campus recently signed an agreement with River Falls Municipal Utilities and Wisconsin Public Power, Inc., to commit to purchasing “better” sources of energy as well as the exploration of alternative energy sources.

Kelly Cain, an environmental sciences professor, has been named director of the SCISCD. A long-time faculty member, Cain said much of his personal and professional life has revolved around sustainable community study and service, but that with the creation of the Institute, it will become an all-encompassing campus issue.

“The SCISCD is the collective commitment of the chancellor and the University as a whole to set the bar high for “walking the talk,” Cain said. “If we can’t practice what we preach on our own campus, then we will have a hard time having credibility of providing ... to communities outside our own.”

Students on campus have shown commitment to sustainability in recent years. In January, the new University Center was opened, funded entirely by students with nearly \$1 million invested solely for sustainability measures. With the help of environmental interest groups on campus, such as the Earth Consciousness Organization (ECO), students have made huge strides in educating students about issues from energy consumption to recycling.

It is the hope of the University, Betz said, that students will feel the need and desire to get involved with the institute as well.

“This will translate into new opportunities for students,” Betz said.

Students from every facet of the University will play critical roles in the growth of the Institute. While students are encouraged to participate in initiatives spurred by the Institute, they will also be needed to participate in various committees that will work to help the Institute evolve over time.

“My experience with multi-disciplinary projects, service learning and student efforts in this area are all the evidence I need to know how valuable that input and enthusiasm is to everything we’ll be working on,” Cain said. “We will seek every opportunity to get students and faculty involved through...a wide variety of efforts in support of our research, scholarly and creative initiatives.”

Students interested in learning more about sustainability issues at UWRF can visit www.uwrf.edu/sustain.

Tuition: New system may hinder students’ ability to change course load, graduate on schedule

from page 1

“A student may be taking three credits at another college,” she said. “Per credit allows us to know how to split up tuition.”

Provost Charlie Hurt said the University wants to get rid of the plateau where credits after 12 are essentially free.

“We need to be careful because we don’t want to slow students down in terms of graduation,” Hurt said.

He said the change is not to hurt students using the current tuition as a financial aid source.

Junior Anna Lee and sophomore Ashley Burbul said they disagree with the idea.

“I think its bullshit,” Lee said. “I always take a full class load. If they make it per credit, they are punishing people who take more.”

While Hurt and Halada said the switch shouldn’t slow students down, Lee said she

believes it will because if students can’t afford to take higher credits than the full-time load, it will take them more years to satisfy University requirements.

“It makes it harder for people to get out of school on time,” Lee said.

Burbul said the idea seemed like how much money students had would determine how many credits they took.

“I think it’s a bad idea because if students can only afford to

take a certain amount of credits per semester, then they will be here longer,” Burbul said. “If that was the way that it was for me, I know that I wouldn’t be able to afford the maximum amount of credits. I think over time, it would really only cost students more.”

UW-Stout is currently the only UW institution that has pay-per-credit tuition. It started phasing the system with new freshmen students in fall 2002, according

to the University’s 2001-2002 annual report.

Adam Butterfield is a junior at UW-Stout and said it definitely determines how many credits he takes a semester.

“I didn’t get much financial aid, so I could only take so many credits and had to pay for the rest out-of-pocket,” Butterfield said. “[Switching to this] probably wouldn’t be a good thing because some people take a lot of classes and it kind

of puts a cap on how many classes you take.”

Though the idea is still being discussed, Halada said if it were to be finalized and implemented, the earliest it would happen would be fall semester 2008. She also said the tuition change would happen in phases.

New students would pay tuition per credit and current students would continue to pay the plateau tuition.

Technology: Devices provide convenience, accessibility

from page 1

“I really like when my professor’s use D2L,” she said. “I am more capable of keeping up to date on my grades, and I don’t always have to use their time to ask. I wish that some of my teachers that don’t use D2L, would.”

Rakestraw said the posting of handouts or sources on D2L is more accessible for her and allows her to peruse the material at her own pace.

“I really like that some of my professor’s do put PowerPoints and other things on D2L,” she said. “It allows me to view them anytime that I would like, and I can often study them at my own convenience.”

Though D2L may be perceived as more convenient, Schultz said students using D2L may have a negative impact on the study habits of students.

“Students are maybe a little less likely to read a textbook if I put handouts or references on D2L,” he said.

PowerPoint presentations have become popular in classroom settings, yet many professors said they don’t particularly like them.

Economics professor John Walker said he is fonder of the old overhead projectors and has never really been a fan of PowerPoint.



Brad Caskey

thinks PowerPoint used statically is boring, and they are basically just “glorified overheads.”

When looking at PowerPoint from this standpoint, Caskey said that technology hasn’t changed significantly.

“I’m not a big fan of PowerPoint,” Caskey said. “There’s nothing exciting to it.”

Caskey said he only uses PowerPoint if it enhances what he does.

“PowerPoint doesn’t enhance learning,” he said. “It depends on how it’s used. If you can show students something, then it’s effective. Actual technology does not enhance learning.”

Economics professor Jackie Brux said using PowerPoints too much can cause students to lose interest in the course material.

“My students tell me they get tired of PowerPoint presentations, and I normally don’t like them either,” she said. “I like more spontaneity.”

“My students tell me they get tired of PowerPoint presentations, and I normally don’t like them either. I like more spontaneity.”

Jackie Brux,
economics professor

Schultz said he favors the idea of writing out definitions and topics of discussion on a chalkboard more than using PowerPoint slides. He said some students tend to read and write down the bulleted points and disregard the explanation.

“The expectation ... is that the little tidbits I write, [students] should elaborate on and get more notes and review the text,” Schultz said.

O’Connell agrees with Schultz.

“ ... I think some students don’t listen all that closely and don’t use discernment in understanding the lecture,” she said. “[They] copy down what’s on the slide and don’t focus on the information behind it. I don’t know this for sure, but the programmed activity around a new slide appearing, rather than an ongoing note taking, leads me to think that.”

Psychology professor and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Brad Caskey said he uses PowerPoint minimally. He said he

Rodeo: Future facility to benefit campus, community

from page 1

Upon completion of the new arena, River Falls will be home to a facility with top-of-the-line equipment and features.

“This facility will be superior to anything in the state,” Baugh said.

The facility will cost \$60,000 to \$70,000. The project was originally estimated at \$158,000 with all of the features that the club wanted to get, Baugh said.

It was due to donations and sponsorships that the club was able to take care of more than half the costs.

“F & K Excavating is donating a lot of time and effort to the project,” Baugh said.

“Once complete, the arena will be one of the premiere outdoor facilities in the Midwest.”

Mitch Whyte,
vice president of Rodeo Club

Other donations and sponsorships came from community companies as well as fundraisers put on by the Rodeo Club.

Money not coming from donations will be coming out of an account that the Rodeo Club set up with the University to borrow money with a letter of intent to pay the money back.

Excavation for the new arena

is scheduled within the next week, and it will be open for shows in the summer.

“Once completed, the arena will be one of the premiere outdoor facilities in the Midwest,” Whyte said.

The opening ceremony for the arena will be in the fall when the first rodeo is scheduled.



Take the next step.

Graduate studies at St. Thomas

Art History ■ Business ■ Catholic Studies ■ Education

Engineering ■ English ■ Law ■ Music Education

Professional Psychology ■ Social Work

Software Engineering ■ Theology/Seminary

www.stthomas.edu



UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

MINNESOTA

Want a job next semester?
Apply for a business position
at the *Student Voice*.
Pick up an application
at 304 North Hall.

EDITORIAL

New tuition proposal has too many loopholes

A new proposal for tuition cost was brought to our attention after an article written for this week’s paper. Currently students taking 12-18 credits pay a flat rate, allowing students who want to take the minimum requirement to be a full-time student to do so just as easily as students wanting to graduate as quickly as possible by taking fuller course loads.

The new plan calls for students to pay per credit virtually punishing those students wanting or needing to take heavier course loads.

If taking only 12 credits per semester becomes all that some students can afford then instead of the four-year expectation for graduation, it will take five years to complete all 120 credits required by the University. And, that is only if every course in general education, liberal education, your major and minor fall precisely into place-which they rarely do.

As if worrying about the cost of college isn’t already more than some can handle, now there is the added concern of whether or not taking one more class will break the bank.

This change in tuition should be a cause of concern for students, but apparently the program will begin with incoming students and it will be grandfathered into the system as a whole. This is just another inconsistency for students and administration to deal with. Transfer students already have a difficult time dealing with transferring credits from other institutions, but now they also get to be grandfathered into a new tuition program.

There is no cohesive system here. Whether tuition is changing, policies are unclear or individual departments are reconfiguring, it seems that nothing is set in stone and there are more loopholes to jump through than guidelines to follow.

Another concern is about attracting students to UW-River Falls. If the majority of other UW System schools are using the plateau system for tuition and we charge per credit, students may be turned off from coming here. We don’t want to give prospective students a reason to turn away.

Many students want to have the opportunity to graduate as quickly as possible, but this system deters them from taking on as much as they can handle.

With the way our courses are set up it is even difficult for a student to take the bare minimum; some classes are five credits, while physical education courses are worth only a half credit. It seems that everyone is going to be forced to pay for more than just 12 credits.

This proposal is still in the very beginning stages, but already the inconsistencies make this change seem more negative than positive.

If the administration feels the need to hike up tuition, maybe doing a standard tuition increase would be more effective, and this way students won’t go running for another institution.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS

STUDENT VOICE

Editor	Beth Dickman
Assistant Editor	Jennie Oemig
Front Page Editor	Shalena Janis
News Editor	Leah Danley
Sports Editor	Nick Sortedahl
Etcetera Editor	Sarah Packingham
Viewpoints Editor	Keighla Schmidt
Photo Editor	Kenny Yoo
Assistant News Editor	Amber Jurek
Assistant Photo Editor	Niki Paton
Assistant Sports Editor	Ben Brewster
Cartoonist	Stephanie Daniels
Chief Copy Editor	Addie Carlson
Proofreaders	Eric Pringle
	Nadean Brandt
General Manager	Kristin Dahl
Ad Manager	Nichole Osterman
Ad Representative	Vacant
Business Manager	Laura Geckler
Circulation Manager	Matthew Meyer
Online Manager	Hans Hage
Faculty Advisor	Andris Straumanis

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



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

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

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall or to student.voice@uwrf.edu.

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

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

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students respond to cheerleading column

Assuming Paul Winkels was not sarcastic, we present the following argument: We want to apologize to cheerleaders who read this column because Winkels highlighted your program as “the only sport worth writing about.” Naturally, a statement like that should have clear and semi-factual evidence to support it, and Winkels didn’t provide either.

First off, not all physically taxing activities are sports. Cheerleading is not the “most physically challenging ... sport of them all.” Track, rodeo, tennis, wrestling, softball and lacrosse are more physical endeavors than a few cartwheels followed by overly-excited cheering for the defense. Also, it wasn’t an Olympic event last time we checked. We don’t see them competing against another squad in the traditional sense. One squad can’t directly impact the success of the opposition. Also, what rules govern cheerleading? Can they foul? Are there penalties? We haven’t seen any of them get removed for misconduct or unsportsmanlike cheering.

Winkels, your ignorance annoys me. College sports spend 20 hours plus weekly in practices and meetings. Time spent in practice is physically challenging. If college cheerleading involves more than that, we stand corrected.

Cheerleading is also not “the most ... competitive sport of

them all.” Are you kidding? Many sports are extremely competitive, and to say that cheerleading is the pinnacle of competition is not only ignorant, it’s ridiculous. Yet, it is commendable that cheerleaders are encouraging fans. It is an activity that requires hard work, dedication, and skill, which are three important attributes to any sport. However, there are obviously other games such as hockey, basketball, etc. that are more physically demanding and complex.

Cheerleaders need something to cheer about. It is only a component of a sport. We wouldn’t expect a team to run a touchdown in celebration of a slam dunk. Since cheerleading merely supplements other sports, what purpose does it serve alone?

Ryan Agrimson & John Buckner, students

Community not united

Don’t get me wrong — I’m all for Unity in the Community, but as a health-conscious vegetarian, I was less than thrilled to see my limited options at the event. Pasta salad, corn, desserts, corn bread, and some “taco” concoction were all I had going for me.

Despite what the menu said, there was no watermelon. While I understand the goal of forcing all students with a meal plan to dine at the event was supposed to bring us together, I could not help but feel excluded.

Even in the cafeteria, I see an abundance of meat dishes that

clash with vegetarian, vegan, pescetarian, Jewish, Muslim and so on lifestyles. When I asked about vegetarian-friendly dishes, I was directed to the salad bar (duh), pizza and oily-looking entrees that claimed to be healthy.

I suppose I could be seen as picky, but I believe our food services needs to better realize that we do not all consume animals, we do not all like deep fried meals, and we can not simply be satisfied with moldy lettuce.

Food services needs to take into account the diversity we have in dietary needs on campus, whether it be for personal tastes, ethical reasons or religious beliefs.

Brittany Machus student

What kind of generation will we be?

Lately, I’ve been thinking about what America means to me. It seems that there has been a lot of recent complaints and anger directed at our way of life here in the United States. It confuses me as to why people complain about how rough we have it here, and quite frankly, its sickening. It’s time to wake up and realize how great we have it here instead of taking it for granted and getting angry at the rich. By no means am I financially wealthy, nor do I feel that I have to be in order to live a happy, prosperous, and peaceful life. I’m thankful for all the little

things, that aren’t so little. First, I have the freedom to serve my Creator.

Secondly, I have a wonderful family that I wouldn’t trade for the world.

Third, my country gives me the freedom to succeed in life.

We face a lot of hurdles as a country, and these are relatively new to this generation. My Grandfather’s generation also came up against one of the greatest trials of mankind, and they joined together to form the “Greatest Generation.” I never once heard my Grandpa complain about how bad World War II was, and trust me, it wasn’t pretty. But they stood together and defeated Hitler and many other evils in the world. Today, we face a much different enemy, and our country does not seem so united.

Instead, some Americans I’m afraid, have already decided that this battle is too hard and too long. I for one am thankful that our Grandpa’s and Grandma’s did not say this when protecting us from Communism and tyranny.

They stood the test and fought for our future generations. Now, we have the opportunity to do so, but will we? Will we sit back and keep complaining about how bad our way of life is here in the United States? Or, will we determine to move on to greater things? What will future generations say of our’s? Let’s not be remembered as the “Weakest Generation.”

Josh Sandey Student

Tips from a graduating senior

In two short weeks, I will be graduating and leaving the school I have become so fond of. In four years, I have met a lot of great people and had a lot of fun times. It will be sad to leave it all behind and enter the working world. I thought it would be a good idea to give a parting gift to the student body by endowing them with a few helpful tips that will make their college experience that much better; tips I wish I had known for my entire collegiate career.

Let’s start with parking. Parking can be rough, especially in the wintertime when walking a long way could possibly kill you. Would you believe me if I told you that there is a way you could put something on your window that would let you park anywhere on campus and never get a ticket? If you still believe me, you might start doubting me when I tell you it would only cost you \$12.50. Here’s how you do it. Park illegally and get a \$25 dollar ticket. If you pay immediately, it is cut in half to \$12.50. Here’s the key: pay for it online. That way, you can keep the ticket envelope. Now, whenever you park illegally, you can slap that envelope on your window so it looks like you’ve already been ticketed, thus you don’t get a real ticket. Goodbye two-mile walk; hello handicap parking space!

This next tip is one that will make you the coolest kid in class. It’s tough to strive to be

a class clown in college. You may think it is tough and you’d never be funny enough to make people laugh. That’s when you’re wrong. In college, it’s extremely easy to be the class clown. The key to being funny in class is very simple. You only need two punch-lines in your back pocket: “George W. Bush” and “Yeah, like Fox News.” I’ll give you a few examples. In science class, the professor is talking about organisms. She asks, “What is the term for an oceanic organism with no brain and no ganglia to coordinate movement?” Your response is “George W. Bush.” The class erupts in laughter.

In history class, your professor mentions that he remembers someone telling him that Abraham Lincoln invented the chocolate chip, but follows it up by saying, “Let’s just say it came from a not-so-reliable source.” That’s your cue. “Yeah, like Fox News.” While the class is rolling on the floor with laughter and jubilee (ROTFWLJ for you instant messengers), you hit them with this little ditty; “More like UN-fair and UN-balanced.” Don’t come complaining to me when that kind of cute, extremely liberal girl won’t stop calling you.

I’ll finish with a monster of a tip. The final tip is that you should drop everything right now and become an art major. If you don’t know what you want to major in, become an art major. If you don’t like your current field

of study, become an art major. Even if you love elementary education and are happy with your progress through college, switch to an art major. It’s such an obvious choice. You will be able to laze your way through college. Imagine this scenario: you wake up on a Monday morning and suddenly you realize that your big project is due. You had completely forgotten about it, and it has to be submitted in 10 minutes. In any other major, you are done for, but if you’re an art major, all you have to do is be “creative”. Find a piece of 8x11 notebook paper, go outside and scoop up a piece of dog excrement. Then, bring it inside, smear it all over the paper and sprinkle glitter on it. When your professor asks you what it’s called, you say, “I call it ‘The Iraq War.’ I was being ironic.” Actually, call it whatever you want. The key is saying that you were being ironic. The teacher will invent a new grade on the spot, one that is higher than an “A,” and award it to you. Other art pieces you could make: glue a rock to a stick. It’s easy to find and quick to build. As far as public displays, take the garbage from your bathroom and throw it all over the grass by KFA. As long as you label it as a piece of art, it’ll make sense to someone. A little glitter wouldn’t hurt either.

But seriously, get out and enjoy college. Get involved in a group, do things with your classmates, even chat it up with your professor in the University Center. You’re only here for a certain amount of time, so get out and enjoy it before suddenly you’re sitting in a bar at age 30, reminiscing about the good times. The good times are now.



Paul Winkels

Father’s death helps put life in perspective

When I took this job as a columnist, I thought it would be easy. I am rarely at a loss for words or opinions, and I am more than comfortable sharing my viewpoints with others.

It came as a shock to me that I actually had to struggle with finding topics for my last two columns; I guess this is my way of apologizing to you for their lack of substance. After submitting my previous column on “not settling for second best because life is too short,” I was immediately worried about the topic for this column, what else could I write about? Unfortunately this topic came to me that same afternoon.

Monday, April 9, my father suddenly died after being in an unimaginable car accident. (For the record, I am not writing to gather your sympathy, nor am I trying to bring you down over your morning cup of Caribou). I always wanted to tell my father what I learned from him over the last 23 years. I never got that chance, and now, even though it may be too late, I feel the need to tell you; though I may not know you, you may not know me, and you probably never knew my father,



Mike Pearson

Maynard Pearson. My father has been referred to as a “nice guy” constantly over the last couple of weeks, and he was just that, a nice guy. He was calm and insightful, he spoke softly, but he carried a big stick. These are traits that I rarely utilize because my mother is a firecracker, and has since, graciously, passed that trait on to me.

I would go home to see them, or go to the gym with him and suddenly let loose into one of my rants. I get

worked up when I really start ranting, I mean, it’s hard work, but someone needs to do it, and at the peak of my rant, with my face red and my voice held high, my father would just sit back and smile. Smile.

He kept me grounded, and through his actions he taught me how to live my life. He taught me how to treat people. Here was a man that would rarely say a bad word about anyone, a trait that many of us could utilize once in awhile, myself included. He believed in the good in people.

He believed in me. No matter how crazy the plan, he would just smile and tell me to “Give ‘em hell. Give ‘em hell.” As long as you keep your

eyes forward and commit to the hard work ahead of you, any dream is achievable.

Maynard Pearson truly was my best friend, and that is what hit me this week. I always knew he was my best friend, but I never noticed that I was his as well. I have spent the better part of three weeks now thinking about what I wanted to tell him. What had I learned from him and how could I have verbalized that, had I been given the chance? However, that is really starting to seem trivial to me. I never needed to tell him what I learned from him; he already knew. And the only thing I wanted to tell him before he left was, “thank you.”

College education lacks basic training in life skills

As my graduation date approaches, I have been reflecting on my time as a college student. I have realized college has educated me about U.S. history, how to write a paper and how to think critically, however, it has not taught me basic life skills.



Amber Jurek

Some of the things I am about to discuss may make me sound like an airhead, but I am truly a smart person, book-wise, just not always common sense-wise.

This past month, I have applied and interviewed for several jobs. Though I have been working since I was 14 years old and have applied and interviewed for dozens of jobs, I can’t help but wonder if my résumé, cover letters and interviews are “real world” worthy. What if I am doing or saying something wrong? I know Career Services offers workshops for students to work on these areas and I have tried to attend them, but my busy schedule has not allowed me to. Instead of workshops, why isn’t there a class offered?

While I believe learning about the history of the United States is important, so is preparing students to be successful in their careers and informing them of what to expect, such as the slow response of many employers (something myself and many of my graduating friends are experiencing).

I have interviewed for a handful of jobs over the past several weeks and while my potential employers said they would get back to me shortly after the interview, I have not received a phone call from most of them about whether or not I received the job. My professors, friends and fiancé tell me it is normal for potential employers to not call back right away. While they tell me it is normal, I sit here and wonder if something I said in my interview caused the delay, if the employer has already hired someone else, if they don’t feel I am qualified. All in all, I wonder if it really is normal.

Moving on, I realized another thing last week. Instead of making the usual Kraft Macaroni & Cheese or frozen pizza, I wanted to eat healthier. So, I decided to

make chicken and vegetables. After thawing out the chicken, I realized I had no grill. So I tried cooking the chicken in a skillet on the electric stove. Bad move. It turned out to be a catastrophe, and I ended up eating a bowl of cereal.

Why don’t I know how to cook a basic chicken breast? It would’ve been nice to have the opportunity to take a cooking course in college, which could have provided me with healthy meal ideas and instructed me how to prepare them.

The last point I will make about my lack of knowledge in some areas of life involves finances. When I graduate in May and enter the “real world” as some call it, I will eventually have to get a home, which will most likely entail me getting something called a home mortgage. What exactly is this? I don’t know, but it sounds like I will need it in order to buy a home.

And what about insurance? My mom keeps telling me I will have to pay for my own car insurance after I graduate, I have to get life insurance when I get married, I have to get home owner’s insurance when I move into a house, and I have to get health insurance when my Minnesota Care coverage ends. How do I get all these insurances and how do I choose the best one? Furthermore, it sounds like all these insurances, are going to cost me a fortune. How much should I plan on paying in insurance each month?

I know I will learn about the topics I just discussed as I get older and move forward in life after graduation, but I feel like learning about them in college would have helped set me up better for the real world rather than me learning about them during this last month as an undergraduate student.

My overall point is that while it is important for students to learn about U.S. history, writing papers and thinking critically, I believe it is just as important for them to learn the basics of life - getting a job, cooking, finances, interpersonal communication skills, how to make informed decisions and the list goes on.

Racial slurs acceptable only in certain cases

In light of the “Imus scandal,” Time Magazine recently ran a spread that asked the question, “Who Can Say What?” When are racial slurs acceptable to use? The article points out that many comedians use far more heinous epithets and people laugh, so why is Imus in such hot water? Time failed to answer their own question, so I will, in “Kris Evans’ Guide to Using Racial Slurs.”



Kris Evans

The basic principle you need to follow is that the more persecuted the race, the greater liberty to offend everybody else. So, if you are of a certain ethnicity, you can use any epithet specific to your race, and as a really sweet bonus, epithets for all races that are less aggrieved.

Let’s start with Jews. They are the most persecuted race in history. Pharaoh had it out for them, and then Hitler. If someone uses the “K” word, everybody knows to look down on the offender because everybody who isn’t Iranian knows the horrors the Jews have faced. Plus, we did drop them into the viper pit that is the Middle East. So they control the World Bank and Hollywood; a small piece of the pie for a 5,000-year-old scapegoat. It’s because of their perseverance that we can listen to Lenny

Bruce, Sarah Silverman and Sacha Baron Cohen and just laugh hysterically at all their racially-charged and in-no-way-offensive humor.

Next are African Americans. The “N” word is the most used and abused racial slur in this country. In everyday life, it is offensive, but on TV it is used with hilarious results, or just so a rapper can find a rhyme for “bigger.” It represents the hundreds of years of oppression and violence perpetrated against black people in the United States, so naturally the only people who should be able to use this word are black people; people who will use it as the symbol that it is to assure racism will never be as prominent in the United States again.

Even less able to use epithets are Hispanics. Whereas African Americans and Jews have a long and violent history of being oppressed, Hispanic persecution is a relatively recent fad. They’re the hot topic of discussion. Hispanics are like the Irish of 2007, mildly discriminated against, but doing pretty well. There are famous Hispanics leading in almost all forms of entertain-

ment; our attorney general, though a douche bag, is Hispanic and all signs in the southwest are printed in Spanish. Not bad. So, it shouldn’t be demeaning at all when Carlos Mencia screams the words “wetback” and “beaner” a hundred times a week. According to the hierarchy of persecution, he can really only ridicule Hispanics and white folks, and he has to make a joke at somebody’s expense.

And, all the white jokes are totally acceptable. We don’t mind. They’re funny because they’re true. Finally, there are the white folks, crackers, gringos, honkies, hicks and all other varieties of vanilla faces. We have no right to say anything derogatory about anybody except for rednecks. And we do, at great length, and it’s not funny anymore. We don’t have a right because we have it so good. We’re all rich, uptight, unhip, generally condescending and have small penises. Now that is funny! Maybe I just need to work on my delivery.

The point is, Imus, the next time you to want make a sideways comment about a group of people, stick to what you know: the rich, haggard, old cowboys. Leave the derision, making fun of people for something they can’t control and mainstreaming of hate speech to the proper people: everybody else.

Balancing personal life, career poses biggest challenge

Like many college students this time of year I’ve become increasingly overwhelmed as the semester, and even the year have worn on.



Nick Sortedahl

In years past if you would have forced me to classify myself I would have honestly told you I was a classic underachiever/slacker who typically tried to shuck as much responsibility as I could and get by doing the bare minimum.

I came into this year vowing to change my slacker ways, and I would say that this year has been nothing short of a resounding success in terms of achieving that goal. But it has come with a heavy price. I’m sure my roommates, family, friends and co-workers have noticed the difference. And now, I finally realized it myself. I’ve become a callous uncaring asshole.

I should have seen the writing on the wall.

When I took on a weekend overnight job at KARE-11 I knew it would be difficult to balance my schoolwork, duties at the Student Voice and sanity over the last few weeks of school. I was basically giving up my social life to take advantage of a great opportunity. What I didn’t realize I would be giving up was my ability to call myself a decent human being.

Just this past week I snapped on my roommates for keeping me awake too late. I gave one of them an overblown guilt trip for the past two days, a practice that I consider the pinnacle of selfishness. I’m just thankful I haven’t seen my other roommate enough since then to act like a 210 pound three year old.

I’ve also been short-tempered and extra cynical with many of my good friends and family members. In the past I’ve considered this completely inexcusable.

I didn’t want this to happen, but in the course of the events that I call my life, I have apparently stretched myself too thin and the asshole you see before you is the result. I let personal goals outweigh what I know to be really important in my life, my friends and family.

So what’s the lesson to be learned here? Well I could continue down my current path of self-centered, tyrannical, douche-baggery; or I can cut back a little on the overachieving, and make a concerted effort to be a better person and risk passing up on career-building opportunities. Another thing to remember here is that our capitalistic society seems to encourage individuals sacrificing their ability to be good people for increased productivity.

Like it or not, we are all faced with this type of choice at some point in our lives. You can’t just keep heaping more and more responsibility on yourself without paying some type of price. Everyone has a threshold. The key is figuring out what that point is. I know that some people can cope better with the increased stress load than others, but like it or not you too have a breaking point, and at some point you will be confronted with it.

Now you can just choose the completely self-fulfilling path, take on too much responsibility, and basically alienate every human being you come in contact with. Or, you can find a nice balance in your life and take the road that will likely be less glamorous.

I’m not saying you shouldn’t attempt to take on extra responsibility, I’m just saying everyone needs to be aware that the responsibility you take on may come at a price

STUDENT VOICES

What will you miss about UWRF when the semester ends?



Mallory Aukes, freshman

“I am going to miss the friends that I have made. Especially the second south Crabtree girls.”



Alec Frank, sophomore

“Free Big Buck Hunter. All the good food and all my friends.”



Laremy Ellsworth, junior

“Probably some of my classes. My art classes.”

Amanda Helwig, freshman



“I’ll miss spending time with my friends.”

Andrew Jacobson, sophomore



“The constant tests you have in Chem. 120.”

Ben Augustine, sophomore



“I really don’t know. Basically just my friends.”

Rugby team looks to end season on a high note

Spring season has been one of learning and building chemistry

Jude Harder
jude.harder@uwrf.edu

Last fall the UW-River Falls Men’s Rugby Club came up one win short of taking its division’s crown with a 12-10 loss to Bemidji State University in the championship game. This spring season, the team is trying to regain that momentum with a different crop of players.

With a very talented and experienced team last fall season, the team was able to dominate its competition all year long en route to the championship game.

“It was unfortunate that we lost, but it is a testament to how well we played all season and that is what we want to get back this season and bring to the fall season,” President Tyler Stevens said.

With the upcoming graduation of four seniors, the team is now looking to younger players to step up and lead the team, Stevens said.

The spring season is more of a time to have fun and to prepare for the fall season, when team records are more important. This spring season has served just that purpose for the team.

It has been a learning experience for the team as younger players have gotten the chance to play often and to learn on the field rather than on the sideline. It has also been an opportunity for the team to gel and create unity in preparation for the more competitive fall season.

“This season we are hoping to get stronger as a team and learn to play strong for next season when a lot of the upperclassmen won’t be around,” Stevens said.

Last weekend the team played its biggest match of the spring season against Minnesota State University Mankato. The winner of the match would move up from Division III to Division II, resulting in a tougher schedule of opponents from schools much larger than UWRF.

Mankato came out on top 27-0, but UWRF didn’t hang its head too low.

“We played hard and were very close at least for the first half, it just didn’t happen for us,” Stevens said.

Although the team would have loved the challenge of playing tougher opponents, staying in Div. III isn’t necessarily a bad idea with a young team still learning, Captain Stefan Berg said.

“We are losing four seniors in the fall, so we will be young,” Berg said. “Hopefully with a season of playing together we will get an opportunity to play in another challenge match next spring.”

Berg is a freshman at UWRF and played rugby for three years in high school. It isn’t often that you see a



Tom Johnson stiff-arms a St. Johns player during a match March 24 while teammate Cole Hernke trails the play. The Fighting Cocks won the match against the Johnnies 10-0.

Submitted Photo

freshman named team captain, but the leaders of the team saw qualities that would make him a strong leader.

“He’s been doing a great job, both during games and practices, keeping the team under control and working together,” Vice President and Treasurer Andrew Sevcik said. “I’m glad we have someone young to step up their freshman year and take on that kind of responsibility.”

The club currently stands at 2-3 on the season, with the All Saints Tournament in St. Cloud, Minn., and a final home game versus Bethel University yet to play.

“I hope we can win our division in the tournament,” Sevcik said. “It’s going to be the last time that I can play in it so I really want to say that my team won our division.”

All Saints is an annual event put on during the spring season in St. Cloud that features numerous teams from around the area.

“It’s always one of the big highlights of the spring,”

Stevens said. “We play some great games and have a good time with each other, enjoying the sport we play.”

The Rugby Club wraps up the spring season on at 1 p.m. May 5 with a home match against Bethel on the intramural fields.

“We would appreciate anyone who wants to come check out a fun sport and have a good time,” Stevens said.

For anyone interested in joining rugby, there are meetings at 7:30 p.m. every Monday in the Eau Galle Room in the University Center. Practices are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-7 p.m. on the intramural fields. New players of any experience level are always welcome to join anytime they want, Sevcik said.

“Hopefully we can get a good crop of new players to join again and keep up the winning tradition we’ve been having over the last year and a half,” he said.

Women’s rugby team finishes season on the road



Winona and River Falls battle for the ball during an April 14 game at the Intramural Fields. River Falls lost the game by a final score of 10-5. This weekend, the women will head to St. Cloud for the annual two-day All Saints Tournament.

Sarah Packingham/Student Voice

Team travels to St. Cloud for biggest tourney of the season, All Saints Tournament

Sarah Packingham
sarah.packingham@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls women’s rugby team is traveling to St. Cloud, Minn., this weekend to take part in one of the biggest and most well-known rugby tournaments in the region.

The members of the club team play two separate seasons during the school year. In the fall, the women play an official season to win goals and get a place in the playoffs.

During the unofficial spring season, the team plays in a number of tournaments which take place almost every weekend. While tournaments are prominent, single games are not entirely uncommon either.

Junior Abby Piette said this spring has been one of the best for the team throughout its entire history.

“We’re just playing well together,” Piette said. “We just have really good continuity.”

While the team does have good chemistry this semester, there is one issue junior Katherine LaPorte mentioned.

“We’ve had a tough semester with recruiting,” she said. “We’ve only had a couple of girls that came out stay. We used to get a lot of people to come by hanging up posters in Rodli and the Student Center, but now we can’t do that.”

Back in March, the rugby team traveled to Nebraska to take part in a huge tournament, making it to the semifinals for the first time. The semifinal appearance gave the team an opportunity to bring a trophy back home to River Falls.

“I wasn’t there, but I heard we played great,” LaPorte said.

The women hosted Winona April 14 at home and only lost by a tri. Winona is usually one of the best teams in the area and the women were very pleased with their performance following the game.

Junior Amanda Prochazka has been playing rugby for River Falls for three years and is pleased with this season.

“We have held our own against every team and have not been blown away yet,” she said. “Although we have been having problems with numbers at our games, our girls have been playing hard and learning fast.

This weekend, the women will travel to participate in the All Saints Tournament with teams from all over Minnesota, Wisconsin and Canada participating.

“It’s the biggest tournament we play in by far,” LaPorte said. “Every big team comes.”

The team usually plays three games during the two-day period. LaPorte said they usually play the University of Minnesota-Duluth, the University of Minnesota and Winona. However, this season some team members said they are hoping the brackets will be broken up a little more evenly depending on skill level. River Falls is looking to win one or two of the games in St. Cloud.

“Our goals are obviously going to depend on our bracket,” LaPorte said. “We would be better off if they were more even.”

Announcer reflects on experience



Mark Haley

Looking at my picture, most of you probably don’t recognize who I am. However, if you were hearing these words instead of reading them, most likely my voice would be familiar to you.

For the past four years, I’ve traveled the state of Wisconsin and even delved into some other parts of the country announcing UWRF sports for the campus radio station, WRFW 88.7 FM. This past month, I signed off for the final time from the station, ending my run as the play-by-play announcer for the Falcons football and Falcons men’s basketball teams.

Announcing these sports, along with men’s hockey and women’s basketball has made my college career a time I will never forget, and as I move out into the real world the memories I hold from UWRF will certainly include a lot of my announcing endeavors. You better believe that some pretty good stories come out of traveling with the Falcons sports teams for four years.

Like the time WRFW Sports Director Paul Winkels and I made our first trip to Green Bay, Wis., decked out in Vikings purple while checking into the Comfort Inn within one block of Lambeau Field. Or even better, later that night when we walked around the stadium for a self-directed tour, checking out the hallowed statues while leaving behind some souvenirs for the green and gold icons that Packers fans would consider unspeakable.

Announcing sports for WRFW has also given me the opportunity to visit Seattle, where I was able to witness a Falcons football changing of the guard from the wishbone to the zone offense. The passing of the torch took only a matter of seconds, leaving the hand of Jeremy Wolff and landing beautifully in the hands of Josh Grover for a 77-yard touchdown bomb.

Speaking of the Seattle trip, if you’ve never had the chance to have lunch at an Old Country Buffet with the Falcons football offensive and defensive linemen (which would be kind of odd if you have, actually), let me tell you, it is quite a sight.

While announcing these sports, I’ve had the chance to break down some of the boundaries that normally separate the players from the announcers. I’ll never forget the night I was able to show off Garrett Larson’s patented goal celebration to the man himself after bowling a strike on the lane next to him, or the hand-tingling high fives I received before each half of every road game from Tim Pearson, the basketball team’s emotional leader. I’ve even had the chance to watch a couple of River Falls High School kids grow their wings to transform from Wildcats into Falcons, with Jake Voeltz joining the basketball team and Jake Jenson now catching passes as a member of the football squad.

Between the wrong turns leading to bonus hours of travel time and the killing of state vehicle batteries while leaving the headlights on, I’ve had an amazing time announcing for sports teams led by fantastic coaches. I’m a better person for getting to know Rick Bowen, Steve Freeman, John O’Grady, Jeff Berkhof and Cindy Hovet through their coaching and their classes, and each of them has helped make me a better announcer than I was before meeting them.

I’ve witnessed rivalries, heartbreaks, comebacks, and been a part of both emotional playoff wins and devastating season-ending losses. And at some point during my college career, I even found an original sign-off. With my days in River Falls nearly behind me, I leave the Student Voice with the same words I left every one of my radio broadcasts with: Have a fun day.

SPORTS WRAP

Softball team completes sweep on road

The Falcons softball team swept a WIAC doubleheader at UW-Superior on Wednesday and are now 27-7 overall and 10-2 in the WIAC.

The Falcons won the first game, 5-3, and the second game, 13-6.

In the first game, the Falcons earned a come-from-behind win. The team trailed 2-0 after two innings and scored two runs in the top of the eighth to get the win. UWRF scored single runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings. Superior scored single runs in the first, second and fifth innings. The Falcons scored five runs on 12 hits while Superior scored three runs on eight hits. Both teams had two errors.

Brittany Rathbun got the win on the mound in relief. She worked the final two innings and allowed just one hit. She walked one and struck out one. Ashley Bertrand started and pitched six innings. She allowed seven hits and three earned runs. She walked two and struck out three.

Emily Howlett finished 3-4 with a run scored. Rebecca Troop was 2-2 with a run scored and one RBI. Breamber Syverson and Ashley James were both 2-4. Syverson scored twice and James once.

In the second game, the Falcons exploded for 11 runs in the fifth inning to get the 13-6 win. They once again came from behind after Superior led, 4-1, after one inning.

UWRF scored 13 runs on 16 hits and made one error. The 13 runs and 16 hits are single-game season highs for the team. Superior scored six runs on 12 hits and made three errors. Besides the big fifth inning, the Falcons scored single runs in the first and seventh.

Mindy Rudiger was 3-5 with three runs scored and five RBI. Syverson was 3-5 with two runs scored. Keri Feller was 2-3 with four RBI and a run scored. Rathbun was 2-4 with two RBI and a run scored. Rachel Mathias was 2-4 with two runs scored.

Rathbun picked up her second win on the day and is now 13-4. She worked four and two-thirds innings and allowed five hits. She allowed one earned run while striking out four and walking none. Sarah Stoffa started and pitched one-third of an inning and allowed four runs; three were earned. She allowed four hits. Jessalyn Weaver worked the final two innings and allowed three hits and one earned run. She struck out two and walked one.

The Falcons will host UW-Oshkosh at noon on Saturday at Ramer Field. The Falcons trail the Titans by a half game in the WIAC standings.

Men’s track team competes at Macalester

The Falcons men’s track and field team traveled to St. Paul, Minn., Wednesday to compete in the Bolstorff Twilight Meet hosted by Macalester.

Thirteen participating universities gathered at the Macalester Stadium for individual competition. No team scores were kept.

Starting the track events, Bryan Woitas beat out 31 competitors in the 100-meter dash clocking in at 11.23, for a fourth place finish. Woitas led the men again with a fifth place finish in the 200-meter run in a clock stopping time of 22.84.

In the 800 meter run Falcons Nick Zeien and Andrew Reckard earned top place finishes. Zeien took 11th with a time of 1:58.14 and Reckard placed 15th with a time of 2:00.03.

Jason Phillippi finished first in the 1,500-meter run. His time was 4:01.96. Also in the distance run events, Chad Ernst placed third in the 5,000-meter run (15:50.40).

Competing in both hurdle races, Falcon Josh Dietz placed fifth in the 110-meter run (15.66) and 10th in the 400-meter run with a time of 1:00.28.

The men’s 4x100 and 4x400-meter relay teams produced two third-place finishes. They finished the 4x100-meter relay in 43.27 and the 4x40-meter relay in 3:25.31.

On the field, Londe Richardson finished the high jump in ninth at a height of 1.75 meters. Bruce Baillargeon took seventh in the pole vault with a height of 4.26m and John Richardson placed 10th in the long jump leaping 6.01m.

Eric Voight and Clint Christy represented the falcons in the discus. They tossed the discus 37.36 for 10th and 36.68 11th place finishes.

Christy later placed fifth in the javelin throw with a distance of 46.20m. He was led by teammate Charlie Sowa with a third place finish in a distance of 49.04 meters.

Next up for the Falcons, the women will compete in the Macalester Invitational on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.

Men’s basketball team adds four recruits

Falcons Head Coach Jeff Berkhof is pleased to announce that four student-athletes will attend UW-River Falls and will join the men’s basketball program.

“We believe we are off to a great start to our recruiting class with these commitments. All four of these individuals have bright futures both on and off the court,” said Berkhof.

The Falcons finished 10-16 overall and 5-11 in the WIAC in 2007.

Name	Pos.	Ht.	High School
Wade Guerin	F/C	6-8	Saint Croix Lutheran High School, Minn.
Brady Hannigan	G	6-4	North St. Paul High School, Minn.
Danny Johnson	G	6-2	Stillwater High School, Minn.
DJ Reese	PG	5-9	Riverland Community College, Minn.

Sports Wrap courtesy of UW-River Falls Sports Information

STANDINGS

Fastpitch			
WIAC Standings	OVR	W	L
UW-Oshkosh	22-6	9	1
UW-River Falls	27-7	10	2
UW-Stevens Point	28-6	13	3
UW-Whitewater	18-12	5	7
UW-Eau Claire	23-9	6	4
UW-Stout	13-15	4	8
UW-LaCrosse	9-18	2	8
UW-Superior	13-19	2	10
UW-Platteville	8-20	1	9

For complete stats check out the UWRF Sports Information Website at www.uwrf.edu/sports

Falcons split with Pointers



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Freshman Ashley Hammerbeck looks to make contact during the Falcons’ 3-2 win over UW-Stevens Point April 22 while Ashley James prepares in the on-deck circle. UWRF lost the second game of the doubleheader with the Pointers 9-0.

Softball team stays in hunt for WIAC regular season crown

Ben Brewster
benjamin.brewster@uwrf.edu

The Falcons women’s softball team split a double header with conference rivals UW-Stevens Point Sunday, bringing their overall record to 25-7 and conference record to 8-2.

With the split, they remain in second place in the WIAC, one game behind first place UW-Oshkosh and a half game ahead of Stevens Point.

Ashley Bertrand pitched all seven innings for the Falcons, earning the win while giving up two earned runs and eight hits. She struck out five. Pitcher Stephanie Anderson took the loss for Stevens Point giving up two earned runs on six hits.

Stevens Point struck first in the top of the fourth. Anderson led off the inning with a double to left center field. She was followed by third baseman Sarah Phillips, who also doubled to drive in the first run of the game. Alina Ziomek pinch ran for Phillips and after two outs were recorded, second baseman Chelsea McIlquham singled to drive her in.

The Falcons didn’t score until the sixth inning. Center fielder Rachel Mathias led

off the inning, reaching first base on an error by the shortstop. Shortstop Mindy Rudiger followed with a double that advanced Mathias to third base. After a strikeout by pinch hitter Rebecca Troop, third baseman Emily Howlett singled. The hit scored Mathias and advanced Rudiger to third. Howlett was able to advance to second on the throw. First baseman Keri Feller singled in a run and right fielder Amanda Peters bunted to drive in another. Peters’ bunt was a suicide squeeze that head coach Faye Perkins deemed “perfect.”

That was enough for Bertrand, who shut down Stevens Point in the seventh for the 3-2 win.

“We had the attitude that Point had to beat us, not the other way around,” Bertrand said of the first game.

Hope Krause was the starting pitcher for Stevens Point in the second game, and limited the Falcons to seven hits and zero runs.

In the first inning, the Falcons loaded the bases with one out, but weren’t able to score when Peters lined into a double play.

“That was the turning point,” Perkins said. “[It] shifted the momentum to Stevens

Point.”

After a scoreless first, the Pointers scored three runs in the second inning on two walks, a triple and an error.

Bertrand, who started for the Falcons, was removed after the second and replaced by Brittany Rathbun.

“We had the attitude that Point had to beat us, not the other way around.”

Ashley Bertrand,
junior

The Pointers scored one run in the third inning before exploding in the fourth inning with five. They had five hits in the inning including a three-run home run by shortstop Laura Van Abel. Van Abel went 3-for-3 in the game and scored two runs.

Catcher Korryn Brooks singled following the home run, and Rathbun was pulled. She was replaced by Jessalyn Weaver.

Both teams failed to score in the fifth, and the game ended in a 9-0 Stevens Point victory. Bertrand took the loss, only her third of the season. Krause got the win for the Pointers, her 11th of the year.

“We just couldn’t string the hits together in the second game to score a run,” Rudiger said. “We had the opportunity in the first inning, but we weren’t able to get a run on the board.”

The Falcons play next on April 28 at noon vs. UW-Oshkosh at Ramer Field.

Twins stars remain humble despite success

I’ve officially been covering various sports since 2001. That’s nearly six years on the sidelines or in the press box. During those years, I’ve worked with high school athletes, college athletes, semi-professional athletes and now professional athletes, while writing for four different newspapers.



Sarah Packingham

I had my first run-in with professional athletes April 13, and it was by far one of the most exciting opportunities I have ever had in my journalism career. That afternoon, following my classes, I traveled to Minneapolis and interviewed members of the Minnesota Twins prior to their game with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

When I got down on the field and began watching the players start batting practice I already had an idea of who I wanted to interview that day. I knew I wanted to talk to Joe Mauer, Johan Santana and Justin Morneau.

Once in the dugout, waiting for those I wanted to interview to come around, my game plan changed a little bit. I was sitting a few feet away from new Minnesota pitcher Sidney Ponson, so I talked to him first. We talked about how he felt fitting in and how he thought the early portion of the season was going.

“... fitting in, I didn’t have a problem. You know I knew some of these guys already, so it was only to meet a couple new guys,” Ponson said. “Spanish people get close to each other real quick, and I was close to Torii [Hunter] from playing against him so long. I think I fit in pretty good; the chemistry is outstanding here.”

After finishing my first interview, I returned to my place in the dugout, awaiting the trio I wanted to see to come onto the

field. While waiting, I sat in the dugout and talked with Bert Blyleven. Blyleven, who may get into the Hall of Fame some day, had a lot of information about the Twins and gave me advice on what was going to happen once the entire team was on the field.

Hall of Famer Tony Oliva and I also exchanged “Holas,” while watching members of the team take batting practice.

The most impressive part of this entire experience was talking to these athletes and realizing how humble they really are. Prior to this experience, I was surprised about how baseball players never get into as much trouble as other athletes, but now after this I can see why.

Mauer was by far one of the most humble people I have ever met, let alone interviewed. I asked him a question of what it’s like being someone everyone looks up to for some reason or another, whether they love him or want to be like him.

He said he never really thought of it that



Submitted photo

Twins first baseman Justin Morneau and catcher Joe Mauer wait their turn to take batting practice before the April 13 game against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

way and said it was pretty crazy to think about. In fact, he even seemed surprised by the statement and laughed.

Mauer’s answers also reflected the modesty of the entire team, not just his own.

“My goal every year is to just help the team get back to the playoffs,” Mauer said. “You ask Torii Hunter, his main goal isn’t to get a Gold Glove; it’s to get back into the playoffs; the same with Santana and Morneau. It’s kind of the mentality we have here.”

Morneau was also extremely modest when talking about his accomplishments from last season. We discussed how he planned to prove last season wasn’t a fluke, his superstitions and what it was like beating greats like Derek Jeter for an MVP title.

“It’s not only Jeter, it’s Ortiz, Dye, even the guys on our own team,” Morneau said. “Just to be named in the top ten was an honor. It’s a pretty amazing feeling.”

Following last season, Twins fans and baseball fans alike became familiar with the Piranha nickname White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen gave Twins players like Jason Tyner, Jason Bartlett, Luis Castillo and Nick Punto.

Punto said he takes pride in the new nickname.

“It’s how I played my whole life you know,” Punto said. “I’ve always been one of the smaller guys on the field; I’m not really a home run threat. I have to steal and bunt to score in any way I can.”

While the experience had some twists and turns that were different than I expected, I wouldn’t change it. I had an opportunity to chat one-on-one with some of the best in the game. I laughed and joked with Mauer, sat in the dugout with Morneau and leaned on the batting cage next to a Hall of Famer while watching the Twins take batting practice.

Ever since I was four and had attended my first Twins game, I knew somehow, on a game day, that I would be allowed to step on the field. I didn’t know how, I just knew that I wanted to do it. And now, nearly 17 years later, my dream came true.

Students lack awareness of community's offerings

Lee Ann Bjerstedt
lee.bjerstedt@uwrf.edu

More and more, it seems that students on the UW-River Falls campus are centering themselves on campus and forgetting that they are within a downtown community as well.

Natalie Hagberg, chair of the Leadership Programming and Development Board (LDPB), said that UWRF is a “suitcase campus,” meaning that the majority of students leave for the weekend to return home instead of staying in River Falls.

While LDPB is amplifying its efforts to increase weekend programming on campus, Lighthouse Coffee owner Jodie Rubenzer said local businesses should attempt to join in the effort to attract more college students to the downtown area.

“When you go to a college town, it should be the town as much as the campus that attracts you,” Rubenzer said.

Lighthouse Coffee is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Recently, Saturday’s hours of operation were extended from closing at 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., with the intention of attracting more campus business.

Part of Rubenzer’s effort to attract students is “Campus Coffee.” On the first Thursday of every month, students can get brewed coffee, a treat and free wireless Internet from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. However, students can receive 10 percent off their purchases anytime during business hours by showing their student identification.

Other businesses in town offer advantages for being college students as well, but they seem to fall few and far between.

Country Inn offers a 15 percent discount to visiting parents of college students. General Manager

Andrew Dyb said that while he believes that the college is a very important target market, there’s only so much that one business can do.

“Of course we want college students and family here,” Dyb said. “They make up a huge part of our business. But only so many people need hotel rooms. All businesses share that responsibility [to market to college students].”

While businesses offer such advantages, students suggest the problem may be a lack of advertising on campus.

Senior Amanda Grey is in her last year at UWRF and said that she’s never really seen much downtown area advertising on campus.

“If students knew about it, I think they’d go,” Grey said. “It’s just that so many students just center themselves on campus because it’s convenient. The only time people really leave is once you get old enough to go to the bars. That’s pretty sad.”

Senior Cari Johnson has been getting coffee at Lighthouse for several years and said that if students realized what they were missing, they’d come downtown more often.

“This place is like family,” Johnson said.

Occasionally, downtown events are marketed to students on campus, such as Unity in the Community. However, one event every so often is not enough to keep students involved in the community.

Whether the reason is poor marketing efforts by businesses or student indifference, many UWRF students remain unaware that local shops value their business. “If they start coming in, students could be more aware of people that do care about them,” Rubenzer said. “So many people think they really are a viable part of town.”



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Lighthouse Coffee, located at 208 N. Main Street, is one a few businesses that offers special specifically marketed to UWRF students. Jodie Rubenzer, owner of Lighthouse Coffee offers 'Campus Coffee' from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Thursdays. Many downtown businesses would like to attract more college students.

GRADUATES...
TAKE NOTE!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
THIS GREAT
DEAL AND DRIVE HOME
IN A NEW GM VEHICLE.

Get
\$400
GMAC allowance
when you qualify
to buy or lease
an eligible new
GM vehicle.

LOGON TO >
www.gmcollegegrad.com/WI012

CHEVROLET

BUICK

PONTIAC

GMC

SATURN

HUMMER

Take delivery by 12/31/07. Residency and other restrictions apply.
See dealer OR Visit www.GMCollegeGrad.com for details.

Pi Alpha Xi
Mother's Day
Plant Sale

Wednesday, May 2, 2007 From 9am-3pm
Thursday, May 3, 2007 From 9am-4pm

Located in front of the University Center
Great gift ideas for Mother's Day
and the cure for Spring Fever!

St. Croix Sport & Power Equipment, Inc.

Introducing Our NEW Line of
KYMCO Scooters!

50 ccs & 125ccs Available Other Models By Request

Mon-Fri 8:00AM - 6:00PM Sat 8:00AM-Noon

Housing

Apartments. 3 & 5 bed. Available summer and fall. Groups of up to 7 people. Contact J & L Management at (715) 425-0454.

For Rent: 2 bedroom home in country, newly remodeled. 4 miles from campus. \$750/month. Call (612) 669-7244.

Storage

Household/Storage
Need storage space? Call RF Mini Storage. Various sizes.
Month to month lease. Rent as low as \$45.00 per month. Call (715) 425-7510.

CLASSIFIEDS

To learn more about classified or display ad rates, contact the business office at 425-3624. You can also view them online at www.uwrfvoice.com

Student Voice Business Office
410 S. Third Street, 304 North Hall
River Falls, WI 54022
Phone: 425-3624 Fax: 425-0684

Entertainment

Beer \$\$\$ Savings!!!! Hooky Special!
Monday - Friday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Discounted Kayak rentals on the Kinni!
Valid Student I.D. Required!
Save \$5-\$10 expires 5/18/07
www.kinnicreek.com (715) 425-7378.

Employment

Have A Heart Inc. We are looking for caregivers and personal care assistants to work with children and young adults with developmental disabilities. Flexible hours on weekends and during the week available Training & support provided. Call Amber : (715) 425-7754.

Employment

MOTHER'S HELPER/CHILDCARE IN OUR HOME
If you are a mature, responsible, creative, fun young adult, please consider this opportunity. Early education studies are a bonus!
Responsibilities: Help us care for our 4 energetic children ages 6 to 10. Occasional grocery shopping, errands, pick up, and folding laundry. Hours: Summer 30- 40hrs/week. Fall/Winter 25 hrs/week. Compensation: Excellent pay/hourly rate.
Location: Lakeland Shores, Minnesota (1.5 miles south of Hwy 94, along the St. Croix River, just over the Hudson Bridge) Approx 20 minutes from campus.

‘Hot Fuzz’ slightly funny, not impressive



A.J.
Hakari

After reinvigorating the zombie genre with “Shaun of the Dead,” the team of director/writer Edgar Wright and writer/star Simon Pegg are back to take on brainless cop flicks with the pseudo-spoof “Hot Fuzz.” Though “Shaun” did better for horror than this does for action, “Hot Fuzz” still performs well at serving up genre jabs with the straightest of faces.

Pegg plays Nicholas Angel, a hardened London cop who’s extremely good at his job. He’s so good that his colleagues are tired of looking like a bunch of lazy bums in comparison, and this supercop Angel is reassigned to the uneventful village of Sandford. But although Sandford appears nice and safe on the surface, Angel suspects something sinister is afoot, that some recent accidents are actually a series of murders. His colleagues think he’s a trigger-happy cop going nuts from a lack of action, leaving Angel to become a one-man fighting force and blow the lid on what’s really going down in Sandford.

A casual viewing of “Hot Fuzz” might make it seem virtually undistinguishable from any other random action flick. But a closer inspection reveals the filmmakers are trying to hide a collective snicker, a gentle parody that takes a bit more of a subtle route to poking fun at the cop movie; just imagine the complete opposite of “The Naked Gun” movies and their sense of humor. It’s the same semi-serious storytelling that Wright incorporated into “Shaun,” but here, the line becomes a bit more blurred, a reverse Stockholm Syndrome in which the script begins to adhere a little more to the very clichés it’s holding hostage.

“Hot Fuzz” has a clever mind-set at work that does turn up more hits than misses. The hat-tipping to the action genre’s all-around goofiness does turn up some amusing results, especially during the bullet-strewn climax, in which everyone and their mother whips out some heavy artillery at some point. Even a runaway swan gets in on the action and is used to hilarious effect. Pegg is terrific as Angel, a cop so starved for action that he treats some kids drinking underage like drug lords. Nick Frost, another “Shaun” veteran, also does well as the obligatory partner, this time an action-movie junkie in awe of Angel’s reputation and whose countless viewings of “Point Break” and “Bad Boys II” eventually come into play. The supporting cast rivals “Love Actually” for the sheer number of British performers, ranging from Timothy Dalton and Bill Nighy to Steve Coogan and Jim Broadbent. It’s a who’s who of classy British actors.

“Hot Fuzz” reminded me of “Smokin’ Aces” in the sense that the trailers seemed to promise a lot more than what was actually going on in the movie. As was the situation with “Aces,” there’s still enough fun, action-packed material to sit back and have a blast,



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



Teresa
Aviles

“Hot Fuzz,” another cop movie, rolls off the fingertips of Hollywood onto the big screen for laughs, I thought. The premise of the story had its clichés, and the genre itself is cliché enough for me to avoid it. Once the mention of creators Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg of “Shaun of the Dead” was heard, I immediately grew eager about the ridiculous crime movie awaiting my viewing.

Although I can say that “Shaun of the Dead” was more enjoyable than the latest “Hot Fuzz” solely because it had zombies versus cops, the British comedy is what won me over. Writer and lead actor Simon Pegg is Sergeant Nick Angel, who has been transferred from London’s police force to the tiny town of Sandford, mainly for making the other London cops look bad. So we have a big cop in a small town and what he finds in Sandford’s incident reports is that there are more freak accidents than crimes. Angel and his partner Danny Butterman (Nick Frost) are determined to crack the mystery of the town’s recent deaths, which everyone else perceives as accidents rather than murders.

It was predictable yet enjoyable, packed full of one-liners mostly from Butterman as the cheery, tubby cop. I found myself laughing at jokes that I didn’t even think were funny and realized the British humor struck me with its flatness. The delivery and performance of the funniest scenes and lines brought on the laughs. The term “timing is everything” has never been more true until this movie.

If you’re looking for blood in this shoot-’em-up cop movie then see “Smokin’ Aces.” Here we have over-the-top deaths and the most massive gun collection ever seen on film. You’ll see deaths by architecture, old-lady kicking and supermarket hijinks with shopping carts, spaghetti sauce and box cutters.

There are moments in which I believe that these types of movies are only made for its references to other films or to touch at subcultures for personal laughs. “Bad Boys,” “Jurassic Park,” “Mad Max” and many more were in there. Even the camera shots and angles paid homage to predecessor cop movies. An Edgar Wright-style of zooming in for close ups and not-so-funny moments brought out the subtle humor in some scenes. This technique is also good for faking the ridiculous action scenes with the elderly. The unrealistic aspect of the scenes did well for this comedy genre.

For those who loved “Shaun of the Dead” they will have a grand time laughing at this one. It’s another comedy poking fun at law enforcement; but if you’re starving to be amused, then see “Hot Fuzz.” I got the most pleasure out of the geography of the plot with references to “the city” referring to the big heads in London. Also, what really got me gob-smacked was hearing characters of the movie call each other “wankers.”

A.J. is a junior-year transfer student studying journalism and film studies. He mostly digs horror movies and documentaries.



Teresa is a junior-year transfer student studying journalism and geography. She enjoys dark comedies and documentaries.

Unity in the Community celebrates diversity



Sarah Packingham
sarah.packingham@uwrf.edu

The annual Unity in the Community day, which is put on by the Diversity Awareness Committee (DAC), was held Wednesday in which members of the UW-River Falls and River Falls communities took part.

Blake Fry, the special assistant to the chancellor, said the event has been going on for about 15 years on campus and this year is the second year it has involved the city hosting events downtown in Veteran’s Park.

“The event is to promote diversity on campus,” Karyn Kling of Student Services and Programs said. “It really just celebrates all the diversity we have here.”

Chancellor Don Betz opened the day’s festivities with a speech, promoting acceptance on campus and in the community.

“What a great day,” Betz said. “Unity Day, it’s a wonderful time to understand why we stand together.”

DAC Chair Ashley Olson was one of the students who spent a lot of time planning this year’s event.

“DAC is the primary sponsor, but we also have to thank other organizations like Student Senate for their sponsoring the Faces of UWRF project.”

Throughout the course of the day, Unity organizers plan on having most of the students on campus witness that the event is taking place. Students on a meal plan had only one option for lunch, and it was to eat at the Unity in the Community picnic.

Olson said the committee has been working to plan this event since the beginning of the school year. Aside

from the campus committee, students have been working and meeting with the River Falls school district, the chamber of commerce and the mayor.

The day’s events started at 10 a.m. and went on throughout the day. The activities lasted from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. in Veteran’s Park. The final event took place at 8 p.m. as part of the Wyman Series.

The Journey to a Hate Free Millennium was presented at 8 p.m. in the North Hall Auditorium.

There were a number of different activities and programs for everyone to enjoy.

A community drum circle performed along with Dance Theatre and various student performances.

Olson said there are going to be signs placed at both of the entrances to the city stating that this is an inclusive city and that everyone who comes here will be accepted.

River Falls Mayor Don Richards was scheduled to speak more about the inclusiveness of the city and campus.

There were a number of different activities that students, faculty, staff and community members could take part in.

Also, various student organizations set up tables and distributed information for all who attended.

“It was a fun event last year,” junior Megan Lach said during the event. “It was definitely worth coming to, and it brings the campus together.”

Kling said the goal of the day is to bring the campus together and to celebrate the diversity of River Falls.

Unity in the Community is not the only event DAC plans. The organization also helps plan the diversity



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Left to right: Stephanie Pastlow, Sara Mickens, Natsumi Kubo, Amy Lippert and Crystal Hilsen from Dance Theatre perform during Unity in the Community.

portions of the Wyman Series and supports other diversity organizations on campus.

DAC meets at 4 p.m. every Tuesday in the Mississippi Room of the University Center and invites any student interested to attend.

LETTERDOKU

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

Difficulty: Easy Jenna Oemig/Student Voice

Rules for Letterdoku: Fill all of the empty squares so that the letters A to I appear once in each row, column and 3 x 3 box.

Solution for Letterdoku is available at www.uwrfvoice.com

Arctic Monkeys’ CD is one to skip



Jenna
Lee

The biggest thing I am hating about music right now, and the people who listen to music for that matter, is how it makes them act. While it is perfectly normal and OK to be influenced by your favorite music genre or compact disc collection, letting it define you as a human being is a bit pathetic. Favourite Worst Nightmare by Arctic Monkeys feels like that kind of CD. It’s the kind of CD you would buy right before hitting up Urban Outfitters to get tight, overly-distressed jeans. This is the CD you would put in your collection just to tell people

that you had it, but you’d skip over it if one of the songs came up in your playlist.

I know they have been playing songs by the Arctic Monkeys, either off this album or their extended play, Who the Fuck are Arctic Monkeys? on the radio, but I don’t see what the point of that is.

They could have easily played any song by The Killers and no one would know the difference. I understand using that faraway sounding, metallic voice distortion on one or two songs to add depth, but I can’t take an entire album of it. And unfortunately, because I am so sick of that voice, it makes me completely turned off to the lyrics.

They’re not even terrible lyrics, but when combined with the tone of the voice and bad guitar riffs, I think the Arctic Monkeys sound like

the bastard, hell-beast child of The Killers and Radiohead.

The fourth track on the CD “Balaclava,” was the only song that could keep my attention for more than 30 seconds because it was quicker and had a different beat than the rest of the CD.

In the interludes between the chorus and lyrics, I could almost hear some old-school metal in the guitars.

However, during the lyrics, the rhythm slowed to a quicker ska-like beat. It was a weird song, but an interesting song.

And to me, even “weird” makes a better song than “cookie-cutter.” The song right after that isn’t too bad either. It’s called “Fluorescent Adolescent,” which I just find simply charming since the title rhymes.

And, it’s filled with quirky but sexy British slang like “daft” and “slag,” which is refreshing lingo after hearing

so many people say something ignorant like, “Did you know that fag means cigarette in England?” and still think they’re cultured.

The Arctic Monkeys will be playing at First Avenue in Minneapolis May 7.

Against my better judgment, I am trying to be optimistic, and I’ll probably go. This album could be an over-produced mishap, a fluke. There are still bands that sound better live than recorded.

Personally, I like to place my money on the pony with the best odds. Since Favourite Worst Nightmare has only two good songs out of 12, I suggest that it go the way of Barbaro (although I don’t think CDs make good glue).

Don’t spend your money on something that’s only going to bring eight minutes of joy to your life.

And that’s not just a music tip, that’s a life lesson.

Sudanese refugee travels to tell his story

Josh Dahlke
joshua.dahlke@uwrf.edu

Violence in Sudan is presented in the media on a regular basis, but students at UW-River Falls recently had the opportunity to listen to a first-hand account of the atrocities.

August Mayai, a 25-year-old Sudanese refugee, is a graduate student at UW-Madison. On April 12 Mayai spoke to a political science class at UWRF, sharing vivid memories that not only haunt his mind, but also motivate him to create change.

In early 1983, a civil war engulfed Sudan for a second time, forcing thousands of children, later deemed the “lost boys,” to flee the scene of killing, rape, burning of homes and slave acquisition. This war lasted for 22 years, leaving approximately two million dead and four million displaced.

According to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Web site, the deep-seeded violent history of Sudan is a reflection of Arab Muslim “domination of largely non-Muslim, non-Arab southern Sudanese.”

Mayai lived in the southern town of Akop, where he said he lived in peace with his family and received the love he needed — that is until at the age of seven when he heard news that an attack was going to strike near his home. He was forced to join thousands of other young southern Sudanese on a journey that lasted over 500 miles on foot.

“We just took off as a result of expected attacks that was coming in,” Mayai said. “There wasn’t an option but to run for safety, and that’s how it was.”

The attacks did come, relentlessly carried out by government troops, claiming the lives of five members of his family. A year later his mother died of natural causes, but Mayai said “her sickness could have been attended to by a doctor if it wasn’t for the war.”

During their long walk the boys faced grizzly circumstances such as hunger, thirst, sickness and exposure to dangerous animals. Mayai said one incident in particular stands out in his mind, and that is when his life nearly came to a close in a most grim manner.

Mayai ingested something that caused him to get severely ill with bloody diarrhea.

“... I almost died, but I was lucky,” he said. “For three days I couldn’t walk. The whole trip got stopped. I was just lucky that they stopped at that time.”

People on the journey often had to eat tree leaves and roots. They also had no choice but to drink dirty water, while some men drank their own urine. So, under those conditions, it comes as no surprise that Mayai nearly perished.

“[I] witnessed a lot of people in my age range dying on the side,” Mayai said.

Crocodiles, hippopotami, snakes, lions, and hyenas were also enemies. Hyenas are generally known for being scavengers, but Mayai said they became acquainted with the taste of human flesh from casualties rotting on the battlefields, so they turned into fierce predators.

Mayai said there were some elders on the journey who led the children to neighboring Ethiopia, in an effort to seek safety. However, when they reached Ethiopia they were forced to leave because of a conflict that had erupted there.

Mayai and thousands of others instead ended up in Kenya at a refugee camp called Kakuma. The camp is composed mainly of Sudanese refugees, and according to the Refugees International Web site, “Kakuma camp in Kenya is one of the oldest and largest refugee camps in the world.”

Mayai had no choice but to call Kakuma his home for several years.

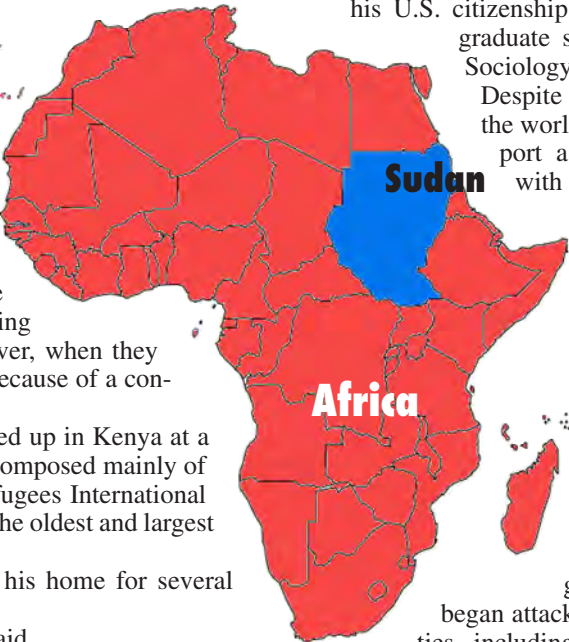
“Refugee camps are not good places,” he said.

Mayai said there was some structure at Kakuma, including about 40 different schools for 80,000 refugees, but other conditions were not so pleasant. He and his peers depended on a monthly allotment of 12 lbs. of corn wheat per person.

Mayai said a deeper knowledge and awareness about the situation in Sudan finally reached the West after several years. He said one organization, Catholic Relief Services, presented information at a bishop conference. Leaders at the conference then shared their concern with the U.S. government, and in 1997 Canada, Australia and



Submitted Photo
August Mayai speaks at a press conference held at the capitol building in Madison, Wis., with Wisconsin Sen. Sheila Harsdorf to support the state divestment efforts with Sudan. Mayai has been traveling to tell his story as a Sudanese refugee.



the United States granted asylum to thousands of young refugees. Mayai claims that the United States initially was going to allow 5,000 to immigrate, but 1,000 were cut off from immigration and forced to stay in the refugee camps or resettle in Sudan.

Mayai was lucky enough to be granted admission into the United States and he arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 2001.

In Salt Lake City he attended the University of Utah. He gained his U.S. citizenship in 2005 and he is currently going to graduate school at UW-Madison for a Ph.D. in Sociology with an emphasis on demography.

Despite his turbulent life, Mayai traveled across the world to gain an education to be able to support a positive future for Sudan, especially with the advent of the genocide occurring in Darfur.

According to the CIA Web site regarding the civil war in Sudan, “Peace talks gained momentum in 2002-04 with the signing of several accords.” However, during that same time the Darfur conflict sparked momentum.

Darfur, a region in western Sudan, has seen an estimated 400,000 casualties, many of whom have been civilians. The conflict started when non-Arab, anti-government rebel groups in Darfur began attacking various Sudanese government entities, including the police and military. The rebels believe that the Arab government is oppressing the non-Arab population.

Soon after the fighting began the Sudanese government retaliated has provided support for the Janjaweed, nomadic cattle herders from the region. Like the civil war that Mayai escaped, various atrocities have been committed on civilians, including rape, torture, burning of homes and murder.

“So such activities that are occurring in Darfur occurred in the south as well,” Mayai said.

His personal connection has made him a devotee to the toil in the country, and he is currently involved with public speaking engagements to raise awareness and support in the American public.

“I don’t see myself coming off the scene of what’s going on because of my past experience,” Mayai said. “I see myself as a weapon of that mechanism of change in the country.”

Mayai is also actively involved in an organization whose goal is to establish a project in Sudan to provide clean water, as parasites and water-related illnesses commonly plague the country.

He is currently working with Wisconsin Senator Sheila Harsdorf to promote American divestment in foreign companies who are doing business with the government of Sudan.

“It’s those companies that are helping to fund the genocide that is occurring in Darfur,” Harsdorf said. “This legislation would call on the State of Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB) to divest from those companies.”

According to their Web site, “... SWIB is concerned about atrocities and human rights violations in Sudan.” It is their goal to identify companies who are doing business with Sudan and “evaluate the nature of those relationships.”

Harsdorf said it is a targeted divestment effort involving 12-15 companies, and as many as 20 states have either taken action or are considering similar legislation. The legislation would not effect any U.S. companies because the country is already prohibited from doing business in Sudan, as it is considered a terrorist country.

Mayai said that divestment is important in the peace process, because if Sudan loses millions of dollars it will be difficult for them to continue their violent campaign. However, he said divestment is not the most critical component in the process.

“The U.S. government would only help strongly if they try to support the U.N. through funding and through political effort,” Mayai said. He said the U.N. does not currently have the mandate to shoot back and protect citizens from the infamous Janjaweed, who are known to ride into towns on horseback to commit murder and other heinous acts.

Although it may appear as if the majority of the killing has been done, Mayai said it is not too late for the future.

“The war is still going on,” Mayai said. “It will never stop until everyone is killed.”



Submitted Photo
On April 12, August Mayai and Wisconsin Sen. Sheila Harsdorf speak before a UW-River Falls political science class. The topic of conversation was genocide in Darfur.

Sudan Facts

- **Population: 39,379,358**
- **Population growth rate: 2.082 percent per year**
- **In 1983, a civil war engulfed Sudan for a second time, forcing thousands of children, named “Lost Boys” to flee the country.**
- **In Kakuma, a city with a large refugee camp, there are 40 different schools for 80,000 refugees.**
- **Darfur, a city in Sudan, has seen an estimated 400,000 casualties, many of whom have been civilians.**

Want more of the *Student Voice*?
Check it out online at
www.uwrfvoice.com.