



PROFESSOR PAGE 8

**Foreign professor
brings philosophical
knowledge**

NONTRADITIONAL PAGE 2

**Nontraditional
students renew
college dreams**

STUDY ABROAD PAGE 10

**Studying abroad
provides students
cultural experience**



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STUDENT VOICE

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May Hall evacuated due to bomb scare

Jenna Nelson

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On Oct. 27, 2007, Brittany Kerschner, a student employee of May Hall was organizing mail at the front desk when she noticed an unusual “ticking” noise coming from one of the packages. Upon first investigation of the package, she noted that it was excessively taped, and could not find the resident’s name or address that the package was intended for. The parcel did however, contain a return address. After the May Hall manager was contacted, the decision was made to call public safety, and later the River Falls Police Department to further assess the situation.

After evaluating the situation, at 3:25 p.m., the RFPD chose to take precautionary measures, and evacuate both May Hall and the connecting Emogene A. Nelson Center. Not wanting to cause unnecessary panic, the RFPD knocked on residents’ doors and asked them to leave the building immediately, instead of pulling a fire alarm. Also, if authorities proceeded to sound the fire alarm, it could have detonated the potential bomb, as some bombs are designed to be triggered by pulling an alarm. The police also closed Spruce Street and opened Karges Center for May Hall residents. Given that the situation

**“We weren’t able to
confirm any data
about the package.”**

Roger Leque,
River Falls Police Chief

occurred on Saturday afternoon, the majority of students residing in May Hall had left for the weekend. Thus, only 25 students were asked to leave the building.

At approximately 4 p.m., authorities determined that the package had caused enough suspicion to contact a

bomb squad.

“We weren’t able to confirm any data about the package,” River Falls Chief of Police, Roger Leque said.

Due to out of state insurance liability issues, the bomb squad from the Twin Cities was unable to assist local authorities. Thus, the bomb squad from Marathon County was called upon for assistance at 6 p.m. However, because Marathon County is roughly 158 miles away, they were not able to arrive on the scene until 8:30 p.m.

The River Falls ambulance crew and fire department joined the RFPD and UW-River Falls officials to give aid whenever necessary.

Upon the bomb squad’s arrival, the parcel was immediately inspected through and X-ray when it was determined that the package did contain suspicious wires. It was then decided that the package would have to be detonated within the May Hall mailroom.

At this time, a call from police dispatchers reported a fire at Lab Farm One. While a number of authorities remained on the scene of May Hall, members of the police force as well as the fire department, reported to the Lab Farm immediately.

See **Bomb scare**, page 3

UWRF hosts annual Halloween festivities



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Top: Ashley Sollman portrays a mad scientist at the Haunted Pavilion held at Lab Farm 1, Oct. 31. The Haunted Pavilion provided a family oriented place for children to take part in Halloween activities. Bottom left: Melissa Spriggle takes her two daughters, Ayana and Madasyn trick or treating in the decorated Crabtree Hall. Bottom right: The first floor of Prucha Hall also participated in the decorating festivities that took place across campus.



Flames engulf Lab Farm



Jens Gunelson

Two River Falls firefighters battle flames at Lab Farm 1, Oct. 27. Although the fire did not cause any injuries to anyone or livestock, it claimed 5,000 bales of hay.

Eric Pringle

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A hay storage building on Lab Farm 1 on the UW-River Falls campus was destroyed Saturday night after a fire broke out around 8:45 p.m.

Firefighters from River Falls, Hudson and surrounding communities arrived on the scene and had the fire under control by approximately 9:45 p.m. No one was injured, and horses were evacuated from the other lab buildings. However, nearly 5,000 bales of hay were destroyed, an estimated loss of \$18,750.

“As the fire built in intensity inside the corrugated structure, producing billowing smoke, I watched at the scene

as the men and women of the River Falls, Ellsworth, Prescott and Hudson fire departments successfully tackled, contained and extinguished the stubborn blaze,” Chancellor Don Betz said in a statement regarding the fire. “UW-River Falls lost a building and hay, but our colt barn, horses and other invaluable property were not damaged.”

The River Falls Police Department (RFPD) believes that two juvenile River Falls males are responsible for starting the fire. The juvenile’s ages are 13 and 14, according to the RFPD, and they will have to make an appearance in juvenile court.

“I want to publicly thank the men and women from all the above mentioned fire depart-

ments as well as River Falls Police Department and UWRF’s Public Security officers, the staffs from both Lab Farm 1 and 2, and our faculty and students whose dedication have built the reputation of the equine program and the farms,” Betz said. “All responded to this challenge.”

The campus lab farms are located south of the University, near Cemetery Road and South Cudd Avenue. Built in 1981, the hay storage building was made of metal and wood and measured 2,580 square feet. Though the building is self-insured by the State of Wisconsin, the estimated cost of replacement is \$28,000.

Combat Marine adjusts to UWRF after deployment

Amy Bohrer

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Sitting in the University coffee shop, sipping coffee and reading the Student Voice is an average looking student. He is wearing a white collared shirt with the sleeves rolled up. On his arms is a tattoo that says, “Carpe Diem”—Seize the Day. By the tattoo, you can see this student is not average after all.

This individual’s name is Brandon Barclay. He is a retired Corporal in the Marines and a Combat Veteran. Barclay was deployed in Ar Aanadi, Iraq, for six months in 2004. While deployed, Barclay suffered three injuries. According to medical records from the Department of Veterans Affairs in St. Paul, Minn., Barclay was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Shrapnel from the IED hit the right side of his body; he was also hit by a bullet in the knee and right hip. Barclay was also struck by a Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) in a separate occasion which severed the nerves in his right and left arms and shattered his right wrist. A sharp piece of metal also severed a section of his vertebrae. Barclay can still walk but, due to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, is unable to work.

At 21 years old, Barclay’s plans of being a life-long Marine were shattered. He moved back to his hometown of Cottage Grove in 2005. Barclay decided to go to UW-River Falls.

Barclay, now 23, is in his second semester at UWRF, as a Political Science and International Relations major. He is still getting used to the change of lifestyle.

“In the Marines, it’s a brotherhood,” Barclay said. “You never turn your back on each other, you won’t find that in the real world.”

The transition from the battlefield to the classroom can be difficult, and Barclay is still adjusting to campus life, such as the political environment on campus.

“Politics go out the window when you are in

combat,” Barclay said.

Barclay finds it “disrespectful and heartbreaking” when he hears students and professors on campus voicing their negative opinions of the war, but he understands that people have their opinions.

Political Science Professor Neil Kraus has Barclay as a student and enjoys having him in class.

“Brandon is hardworking, and he actively participates in class,” Kraus said. “His experience gives him some insight into the material we are talking about in class.”

A classmate of Barclay’s and a Combat Marine Veteran, Nick Carow has gotten to know Barclay. “He is a normal, nice guy,” Carow said.

Being a veteran himself, Carow knows what the transition of returning to school after the military is like.

“It’s hard for a veteran to return to school because things do not seem that important in the short time, the day to day,” he said.

Barclay and Carow are planning on starting a Veteran’s club on campus. Barclay would like the club to be a “support group for veterans ... where veterans could share their stories and bring the comradery back on campus.”

Looking back, Barclay does not have regrets joining the military and when asked if he would do it over again,

“Yes, I’d make the decision again regardless of the injuries ... it wouldn’t be right if I didn’t,” Barclay said. “We all make decisions in life; you have to deal with it, good, bad or indifferent.” Barclay’s plans for the future are unclear.

“Finishing school is step one, I can’t go any further,” said Barclay. “[my injuries] stop me from doing things in life that I wanna do.”

His “Carpe Diem” tattoo reminds him to “never be scared, do what you have to do.” He received the tattoo as a gift before deploying to Iraq.

VOICE SHORTS

Family Day begins with Turkey Trot

The Turkey Trot starts off the Annual Family Day. The 9th annual Turkey Trot is presented by the UW-River Falls Health and Human Performance Department. There will be a 5k run starting at 9 a.m. at Knowles arena followed by a one mile walk starting at 9:05 a.m. for all ages to participate in. To register now the fee is \$18 for everyone. Registration fee includes a long sleeve t-shirt. Top female and male participants in each division will receive awards. All proceeds will be going to Y Partners, a YMCA scholarship program for youth. Registration forms will be available at the Health and Human Performance office located in Karges center or in the University Center. For more information visit www.uwrf.edu/fye/familyday.htm. or call the First Year Experience office at 715-425-4444.

Beethoven and Handel faeured at concert

At 3 p.m. Nov. 4, in William Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts, new Faculty member Laura Edman will be performing Handel’s Concerto in G minor for Organ and Orchestra. She will also perform music by Aaron Copland, Beethoven andProkofiev. There will also be a guest appearance featuring musicians from the Czech Republic. Admission for the concert is adults \$5, seniors \$3, students with ID \$2.

Trio from the Czech Republic to perform

At 7:30 p.m. Nov. 5, in William Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts, Prague Castle Woodwind Trio, established in 1992, will be performing. The Prague Woodwind Trio is one of the smallest chamber units of the Prague Castle Guard and Czech Police Band, whose main concert opportunities include performances for the President of the Czech Republic and his guests during state visits. The Trio’s repertoire is focused on Classical Czech music, including music composed by members of the Mannheim school and Czech composers located throughout Europe, such as Stamitz, Myslivecek, Druzecky, Nudera, Krommer, Vanhal, Dusek, Kozeluh and others. A \$5 donation is requested from those who attend.

Coffee With *The Times* continues at UWRF

The Coffee With The Times series continues at 12:30 p.m. Nov. 6 in the Falls Room in the University Center. Coffee with *The Times* is a conversation series on current issues. The next topic is “Restorative Justice” with Kris Miner, director of the, St. Croix Valley Restorative Justice Program. For more information on Coffee with *The Times*, including the articles that will serve as the starting point for this discussion, visit <http://www.uwrf.edu/adp/#Activities>. The series is sponsored by the UW-River Falls American Democracy Project, Pi Sigma Alpha, *Student Voice*, WRFW and *The New York Times*.

Hudson bank robbery leads to suicide

A bank in Hudson, Wis. was robbed at gunpoint Wednesday morning. Shortly later, the suspect was spotted in Minnesota by Oak Park Heights Police. A chase led into Stillwater, Minn. and the suspect fatally shot himself. The Hudson Police Department described the suspect as a white male, 30 to 60 years old, about 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 7 inches and weighing about 250 to 300 pounds. He had a pocked face and was wearing a gray stocking cap, dark sunglasses, black jacket and blue jeans. It is suspected that the same man robbed another bank in Hudson last Friday.

Scam letters surface in Pierce County

Over the past few weeks the Pierce County Sheriff Department has become aware of a possible scam that is taking place in the county and surrounding areas, according to the *River Falls Journal*. A letter comes in the mail addressed with the header of “Winning Notification.” The letter indicates that you are one of the winners of a contest they were sponsoring for a prize of \$120,000 cash. Along with the letter is a check made out to you, the recipient. It indicates that part of the money is to pay for taxes. The recipient is instructed to cash the check at their bank and use that money to pay for the taxes through Money Gram or Western Union. The letter states that they will be charged \$115 to send the money to the tax agent. Once there is a confirmation that they have made their tax payment, they will receive the remaining \$115,275. The public should know that this is a scam.

Kansas City Chiefs will return to UWRF

The Kansas City Chiefs will return to UW-River Falls in 2008 for spring training. This will be the 18th year the Chiefs have used UWRF for their preseason training exercises. The Chiefs have two more one-year options to return to the University. Chiefs President Carl Peterson said team is highly satisfied with the changes that UWRF has made over the years, including the addition of the new University Center improvements made in the Knowles Center.

Leadership opportunities, campus planning are Senate's high priorities

Chancellor Betz speaks at Senate meeting

Lee Ann Bjerstedt
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Strategic planning, leadership opportunities and campus architectural projects were all brought up by Chancellor Don Betz in a presentation to Student Senate during Tuesday’s meeting. Betz spoke about the strategic plan “Living the Promise” and stressed its importance, as it will “guide what we do [as an institution] for the next five to seven years.” Among the goals he outlined were continuing to work at sustainable community development, increasing global literacy and engagement, creating a culture of inclusiveness, and encouraging the development of engaged leaders. To meet these goals, it is vital that all students be involved, Betz said. “This institution is as big as it’s ever been and will get bigger,” Betz said. “We need to be aware of our students, and feedback is essential to that.” Recently, UW-River Falls received the largest donation in the history of the institution. Leona Spriggs, a 1938 graduate and longtime leadership advocate, recently passed, leaving a \$1.4 million legacy to UWRF. The money will be used for leadership program recruiting, which is just the “nucleus of a much broader leadership effort,” Betz said. Improvements to Ramer Field as well as a new Health and Human



Don Betz

Nontraditional students pursue college education

Derrick Knutson
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Years may go by, but the drive for education still stays the same for nontraditional students at UW-River Falls. College may be seen as an environment solely for 18-22 year-olds, but nontraditional students are making their mark on the UWRF campus. There is no exact definition for nontraditional students, Alan Tuchenhagen, the associate vice chancellor for enrollment services, said. The age for nontraditional students varies from 22 to 25 at different universities in the UW System, Tuchenhagen said. At UWRF it is generally accepted that students 25 and over are considered nontraditional. In the graduate program, being over 30 years of age is generally considered being nontraditional. At UWRF 8 percent of undergraduate students are nontraditional and 5 percent of graduate students are nontraditional, according to a press release from the enrollment services office. People from all different walks of life are coming back to college to pursue an education. “I wanted to get my bachelors in some kind of engineering after getting my two year degree,” Shawntel Murphy, senior mechanical engineering and physics major, said. Murphy initially went to college for one semester, but dropped out because she didn’t have any idea of what she really wanted to do with her life. During her time away from college, Murphy worked as an engineer for Ford Motor Company, and she had her son, Dylan. “There was no way I could do it while he [Dylan] was a baby,” Murphy said. “I came down and looked at the college, and I realized that once my son started kindergarten, I could go back.” Murphy is now 30 years old and she plans



Alan Tuchenhagen

on graduating from UWRF in the next year and a half. Circumstances like Murphy’s keep students away from college for a time, but there are numerous reasons why students drop out and come back. “I went to college for a very short time; I failed miserably,” senior geology major Patti Roettger said. “I was not in the right mindset to tackle something like that at the time.” Right out of high school, responsibility was an issue for Roettger. “I was a typical 18 or 19 year old; I just wanted to go out with my friends all the time,” Roettger said. “I just wasn’t responsible enough to stick with my classes.” After dropping out of Lakewood College, now Century College, Roettger started working and eventually got a job at Anderson Windows. “It paid really well, especially when you’re 18 or 19 years old, but when I got older I realized that it was pretty much a dead end,” Roettger said. “I realized I had to have some further schooling.” Roettger is now 42 years old and is close to finishing her degree, which has always been a dream. Some students may have maturity issues when they first enter college and that may cause them to postpone their education, but other issues also cause students to delay going to college. “I ended up getting married, and we had a family afterward,” Valerie Rolling, a sophomore majoring in broad area English and secondary education, said.” “We just kind of decided to do the career thing instead of school.” Rolling now has three children. She decided that they are now old enough for her to go back to school and pursue her education. Rolling spent one semester at UW-Whitewater right after she graduated high school, and she completed one year at Milwaukee Area Technical College. Life just seemed to get in the way for Rolling, but she is now back at school working toward a degree. “I always wanted to get my four year degree, and this time I’m going to,” Rolling said.

Nontraditional students are also coming into college after stints in the military. “Military-wise, we have right around 160 students,” Steve Holmes, a representative for the UWRF veterans office, said. The veteran’s office helps military members fill out their GI bill paperwork in order to receive financial aid from the military that they can use for education purposes. “Depending on your amount of active duty time [the GI bill] pays a monthly stipend and for Wisconsin residents the state actually pays for their tuition,” Holmes said. The GI bill is a help to military veterans, and it would be a mistake to not take advantage of it, Holmes said. “I get about \$1,100 a month from the GI bill,” Lee Massey, a former army member and UWRF junior majoring in applied physics and mechanical engineering, said. Massey was a member of the Army from 1996 to 2000 and from 2000 to 2004 he was a member of the Army National Guard. In 1998, Massey was shipped overseas, and he spent time in Bahrain and Kuwait as a patriot missile operator and worked as a systems maintainer. As a systems maintainer, Massey worked with radars and launched guidance computer systems. During his time in the military, Massey found out that he has an interest in engineering, so after serving in the Army he came back to college in his hometown of River Falls to pursue a college education. The Army has been helpful to Massey in terms of financial aid, but he has to do a juggling act with many different aspects of his life. “I have two [children], and their ages are four and almost two,” Massey said. “Realizing that you don’t get homework done at home is an important thing. That’s why I come here [campus] at 6 a.m. to get my homework done before class.” Along with his two children, Massey also has 18 credits and a job at 3M. Nontraditional students with different backgrounds are finding ways to go to college and pursue higher education. Sometimes work, children, maturity issues or serving in the military may defer the dream of a college education for a time, but these issues haven’t stopped some from obtaining a college degree.

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

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

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Oct. 20
- Skylar J. Christoffersen, 21, and Daniel O. Odden, 22, were each cited \$172 for disorderly conduct. Christopherson and Odden were observed fighting outside of Gemini Jewelers, located at 120 S. Main St., by River Falls Police.

Oct. 21
- Tyler J. Owens, 22, was cited \$109 for public urination at 101 E. Elm St.
- Public Safety officials reported damage to Ramer Field in the form of garbage scattered around the 50-yard line on the football field including refuse, tractor tires, a dumpster, garbage cans, benches and tables. The only permanent damage noted was to a folding table valued at \$50. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 23
- A parking permit was reported stolen from a dorm room in Hathorn Hall. The permit was

valued at \$120.

Oct. 25
- Christopher P. Janner, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption.
- Brett A. Ward, 19, was cited \$249 for underage consumption.
- Luke P. Leahy, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption.

Oct. 26
- Cory Windorff, 21, was transported from May Hall to River Falls Area Hospital to be treated for an alcohol overdose.
- Ryan M. Miller, 23, was cited \$235 for theft. Miller was cited because of an of an unreturned movie rental from Mr. Movies, located at 222 N. Main St.
- Cory L. Lindenberg, 22, was cited \$172 for shoplifting. Lindenberg was issued the citation by River Falls Police for eating a Snickers ice cream bar inside the Holiday Convenience Store, located at 302 S. Main St., and leaving the store without paying for it.
- A blue Trek road bicycle was reported stolen from the bike rack outside of the Chalmer Davee Library.

Oct. 27
- Ted L. Cannady, 20, and Duran F. Shaw, 19, were each cited \$172 for possession of marijuana. Cannady was also cited \$109 for driving after suspension.
- Nicholas W. Vignalo, 18, was cited \$293 for an absolute sobriety violation and \$716 for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Vignalo took the intoximeter test at the River Falls Police Department, which showed his blood alcohol content at a .10.
- At approximately 3:20 p.m. River Falls Police and UW-River Falls Public Safety official were notified of a suspicious ticking package that was in the May Hall mailroom. May Hall was evacuated shortly after and a bomb squad was called in from Marathon County. The bomb squad arrived on the scene at approximately 8:30 p.m. and at 9:30 p.m. detonated the package inside the May Hall mailroom. The package appeared to have contained a malfunctioning musical birthday card.

Oct. 28
- A UW-River Falls Public Safety officer reported vandalism to the Ramer Field tennis courts. The nets on the courts were cut and ripped on the north side of the court.
- Ryan H. Mulhern, 18, and Joseph H. Gillen, 18, were each cited \$172 for underage consumption.
- Alexander V. Figi, 19, was cited \$293 for an absolute sobriety violation and \$109 for operating a motor vehicle after suspension.

Oct. 30
- Devin L. Underwood, 24, was cited \$406.50 for entering a playing field during an athletic event and \$280.50 for disorderly conduct. The citation stemmed from the streaking incident at the UWRF homecoming football game Oct. 13. Underwood was identified from photos taken at the event.

St. Croix County
Crimestoppers Tip Line:
1-800-303-8477

Briefs compiled
by
Marta Olson

Surfing the Web?
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Student Voice
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Bomb scare: Suspicious package is cause of panic in residence hall



Ben Brewster/Student Voice
The River Falls Police Department responded to a call to May Hall on Oct. 27. A student employee reported a suspicious “ticking” noise coming from a package in the mailroom. The RFPD cleared students out of the residence hall before contacting the Marathon County bomb squad who detonated the bomb. Upon destroying the package’s exterior, it was discovered that the package was a musical greeting card which produced the noise.

from page 1

Although an additional emergency was now of concern, the bomb squad focused on the detonation of the package using their own ordinance. The removal of the package’s exterior revealed that the parcel’s contents contained a musical greeting card, which produced the “ticking” noise. Upon further investigation, the address the package was intended for was located on the opposite side of the packaging. At 10:05 p.m., May Hall residents were allowed to return to their rooms.

After the completion of the ordeal, Officer Leque praised city authorities and UWRF staff for handling the situation carefully. “I think it was handled the way it should have been and professionally. We have an expectation that we’re going to utilize our training and experience. We have to always take the necessary

precautions,” said Leque. Special Assistant to the Chancellor, Blake Fry was also satisfied with the way the potential threat was handled. “I am very pleased with how the situation was handled,” Fry said. He also discussed improvements that will be made in future situations, which focused on a bomb squad response occurring much quicker. Fry also hopes the campus will become more proactive about informing the entire campus community about future incidents. By communicating to the campus, he hopes to prevent rumors with inaccurate information from formulating.

“We have an expectation that we’re going to utilize our training and experience. We have to always take the necessary precautions.”

Roger Leque,
River Falls Police Chief

Dairy judging team places high

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The UW-River Falls dairy judging team has been placing high in competitions this semester, staying consistent with past years of competition. The senior members took first place at the All-American Invitational Youth Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Penn. The sophomore members took third place at the Accelerated Genetics Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Viroqua, Wis., and the junior members have yet to compete in Louisville, Ky., this fall. The team has typically been in the top 10 nationally, Steve Kelm said. Kelm has been coaching the team for 10 years. “Our senior group has been extremely consistent,” he said. The senior members have been very easy to work with, as they are similar in their approach to judging and evaluation, Kelm said. “They were always on the same page,” he said. Students begin their judging careers by taking the Introduction to Dairy Cattle Evaluation course the spring of their freshman year. The next fall, students take the advanced course. Students can begin competing when they become sophomores. “It’s fairly competitive to get on the team,” Drew Johnson, who has judged for three years, said. At a competition, students need to be familiar with many different breeds of dairy cattle, including Holsteins, Guernseys and Ayrshires, Johnson said. Team members also need to be efficient in public speaking and visual evaluation when competing, he said. Students place 10 classes and give oral reasons for five of those classes one on one with a judge at a competition. They are

given 20 minutes to prepare their reasons, he said. When students first arrive on campus, their strongest part of competition is in overall evaluation skills. This comes from participating in organizations such as 4-H and FFA, Kelm said. By the time students leave, however, oral reasoning becomes their strongest aspect in the competitions. “We work a lot on reasons,” he said. As the coach, he concentrates the most on the overall structure of oral reasons: providing a persuasive argument and justification, making sure the reasons are easy to follow and understand, and getting the main points across while displaying proper public speaking skills. The members of the team have worked around and altered schedules to take part in practices and competitions. “I’ve been just super impressed by everyone’s dedication,” Kelm said. Practices include going to a farm and placing a class, then giving their oral reasons to Kelm. “He’s a really, really good coach,” Johnson said. “I’ve learned a lot from him.” Kelm makes sure that everyone sees what needs to be seen in a cattle class and that oral reasons present the information that needs to be given, Johnson said. A class session is also held once a week. By being a member of the dairy judging team, students can also earn one credit of independent study, Johnson said. There are 20-22 individuals who practice with the team, but groups of only four are allowed to compete. By the end of the year, 12 individuals have the chance to compete nationally. Because of this, team members “take turns” and work together for competitions. “As a group, they’ve just had a general desire to help each other,” Kelm said. Johnson is done competing, as a student can only compete in a collegiate competition once. He will, though, continue to practice with the team, he said, until he graduates. The team will continue to do well in future competitions, Johnson said. “There’s a lot of good judges coming up,” he said. “It should be a promising future.”



Steve Kelm

“There’s a lot of good judges coming up. It should be a promising future.”

Drew Johnson,
Dairy team judge

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EDITORIAL

Bomb incidents raise questions

On Oct. 27 the campus community endured yet another bomb scare. The incident, which occurred in May Hall, was the second bomb scare this semester and the third in the past four semesters.

The bomb threat last year was not handled ideally by UW-River Falls officials, who disregarded the bomb threat procedures listed in the university handbook by allowing people within 300 feet of a building that was feared to be housing a bomb.

In this latest bomb incident in May Hall it seems that once again this procedural rule once again may have been ignored as students could be seen sitting on the west steps of the Karges Gymnasium, which is well within 300 feet of May Hall.

But that is not nearly our biggest concern. First, information regarding this potential life-threatening situation was sparse at best. In evacuating the building and creating a scene, many community members became curious about the situation at May Hall. While police and administration may be concerned with causing a panic, wouldn't it be better to inform citizens of the situation so they can maintain a safe distance rather than meandering around to see what's going on?

At one point a *Student Voice* staff member contacted UWRF Public Safety to get information regarding the incident; the official would not relinquish any information. All that withholding information does is cause further confusion and start the spreading of rumors and causing more concern and panic.

Another major issue with the latest bomb threat deals with the bomb squad from Marathon County that was called in to assist with the situation. Marathon County is a two and a half hour drive from River Falls. If this had been a real bomb, which would be considered a life threatening situation, do we really have an extra couple of hours to sit around and wait for a bomb squad?

This is even more perplexing considering the fact that there are multiple bomb squads in the Twin Cities that could have just as easily assisted. Apparently the reason those squads couldn't be used stems from insurance issues across state lines.

It's disheartening to know that if this would have been a real bomb that it's more important to follow proper insurance procedures, rather than looking out for the safety of the campus community and citizens of River Falls.

We feel that this latest incident, much like last year's bomb scare, has exposed more holes in the way these situations are handled. This is not only something that university officials and local police should be looking into, but state and federal officials as well.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS

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Managing time is key for success

Editor's note: The *Student Voice* will be running a weekly faculty/employee column this semester. This is open to any UW-River Falls staff member who would like their opinion heard on the pages of the *Student Voice*. The columns are opinion pieces between 450 and 600 words and must be submitted to the editor by the Monday prior to that week's issue. Please send any columns or questions regarding them to: editor@uwrfvoice.com. The *Student Voice* also reserves the right not to print a column if it is not suitable.

In last week's *Student Voice* column, Brian Schultz, Associate Dean of the College of Business and Economics, presented some terrific advice about managing your money. I am going to continue with the management theme but in this case focus on something even more important than money, that being time.

Having been a faculty member for over 20 years, I am acutely aware that as we reach the eighth week in a fourteen-week semester many students are about to enter a critical "crunch-time." That second or third exam is a week or so away. The due date for that research paper or artistic project you have put off is suddenly on the radar. Your social calendar is filling rapidly. In some cases job demands have increased in anticipation of the looming holiday seasons. The length of each day seems to be shrinking while demands on your time keep growing. How will you thrive or even survive?

My guess is that over the course of your academic career you have heard numerous presentations on effective time management, and I will not bore you with too many details like the fact that if you spent 15 hours a week in class, studied 20 hours per week, had a 40 hour per week job, ate for one hour a day, slept seven hours a day, partied three hours a day and played video games for two hours a day, you would still have two hours left for bathroom needs. But I will point out that the reality is that for most students there are enough hours in the week to accomplish their goals and failure to do so typically can be traced to one of two issues: self-awareness and self-regulation.

It has been my experience that the most common problem concerning academic time management involves unrealistic estimates concerning the length of time needed to complete a task. For example, a student will wait until the night before an exam to read the four 50-page chapters that have been assigned. They sit down at 10:00 p.m. with the expectation of finishing by midnight. Unfortunately, the reality is that this student's actual reading speed with comprehension is about 25 pages-per-hour. The outcome of this action is quite predictable. Either the student will only complete half of the reading (most common) or they will be forced to stay up until the wee hours of the morning, and although they might finish the reading, their level of comprehension/retention of the material is minimal. Both of these are losing propositions. A similar scenario also often plays itself out concerning the last minute production of a research paper or project.

How can students reduce the likelihood of these negative outcomes? The answer involves developing a sense of self-awareness of your particular speed of processing and the only way to do this is to begin keeping track of the length of time it takes you to perform at the level you desire. In my case, I have learned that I can read about 60 pages-per-hour with good comprehension. Thus, when I am asked to read a 90-page report, I know that I will need to set aside an hour and a half of my time. If you have not developed this sense of academic self-awareness, I can guarantee that doing so will really help with your time management.

Equally as important as is academic self-regulation, which involves the ability to follow through on the school-related plans you have made. The most likely academic expression of a lack of self-regulation is procrastination. Research has shown that in most cases procrastination is the result of one of three factors; fear of negative evaluation (for example: worry that the end

product will not be very good), lack of motivation to complete or more appealing options. Each of these "academic foes" requires a different self-regulation strategy. Concerning the fear of negative evaluation keep in mind the following. Not completing the task will absolutely guarantee a negative evaluation. Also, the more time you give yourself to complete the task the more likely the outcome will be favorable. To combat the lack of motivation, you have one of two main options. Option one would be to focus on a reward that you can give yourself for successful completion (example: an entire night of Halo III for a B or better) or a reward that you will be given to you upon successful (e.g., earning a B or better will make me feel great). Option two would be to focus on the punishments that may be forthcoming if you do not complete



Brad Caskey

watch "The Office" marathon? In this case the two best options are: 1) remove yourself from temptation (example: if you know you will be tempted, head to the library or some other study space where no one can find you; 2) learn to say "no"—something often easier said than done.

The bottom line is that over the course of the next few weeks your academic self-awareness and self-regulation skills will definitely be put to the test. I hope that you are able to use a few of the tips in this article to make sure that you successfully navigate what lies ahead.

Brad Caskey is associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and is in his third year in that position. A 1980 UWRF alumni, Dr. Caskey has received numerous awards including UWRF Distinguished Teacher (1997), UWRF Advisor of the Year (2004), and the Regents Award for Teaching Excellence for the University of Wisconsin System (2005).

'Bachelor' style dating may have potential

When I was a kid, I remember my parents giving me frequent advice about dating. Both my parents come from the conservative side of the '60's era, so of course they were concerned about who I dated and how that dating should take place.

I remember thinking how funny it was how my dad defined "dating." You see, he made a distinction between the terms "dating" and "going steady."

I know, it's been a while since we've heard that phrase.

But while we chuckle now, it was serious to him. Dating in his mind was a part of the relationship process which was much more open than going steady, and going steady was what we now call dating. In other words, dating in his terms was not exclusive.

It was perfectly okay to go on one date with one person one night and the next night go on another date with someone else.

For a while I thought that this mentality was pointless. Why date someone if you're not willing to give all your attention to him or her?

It seemed wrong to me, and I'd bet that many people today would agree.

Maybe. After watching "The Bachelor" I've begun to question the notion that society is all about the exclusive relationship. The show is wildly popular, and what do we see? One man dating, at one point, 25 women at the same time. And not only that, but everyone knows it. The women live in the same house, they are all aware that they are all sharing the attentions and affection of this one man.

The best part about it is that none of them seem to mind, except for the odd lady out who, for some reason, begins to feel that she is actually involved in a normal relationship.

Not only are those involved okay with the situation, but America eats it up. "The Bachelor" is currently in its 11th season, and it's counterpart, "The Bachelorette," has run three seasons. And most everyone knows what the "Rose Ceremony" is.

So here's my question: why is this type of non-restricted so popular by the ratings, and yet if your boyfriend or girlfriend told you that you were being passed over in favor of another date, you would be dumping the whole relationship.

What is it about the TV cameras, billion-dollar mansion and million-dollar jewelry that makes diverse dating okay?

Our entertainment defines our society. Though the concept seems foreign and even wrong, I'm beginning to think that allowing ourselves to go on "dates" without being bound exclusively might not be such a horrible idea.

Think about it. The millionaires on ABC get to closely compare and contrast the people and traits that they feel they might be interested. Why shouldn't the rest of us have that luxury when it comes to our love life?

We can compare products in the store and online, we can compare auto insurance rates, we can compare political parties all at the touch of a button, but we still submit ourselves to a style of dating that binds us to a person we're not quite sure about.

So instead of instantly recognizing faults and concerns we can't live with, we deceive ourselves and try to "fix" things because we're not sure if we'll be able to find anything better.

Honestly, is there anything wrong with this polygamist-type view of searching for our soul mates?

Katrina is a senior majoring in English with a literature emphasis and a minor in print journalism. She loves animals and travel, but her passion is working with words—either writing or reading them. She hopes to someday make a career of editing.

Gun accident inspires caution

This past weekend I was able to get out to the woods for my second hunting trip of the fall. It looked like it was going to be a picture-perfect fall hunt. The target was ruffed grouse, and I have heard nothing but good reports about grouse hunting success this year.

The weather was beautiful and I was with two great people: UWRF senior Joel and a guy he knows, Tom. Upon first impression I could tell Tom was a great guy. The drive northward to the land we were going to hunt solidified that impression.

Before we knew it we were at the land. Joel warned us that the first strip of woods was holding grouse the last time he had hunted the land, so we were careful to pay attention. Before we knew it, the rapid, pronounced sound of two grouse flushing had our hearts pounding. As the day pressed on, we covered a few hundred acres and saw a lot of birds. Joel and Tom were each able to get a bird.

We were heading back to the truck for some chili and sandwiches. There was one last piece of woods to push, and Joel was confident that there could very well be birds in there. We all decided on which positions we would take; I was on the far left, while Joel was in the middle and Tom was on the far right. A straight line is the typical way to drive any piece of land when hunting birds with multiple people. It is a generally safe and effective method.

Not long after getting into the woods, sure enough, two birds flushed. Joel and I

shot and it appeared as if we both had missed. We continued to proceed into the woods. I spotted one of the birds off to my left and shot it on the ground. As I was picking the bird up, Joel began shooting at the second bird. I got up, assuming that we were all still in a straight line, and fired at the same bird that Joel was trying to take down.

After I fired, Tom began yelling. I spotted his blaze orange and it was clear that he was not where I had thought he was. Instead, Tom was slightly in front of us, and he was yelling because he had been shot—by me.

I have been around firearms and hunting my whole life. I took gun safety when I was 12, and I have been hunting since then. I have passed on hundreds of shots at game, for hundreds of reasons. I have safely, successfully harvested more animals than I can remember. All of these factors became worthless in one instant, and I knew I had committed the worst possible act that anyone who carries a firearm, possibly could.

Tom took a few BBs in the leg, while another had gone through his lip and ricocheted off his tooth back into his lip. Thankfully, he was able to walk away. I was utterly shocked about what I had just done. Not for one minute did Tom place blame or try to make me feel guilty. All three of us sat there and reflected on the moment in disbelief, me speechless.

The details after the event are not all that important. We ate lunch, drove home and



Josh Dahlke

Tom dropped us off at Joel’s. He went to the hospital to get his injuries checked out. I spent the remainder of the night going over the situation in my head.

A combination of factors contributed to the accident. I had been to the land several times before, but I was still not fully acclimated to the layout, especially to the particular strip of woods where the accident occurred. Tom had never been there before, so he was completely unfamiliar. We were spread too far apart, the woods were dense and throughout the day there were times during which we did not all have visual contact with each other, despite the blaze orange. Tom got a little too far ahead of us. We were all relaxed and ready to go eat lunch. The birds and shooting caused excitement amongst everyone. All of those things played into the situation; however, the most important factor was of course me taking a shot before completely assessing the situation. I knew exactly where Joel was, but I made a poor assumption that Tom was still in the safety zone. Luckily, that assumption didn’t cost Tom his life.

The purpose of me writing this is to have anyone who is involved in hunting or any handling of firearms learn from my mistake. No matter how many years of experience you have, always second-guess the safety of every situation any place where a gun is involved. Firearm safety can be more complicated than it may sometimes seem, and I hope my experience will help everyone be more cautious.

Josh is a senior journalism major and a conservation minor. He enjoys the outdoors and playing drums for a metal band.

Friendships survive across distance, time

Hugs are shared. Cheek kissing, luggage carrying, email exchanging—goodbyes don’t have to be this dramatic.

A good friend visited me in London for the weekend. After being separated by post-high school university life for three years, we reunited in Europe. He, doing a study abroad program in Bilbao, Spain, brought me his irrevocable humor and reminiscing conversation. Their company was most enjoyable, and I could not have dreamed of any better of visitors. Their weekend holiday to London, not surprisingly, turned to a four-night party and some missed classes.

A rendezvous from an old friend at the young and beautiful age of 21 is something I can look back on and look forward to. My dear friends back home, the mates I have bonded with abroad and the sweet pals of my previous ages that I have not spoken a “hello” to in years; they may be missed but our friendships will continue to be strong regardless of the lack of an occasional phone call.

Starting out as a college freshman, I was quick to make new friends and gradually lost touch with my high school ones. To those who have run off to different cities, states, countries, continents, I have faith that we will meet again one day. For their lack of local presence is merely a measured distance. Their new location may be a fitting excuse to visit.

The people you will meet and the acquaintances made are part of the fun. Networking has become my new favorite pastime.

As everyone should know, it’s not what you know, but who you know. For instance, meeting people in hostels and even in the train stations has rewarded me with loads of free accommodation and shared meals. One after the other, each has presented something interesting as a human being. The faith in humanity that was once lost in Residence Life has now been restored.

You get what you give. I have only hoped that being generous to others will hit me back in the same loving way.

Thank you to all who have shared their couches, washing machines, bus maps and company with me as you will see wonderful things in return.

Through these people I have seen another vision of humanity. From person to person there are ups and downs—the most sickening to the most elegant. This is exactly what makes a life to live so beautiful: rebuilding the trust lost in the people onto a whole society.



Teresa Aviles

Teresa is a journalism major and a geography minor. She is enrolled in the Semester Abroad: Europe program and has done research on the River Thames in London. She is currently backpacking independently across Europe.

Celebrities’ status may not be deserved, but they do deserve our sympathy

The most common way to define a celebrity is to say that the individual is in the state or quality of being widely honored and acclaimed. Let me repeat: HONORED and ACCLAIMED. Now try to convince me why half of our society’s “celebrities” are considered celebrities. Do some of them truly deserve such an impressive title?

No, not really. Ideally, all celebrities would be intelligent, highly talented and beautiful. However, it seems that the lack of these qualities is what makes some of our celebrities so famous. I recently managed to scrounge up a little sympathy for celebrities—those who are worthy of

the label and those who are not.

I stumbled upon a Web site called celebritymorgue.com. The main page offers a list of links to celebrities such as John F. Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe, Kurt Cobain and Tupac Shakur. The site gives brief descriptions of what the celebrities are known for and how they died, but the main attraction of the site is an assortment of photographs of their dead bodies.

These disturbing photographs shocked me. Sure, privacy is rare when you are a celebrity, but posting pictures of their dead bodies as a form of entertainment seems a tad... insensitive. Under Marilyn Monroe’s photograph the description states:

“Supposedly, Monroe had had an abortion at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital on the 20th of July. It has been said that she had as many as a dozen abortions over the years.”

Supposing is all we can do when it comes to the personal lives of most celebrities. Perez Hilton became a celebrity by making fun of the personal and public lives of other celebrities. His Web site is “Hollywood’s Most-Hated Web site.” One of Hilton’s most recent blogs shows pictures of Danny

Bonaduce in the nude.

“The VH1 reality star and radio host went commando and showed off his impressively small penis,” Hilton said about the photo. “Years of ‘roid abuse could do that to a person!”

People love this stuff. People also love quotes, especially stupid ones said by celebrities. Many Web sites are constructed for this reason. One site quotes Brooke Shields, “Smoking kills, and if you’re killed, you’ve lost a very important part of

your life.”

I don’t sympathize with celebrities only for the fact that their privacy is non-existent, but also because people don’t see them as human. They are the people photographed without make-up so our mothers can say, “They look worse than I do without make-up on!” They are the people we can talk trash about guilt-free. They are the people we can blame for not being good role models for children. Celebrities aren’t actors, musicians or politicians. They are the people who expose the rest of our society’s insecurities.

Annee is a junior studying Creative Writing. She loves astronomy and her main goal in life is to dance like David Byrne from the Talking Heads.



Annee Mayer-Chapleau



Greg Tobroxen, sophomore

“My personal point of view is if they’re celebrities then they should deal with it, but there is a fine line that is hard to define that can be crossed.”



Shanon Knudson, junior

“Not always. Sometimes I think they blow up stories. They tend to focus just on the negative.”



Chris Altschwager, sophomore

“I’d say no. If they want privacy with their families then they should be left alone, but if they do stupid shit then they’re treated fairly.”

STUDENT VOICES

Do you think celebrities are treated fairly by the media?

Sam Hawkins, sophomore



“I guess that they’re probably bombarded by the paparazzi but they know what they are getting into when they become a celebrity.”

Andrew Barker, freshman



“No. Just ‘cause they’re on TV or movies doesn’t mean they can invade their personal privacy.”

Melissa Newman, sophomore



“No, not even close. I think that because they’re celebrities they get special treatment.”

Taco Bell starts border-hopping

America is the greatest country in the world.

Of course, I’ve always believed this—everyone knows we have the best everything in America. And that includes Mexican food.

How do I know this? Well, last week, Taco Bell announced that it was opening a chain of almost 800 Taco Bell stores in Mexico. This nefarious and tasty plot will undoubtedly entice our Hispanic friends to spend their hard-earned pesos on the kind of zesty Mexican fare that only Taco Bell can provide.

Our amigos south of the border will be impressed—nay, shocked—by the superior food quality of the Taco Bell menu. Hearty choices like the Nachos BellGrande dish—which resembles a yummy plate of pureed squirrels and old cheese—will keep customers coming back for more.

On many occasions I’ve been tempted by the wares of Taco Bell: heaps of ground raccoon meat piled on cardboard tortillas and drizzled with the finest melted toenail cheese available. Throw in a 900 oz. fountain drink that’s jacked



Joe Hager

success of that catchy slogan? Who knows?

But I do think that with enough pounds of Cheesy Fiesta Potatoes, even the most willful of challengers will back down and begin to think outside the bun.

Mexico will not only experience the fine quality of Taco Bell food, but also the quality of their excellent customer service.

The drive-through service in these restaurants will, of course, probably be outsourced to India. But the in-store employees will offer food with the brightest of smiles and the deftest of touches.

And thankfully, in-store menus will be bilingual, in case locals aren’t sure how to say “I want a side of Cinnamon Twists with my Gordida Supreme.”

Yes, I predict great things from Taco Bell’s Mexican venture.

And as a patriotic American, I am deeply proud of my country’s imperial courage to make such a move.

Relentless, delicious and addictive. Could Taco Bell be the future of American and Mexican cuisine?

With enough pounds of Cheesy Fiesta Potatoes, even the most willful of challengers will back down and begin to think outside the bun.

I know that the next time I’m in Mexico I’m heading straight for the neighborhood Taco Bell.

And our Hispanic friends must face it: a taco from Taco Bell may taste like salty plywood, and Taco Bell nachos may resemble belly-button goo and war crimes, but these foods are American.

And American stuff is always—always the best.

Joe is a Marketing Communications major with a Creative Writing minor. This is his first semester writing for the Student Voice. He is interested in movies, religion, politics, culture and people.

Swim and dive team brings in talented newcomers

Jim Jensen
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Coming to a new school in a new place requires some degree of adjusting for any college student. For most, the college experience begins slowly. Students get to know their new surroundings as well as their new peers, and eventually once the students become acclimated with their schedules and learn to manage their time, some find student organizations or extracurricular programs to be a part of. This description of life at school paints a portrait of the average college student. A portrait of life so easy, the picture might as well have been finger-painted by a preschooler. Another portrait of college life exists for some, but like a magic-eye picture it may be very difficult for some to see. A closer look at the lifestyles led by some of the people walking on campus will reveal a much harder, much more grueling description of college life. This one describes life as a member of the UW-River Falls Falcon swim team, and this portrait is one that the average college student couldn't handle looking at.

It may be hard for some to get up for an 8 a.m. class a couple times a week, but imagine getting up for swim practice at 5:45 a.m. It may seem like a drag to some that classes are spread out in different buildings all over campus, forcing students to have to walk around to get where they're going. Now imagine beginning the school day by getting into a pool and not getting out before swimming the daily minimum of five thousand yards. That would mean getting up while it's still dark out, getting over to the basement of Karges where the pool is located and proceeding to swim the length of fifty football fields before the first class of the day. Imagine doing all this, and then walking all over campus in efforts to keep up an average college schedule.

There is nothing average about the life of a swimmer, and this year the Falcon swim team welcomes a flock of new faces to the squad, all prepared to make the sacrifices needed to make themselves better, make the team better and continue to live the above-average lifestyle that is required of them to succeed. These new faces are welcomed by head coach Bill Henderson, who in his sixth year as head coach, credits the Falcon swimmers of the past seasons as those responsible for developing the great chemistry that defines this year's team, as well as making the transition that much smoother for the new recruits.

"We have a very close knit team where everyone supports each other," Henderson said. "The team chemistry that has been established over the past few years has become a recruiting tool for us as a program."

When bringing a prospective athlete in for a visit, Henderson observes the way the athlete works with the rest of the team and what kind of attitude they bring with them. He can see what he wants in a squad when he looks at his team, and that makes it easy to weed out the ones he doesn't. This recruiting season has brought many new faces to both the men's and women's roster, so it's only right that they be introduced to their peers. Henderson had plenty to say about his new recruits, but more importantly, he knew something significant about what each new swimmer brings to the team.

The men's list of freshmen swimmers begins with the Anderson brothers, Josh and Justin, who are twins. They came to the Falcons by way of Roseville High School in Little Canada, Minn. These brothers bring with them an unparalleled work ethic, one that is exemplified by the fact that while it is only required of the swimmers to practice five out of the six possible days to swim, the

Anderson brothers chose to go the extra mile and show up all six days. Coach Henderson looks forward to seeing their progression as they strive to fulfill their potential.

Next in line is Sean Breneman, who comes to the Falcons by way of Tartan High School in Oakdale, Minn. Henderson said he sees Breneman bringing depth to the team, but expressed expectations of him becoming one of the team's best overall performers in the future.

Expecting to transfer to UWRF and join the swim team at the semester break is Tom Pierson, who attended Kennedy High School in Bloomington, Minn. Henderson and the rest of the team are looking forward to having Pierson as part of the team.

Mark Thorsen is a distance swimmer who fills a very important role on the Falcon swim team. The Eden Prairie, Minn., native competes in the 500, 1000 and 1650 freestyles, and is expected by Coach Henderson to compete for a spot on the 400 and 800 free relays in the near future.

Rounding out the new recruits on the men's roster is Nico Wallat, a swimmer described by Henderson as a pure sprinter, who came to the Falcons by way of Champlin Park High School in Brooklyn Park, Minn. Probably the most consistent sprinter in the Falcon lineup, Wallat excels at the 50 and 100 yard freestyles and is said to be showing signs of being more versatile.

Now, switching focus over to the women's team allows one to meet an even larger 2007 recruiting class.

At the top of the list, the Falcons welcomed Abby Bachmeier from North High School in Eau Claire, Wis. Henderson describes Bachmeier as a swimmer with an extraordinary sense of pace who has taken well to the distance events. Expectations are high for Bachmeier, as she seems to get stronger and stronger each time she swims.

Next is Tamara Hughes, a breaststroker from Apple Valley, Minn. Hughes competes mainly in the 200 and 400 individual medaly (IM) and is known for bringing a great work ethic to the pool everyday.

Another new face in the pool belongs to Tamra Knight, a swimmer who's heavy recruitment by Henderson began during her junior year at Mounds View High School in Shoreview, Minn. Described as a versatile swimmer, Knight excels in the 200 breast and 400 IM and is said to bring a very positive attitude everywhere she goes.

Another versatile freshman swimmer, Roxie Pingry from Winona, Minn. comes to the Falcons with lots of natural ability and a concentration on butterfly and breast. According to Coach Henderson, there is no better swimmer than Pingry when it comes to having what he calls, "feel for the water."

Another swimmer heavily recruited by Henderson beginning with her junior year in high school is Emily Stein, who comes to the Falcons by way of Chisago Lakes High School and hails from Taylor's Falls, Minn. Stein is regarded as one the most, if not the most versatile free-styler on the squad, competing in many events whether they are sprints or distance.

The next newcomer is Samantha Strehlow from Hurley, Wis, who has been hard at work trying to overcome past injuries and develop her true sprint freestyle ability. Coach Henderson expressed high expectations for her future.

Filling a very important role for the team this season is freshman Katelyn Teske, who joins the team by way of North Appleton High School in Appleton, Wis. The role of backstroker that Teske



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice
Freshmen Josh Anderson (top) and Justin Anderson (bottom) are twins from Roseville, MN and two of the newcomers to the swim and dive team this season. There are nine other fresh faces to the team this year including Katie Zappa who has been names WIAC swimmer of the week.



fills is an extremely important one, and she is known to do so with a strong work ethic that spreads to the rest of the team.

Nearing the end of the list of newcomers finds freshman Ranndi Tutor, a swimmer hailing from Washburn, Wis. Tutor is expected to develop much as a sprinter during the course of this season, and Henderson believes that her strength is the biggest positive in her development.

Finally, Katie Zappa is a transfer student who previously swam for Division I school Colorado State University, but who hails from Hudson, Wis. Coach Henderson described Zappa as one of the most natural talents to ever come to his program; a swimmer with an amazing natural feel for the water, one who's versatility spans any distance of freestyle whether its free, fly, or back. Zappa is known for her amazingly positive attitude and smile that lets her team know that she is much more happy swimming for the Falcons than anywhere else.

Zappa joined men's swimmer Wallat as athletes of the week following their performances in the recent win over Macalester. Both swimmers won two events apiece, helping contribute points to the

squad in route to the overall team win. Following questions regarding the transition each had to deal with after arriving at UWRF, the athletes of the week both had positive comments.

"I enjoy it a lot more here," Zappa said. "Everyone supports each other, and we know we're competing for a coach who knows what he is doing and who believes in us, both as athletes and people."

A true freshman at UWRF, Wallat described his transition to college swimming as an eye opener. "The guys I compete against are a lot bigger than they were in high school," Wallat said. "I just try not to be overconfident, and take every race like it's my first."

With the season underway the Falcons can expect more of the same from their new faces at the events to come, and as the swimmers continue to develop their skills and confidence in the pool, their coach has only one message for his young team.

"This team makes it a pleasure to step on the deck everyday," Henderson said. "Regardless of the outcomes, I have never been prouder of a group of swimmers."

Packers' fantastic start seems uncanny to many fans



Lauren Bennett

Packers have started the season with almost a flawless record, and it seems to be an extraordinary occurrence.

So far the Pack have beaten off the Eagles, Giants, Chargers, Vikings (thank God), the Redskins, and lost, sadly to the Bears. On Monday night they beat the Broncos in over time with Favre releasing an 82-yard touchdown pass.

It seems to be that despite the fact that for the years since they won their last Super Bowl the Pack have been looked over, they somehow have found a way to prove all of those over-lookers wrong. What could possibly be attributing to this winning record?

Favre, still got it after all the years

He was set to retire now for the past couple of years, but every year he has decided that he cannot take off his cleats and shoulder pads for the last time just yet.

Last season he came close to beating almost every quarterback record that was set, most by Dan Marino. Coming back this season allowed him to break more. Recently Favre stole number one for career touchdown passes at the Metrodome Sept. 30 and earned the top spot with 422. A completed strike to Greg Jennings created the perfect 421st touchdown pass by Favre.

Not only is Favre the best in these categories he also within the top five in many other areas too. He is the NFL's only three-time MVP ('95-'97), number one for wins by a starting quarterback, career passing attempts and only number two for career passing yards.

Another factoid to take home is that the Packers

have only had one starting quarterback since 1992, while the only other team that comes close to that within the last fifteen years is Houston with four. Yes, he is 38 years old, and yes, he has gray hair, yet, he is still one of the best, Lambeau wouldn't be the same without his smiling face for the last fifteen years. The one thing that seems to have kept the Packers together for the past couple of awful seasons was the one and only number four. While they have had four different coaches since 1992, one thing remains the same; Favre is the glue of the green and gold.

Offense, it's actually doing its job

While you have Mr. Favre at the helm of this incredible season, he also has a great offense this year that is kind of actually doing its job. With the loss of used-to-be excellent running back, Ahman Green, the Pack has a variety of new blood on the field this year including four rookies on the first and second offensive teams, and the offense is ranked tenth in the NFC. Rookies, however, are not the ones getting the job done, the veterans are finally taking over the field in true vet style. With the exception of guard Daryn Colledge and running back DeShawn Wynn, who is now out for the season, all of the offensive players on the first team have three or more years of experience. The significance of this figure is the simple camaraderie of the team. Since they have been playing with Favre for so long, they all know each other well enough to work in sync to complete the plays. Many teams out there right now are full of rookies or trades and have not had five, eight, or fifteen seasons under their belt, with the same quarterback. This is a prime example of the tradition of the Packers; they are very simple, down-to-earth players that make up a family, not just a high-paid team of divas.

Defense needs a lot of work

The shining star of the defense is Al Harris, as he was last year, and the year before that. But coming

out of the woodwork is Nick Barnett. While Barnett is a bit of a rotten tomato, he gets the job done. Named defensive player of the week for the Sept. 23 game for seven tackles and an interception returned for forty yards setting up a quick touchdown for the Pack. Not only has Barnett done well this season, but Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila as well as Aaron Kampman are have both had over five sacks this season, and it's only week eight.

Injuries plague Packers every year

For the past, oh I don't know, four years, Green Bay has had one word that they have been constantly associated with...injuries.

Player after player has been down and out leaving the rest of the squad in dire need of help. In week eight alone there were twelve on the injured list, at least four more than any other team in the league. And while many teams are losing players that really aren't necessarily beneficial to the win that week, the Pack are continuously losing key players like Bubba Franks, and a questionable Al Harris or DeShawn Wynn. Last year Ahman Green was out more times than a Viking was in jail. The one thing they need to overcome to have a truly successful season is injuries because when it is playoff time, they are going to need all of their key starters.

Nothing better than a Packer fan

Fans are the driven force behind the success of Green Bay. Lambeau field is practically a national monument housing the beautiful, flourishing pastime that Vince Lombardi created. And walking into the stadium, or more so just the entrance to the newly-refurbished stadium, you feel like you are in the most glorious place on earth.

Knowing full well that this is probably Favre's last year and that he is going to break many more records, fans seem to have become more spirited than in years past, although who could blame them?

With such a beautiful, rich tradition of family-

style football the fans seem to be some of the best fans in the league. Fans of Green Bay sometimes wait their entire lives to see just one game at Lambeau or anywhere else for that matter. While every fan is a true fan, and nothing will stand but the best, these fans are some of the nicest people in the U.S.

I have found that many Packers fans are just more pleasant to be around than a lot of other fans, and while, yes, they can most certainly throw just more than a few back, they also are some of the greatest people you will ever meet.

Besides the fact that the team is performing well because of the players, you have to think that part of the reason for the success is the spirit that fills not only the plastic green and yellow seats at Lambeau, but the plastic seats at away games too.

Finally, the outlook is promising

For years, people have hoped to see Favre play one more season, and each time, he does. But if he takes the team all the way, then it might finally be time to hang up the ol' number four.

The Pack have been playing consistently well and are ranked fourth in the NFL right now. If they keep up their positive momentum, they could very well add another Super Bowl to the count. In order to do this they would have to take down the Colts, Patriots, or the Cowboys, or all three. These teams, especially the Patriots, have been basically indestructible for the last five years. The biggest thing to focus on is the here and now, but they also need to be prepared for the Patriots who are 8-0 right now and have won three of the last five Super Bowls. In the regular season their toughest competition will be the Cowboys Nov. 29, but they can't forget that they have to win their division first and foremost.

Now is their chance, they are truly a contender for the bowl, and hopefully they can stay that way.

Lauren is a 18-year-old freshman majoring in marketing communications. She is also the sports editor for the Student Voice, and enjoys watching and playing a variety of sports.

SPORTS WRAP

Hat trick leads to men’s hockey victory

Derek Hansberry scored the hat trick and TJ Dahl had five assists in the Falcons 9-2 season-opening win over Northland on Saturday night at Hunt Arena.

The Falcon offense didn’t wait long to start its scoring assault on Lumberjacks. Hansberry scored one of his three goals 4:30 in to the contest, from Dahl and Pat Borgestad. Less than a minute later Mitch Kerns fed Wade Harstad the puck where he put it in the back of the net, giving the Falcons the 2-0.

The Falcons were able to control the puck a good portion of the game, using their speed and size to dominate the offensive zone. They were able to win face offs and stay aggressive the entire game. The first period ended with the Falcons leading 2-0

In the second period the Falcons netted five goals. Hansberry scored his second goal of the game 12 seconds in to the period. Just over 30 seconds later Harstad put in his second goal of the game, with Kerns getting his second assist.

Northland’s Tony Huberty scored the Lumberjacks first of two goals 4:38 into the second period, on the power-play. Borgestad was in the box for interference.

Three minutes later Hansberry scored his third goal of the game, earning him the hat trick assisted by Dahl and Jim Jensen.

Northland scored its second and last goal of the game on a power-play, when forward Rick Delecke scored.

Freshman forward Nolan Craner netted the sixth River Falls goal, taking advantage of the power-play. He was able to tap in a rebound that came from a Jensen shot from the blue-line. Jensen earned his second assist on the goal, and defenseman Jason Usher earned his first assist.

With 13 seconds left in the second period first year Falcon Tyler Czuba scored his first collegiate goal.

The Falcons entered the third period with a 7-2 lead. They tacked on two more goals, both by Borgestad. On both of these goals Borgestad scored from point blank range.

Jordahl takes second in WIAC; sets record

The Falcon cross country teams traveled to Oshkosh to compete in the WIAC championships, with women’s runner Becca Jordahl taking second overall in a school record time.

The men’s team placed ninth with a total score of 219. First place went to UW-La Crosse with 40 points. The first two Falcon runners over the finish line over the 8,000 meter course were Chad Ernst at 24th with a time of 25:51:67, and Rich Mark at 57th with a time of 27:05:23.

The women’s team placed sixth with 167 points. The women’s winner was Eau Claire with a score of 44. The top two Falcons in the 6,000 meter race were Becca Jordahl, taking second with a time of 21:28:34 and Maria Michaud coming in 19th with a time of 23:07:67. Jordahl set a school record with her time. It was the second straight race that Jordahl has set a school record.

Volleyball splits at Elmhurst to end season

The Falcon volleyball team ended its season on a positive note winning two matches Saturday at the Elmhurst Tournament.

The Falcons beat Westminster and Marian three games to none on Saturday. Against Westminster Kelsey Scheele led the team with 12 kills and 12 digs. Gina DeRosa had seven kills and three block assists. Emily Hagen had 18 assists and Becky Ponick had seven aces and 13 assists. Against Marian, Scheele ended the year with 27 kills, two aces and 18 digs. Andria Vetsch had seven kills. Hagen led the team with 28 assists and 21 digs. She had three aces.

On Friday the Falcons lost to Concordia-Chicago and Elmhurst, three games to none. Against Concordia DeRosa led the team with 12 kills, a solo block and two block assists. Scheele had seven kills and a team-high 12 digs. Ashley Wheeler had six kills. Hagen had 18 assists and four aces and Ponick had 17 assists. Against Elmhurst DeRosa had 10 kills and two block assists. Courtney Schroeder led the team with 18 digs. Scheele had seven kills and 15 digs. Mandy McKenzie had 15 digs. Wheeler had one solo and six block assists and Margret Rubis had six block assists.

The Falcons end the 2007 season with a 8-26 record.

Zappa named Swimmer of the Week

Katie Zappa, a freshman from Hudson, Wis., won two events in a dual meet and has been named the WIAC women’s Swimmer of the Week, according to league Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.



She won the 50 free in 26.62 and the 100 free in 57.49 in the team’s 108-102 win over Macalester on Friday night.. She also swam on the 200 medley relay team that placed second with a time of 2:03.35.

The Falcons will next swim at UW-Eau Claire on Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Sports Wrap courtesy of UW-River Falls Sports Information

SHOWCASE HOME GAME

Men’s Hockey

 vs 

UWRF Augsburg College

7:05 p.m. Nov. 2
Hunt Arena

UWRF will take on the Auggies at 7:05 p.m. Nov. 2 at Hunt Arena. The following night, the Falcons will take on Hamline University at 7:05 p.m. Nov. 3 at Hunt Arena.

Basketball:
Men and Women
intra-squad scrimmage
Nov. 2, 7 p.m.
Karges Center

Women’s hockey adds depth, fresh faces at goaltender

Ben Brewster
benjamin.brewster@uwrf.edu

Falcon women’s hockey is starting this weekend and is ready to make its run at the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association tournament.

The Falcons came close last year, but lost in the semifinals to UW-Stevens Point before losing their final game to Lake Forest. They finished the season with a record of 9-4-2 in the NCHA and 14-9-4 overall.

Head coach Joe Cranston said the team’s goal this year is “pretty much to win our conference and get in the national tournament.”

One of the biggest obstacles for the Falcons to overcome is the loss of goalie Amber Lindner to graduation. Lindner was the NCHA Player of the Year in 2007 and was named to the All-NCHA Team in 2004 and 2007.

Replacing her in the goal will be freshman Cassi Campbell, junior Katie Kantrud and senior Mandi Mohwinkel.

Campbell is an Anchorage, Alaska, native and played for the Toronto Rattlers before coming to UW-River Falls. She also played for Team Alaska that won the Alaska State Championship in 2006.

Cranston has not decided who will start yet, but said he knows the team will be good in the goal.

Other freshmen that should have a large role this year are forwards Ashly Berner, Jessica Thompson and Jamie Briski.

“Anytime two or three of those kids were out together on the ice, something clicks,” Cranston said. “In the alumni game they had more chances to score than any other line.”

There are 12 freshmen on the team, which is contrasted by seven seniors.

Cranston said the number of seniors this year “is more than double of past years. I look for all seven to play a big part.”

This being their last year has given some extra motivation.

“Our heart’s really in it [this year]. It’s now or never for us,” said senior forward and captain Kelly Jensen.

Jensen, along with senior forward Jenna Scanlon are the team’s captains this year.

“We have to do something this year and this is our best chance to go,” said senior defender Renae Bergh.

This could be the year for them, with a powerful combination of youth and experience.

Cranston said “our biggest obstacle last year was depth, and we have the depth this year [because of the freshmen]. I don’t know if we have a weakness yet--I haven’t seen one.”

The freshmen could definitely be the difference maker this year. Others include defensemen Bailey Vikstrom, Kayleigh Bell and Lauren Conrad, and forwards Chelsea Nelson and Brittany Erickson.

“There are a pretty good number of freshmen that are better than all of us,” Bergh said. “It’s the best freshman class I’ve seen since I’ve been here.”

Other returning players include sophomore forwards Cassie LeBlanc, Stefanie Schmitz and Abby Sunderman who were all in the top four goal scorers for the Falcons last year.

Even with strong players up and down the lineup, Cranston said his expectations for the players are always the same. “[If we] out-work every team we play, everything else will fall into place,” Cranston said.

The Falcons first game is 7:05 Nov. 3 at the College of St. Catherine.


Falcons gather, commit to playing hard



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

As the clock ticked and time moved closer to the Falcon men’s season opener the team gathers in the locker room for a final pep talk before they step out onto the ice. As they held hands and formed a circle in the center of the locker room each player said, "Tonight I commit myself to sixty minutes of Falcon hockey." There was no cheer, no prayer, just a commitment made by each player to play full on for the entire game. This commitment was seen Saturday as the Falcons defeated Northland 9-2. They will look to continue their winning ways Nov. 2 and 3 as they face off against Augsburg College and Hamline University.

Division III football proves to be exciting



Chris Schad

I’m having a flashback right now to a couple weeks ago. One of my good friends from high school

that I have been begging to come over from Eau Claire to have a good time in River Falls was on the phone with me and I was trying to convince her to come down for the Nov. 30 hockey game against Eau Claire. Her response was this:

“Well, I don’t really care that much about Div. III sports, but I’ll think about it.” Asked why she didn’t care that much she replied, “They’re just not exciting. There isn’t an atmosphere around it.”

Apparently, my good friend should have attended to the Falcon Football game against Platteville last Saturday. If you didn’t go and you weren’t in Madison giving your liver an exercise in tolerance, shame on you. The game was probably the most exciting game I’ve seen in years. Then again, I am a Viking and Gopher fan so I haven’t seen an exciting game in a couple of years.

The game started with a bang for the Falcons when they marched down the field to take a 7-0 lead with a five yard touchdown pass from Storm Harmon to Ryan Hansen, the WIAC’s answer to Antonio Gates. (Yes, I said that.) However, the wheels came flying off for the Falcons as Storm Harmon would throw two interceptions to Pioneer cornerback Quincy Hudson. One of those interceptions would be returned for a touchdown. The Pioneers, lead by an awesome performance by runningback Mike Genslinger, would jump out to a 29-14 lead and Storm Harmon would be benched early in the second quarter. Ryan Luessenheide came in for Harmon and didn’t have too much success. Harmon then would return late in the second quarter, but

the Falcons still looked dead in the water.

Suddenly, in the third quarter, the Falcons defense showed up and started stopping the Pioneers offense which had manhandled them in the second half with the exception of Hudson’s pick six. Nathan Anderson would eventually plow his way in from the one yard line, and the Falcons would get a two-point conversion on a catch by Michael Zweifel, who should be the WIAC Freshman of the Year.

The fourth quarter was the best part of this game. Both teams held each other to an offensive standstill until the end of the fourth. After converting a fourth down, the Falcons marched all the way down to the one when Harmon, who remember had been benched in the second quarter, dove in for a touchdown. The Falcons seemingly had the game tied as the extra point was on the way ... and was wide right, 29-28. The reaction with myself in the broadcast booth wanted to sound something like, “#@\$%!!” because it was the fourth missed extra point this season, but instead it was just dead silence and then, “It’s only an 18 yard field goal! It’s not that hard!” Of course, once the adrenaline wore off, I reminded myself of my kicking abilities and knew that it wouldn’t have cleared the 10-yard mark at best.

The Falcons would attempt an onside kick, and Platteville would get it back. The positive thing for the Falcons at this point was that Genslinger, who had 171 yards and 2 touchdowns on 23 carries, injured his shoulder and was out for the game. The Falcons allowed a first down however, and it looked like the game was over. Then came the biggest decision of the game. A play used in Super Bowl XXXII, Former Packers coach Mike Holmgren allowed the Denver Broncos to score late in the game so the John Deere Cult could get the football back. It didn’t work in that game, of course, but O’Grady called the same play and let Platteville score. 36-28 Pioneers. Fans were dejected, they left Ramer Field with their heads hung.

The Falcons got the ball back and thanks

to a kickoff return by linebacker (Yes, I said linebacker, don’t see that in the NFL huh?) Bruce Baillargeon that brought the Falcons to the 45-yard line, they started marching down the field in a drive that saw Zweifel drop a pass (the coaches reaction could be heard on our broadcast as someone screamed “Oh my God, he dropped it!”), the Falcons convert two fourth downs and drive all the way inside the five after using their last timeout right away in the drive. The Falcons would get to the two on a too many men penalty on Platteville and Storm Harmon, yes, who had been benched in the second, threw a fade to Zweifel in the end zone and then got the two point conversion to Ryan Hansen to tie the game and put it into overtime.

Platteville had all their momentum zapped in the fourth quarter drive and went three and out before having a field goal swatted back in their face. Oh yeah, then Platteville picked it up and ran it into the end zone! Officials converged and reversed the original touchdown call after it was ruled a Falcon never touched the ball (No instant replay in Div. III by the way). The Falcons then would surge into the end zone again on an Anderson touchdown run and the Falcons won the game 42-36.

This game showed that Div. III sports are not boring at all. Like I said at the beginning of this column, this game was more exciting than any Viking or Gopher game I’ve seen in the past two years. Also, there were things you don’t see in the higher levels of football, such as linebackers and defensive lineman returning kicks and a 17 catch game without a touchdown celebration or a third person reference. It was a pretty refreshing experience. So, if you’re just like my friend, maybe you should give this whole Div. III sports thing a try, huh?

Chris is a 21-year-old junior majoring in journalism. He is also the sports director for 88.7 FM WRFW and is the play-by-play voice for the Falcon Football and Hockey teams.

Reciprocity agreement reached, begins fall '08

Phillip Bock
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The reciprocity agreement between Wisconsin and Minnesota remains strong after a new agreement about how reciprocity funds are distributed was reached by the two states.

“This reciprocal agreement between the two states has been around for decades,” Alan Tuchtenhagen, UW-River Falls Admissions Director, said. “It works well for both states.”

Conflict over the reciprocity agreement arose this year when the University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks threatened to withdraw from the agreement due to budgetary concerns.

“Reciprocity was made permanent in the late 80s early 90s, so actually both States have to agree to withdraw,” Tuchtenhagen said. “So they can’t just unilaterally stop it.”

The reciprocity agreement between Minnesota and Wisconsin affirms that a student will pay the tuition from their resident State. So a Wisconsin student going to the University of Minnesota would pay Wisconsin tuition rates.

“If [tuition] was twice as much I probably would have just gone to

the U of M,” Junior David Blatz, a Minnesota resident going to UWRF, said.

Both states have been increasing their tuition rates in recent years, but Minnesota has been increasing tuition at a faster rate. The UW-System is raising tuition by about 5 percent a year while the University of Minnesota is raising tuition by about 8 percent a year, Tuchtenhagen said.

Since Minnesota’s tuition was rising faster than Wisconsin’s, Minnesota residents were actually paying more than Wisconsin residents to go to the University of Minnesota due to the reciprocity agreement.

“A Wisconsin kid sitting next to the Minnesota kid paid about \$2000 less to go to the U of M,” Tuchtenhagen said.

Bruininks also had issue with how the funds were distributed at the end of the fiscal year.

At the end of the year, the two states figure out who received more funds from reciprocity. The state that receives more funds cuts a check to the other state to cover the difference, Tuchtenhagen said.

“That’s been to the tune of over \$7 million now,” Tuchtenhagen said, “Wisconsin has been paying Minnesota.”

In Wisconsin the money was put back into UW System budget. However, when Wisconsin was paying Minnesota, the money was going to a general state fund and the Universities did not directly get the funding.

A compromise was reached earlier this month that addressed the concerns of Bruininks.

As a result of the new reciprocity agreement, the money that Minnesota receives from Wisconsin reciprocity now goes directly to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System’s budget.

Wisconsin residents going to school in Minnesota are now billed differently as a result of the new agreement. The students are billed Minnesota tuition the same as a Minnesota student, but the money that comes in to Minnesota from the reciprocity agreement is used to fund a grant that gets Wisconsin residents a discount on Minnesota tuition.

“It’s a book keeping thing,” said Tuchtenhagen. “It looks like they are paying the same [as a Minnesota student], but the state of Wisconsin is then subsidizing the cost to bring it down.”

The new agreement takes effect beginning with new students who enroll in fall 2008.

Philosophy professor enjoys temporary position

Stephanie Daniels
stephanie.daniels@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls is a welcome change for Professor Iclal Ayse Kucukkirca who teaches and lives philosophy.

Kucukkirca grew up in a middle class household in Istanbul, Turkey, and lived there until coming to the United States five years ago to pursue her master’s degree.

“I pretty much had a smooth life, smooth and protected compared with most people [in the Middle East],” Kucukkirca said.

Though she didn’t experience war or major hardships like many in the Middle East, Kucukkirca had to work very hard to get into the schools that would give her a good education.

The best schools in Turkey accept a small percentage of the students who want to attend, and enrollment is determined by “nightmarish general examinations” taken before sixth grade and college, Kucukkirca said.

Kucukkirca traded one academically competitive environment for another five years ago when she enrolled in the Master’s Program at Binghamton University in Binghamton, New York. After getting her Master of Arts degree in philosophy, Kucikkirca spent close to three years teaching philosophy classes at Binghamton.

Kucukkirca is filling in for Imtiaz Moosa, a UWRF philosophy professor, while he is on sabbatical for the 2007-2008 school year.

Moosa recommended Kucukkirca over several other candidates who applied for the position because her areas of expertise fit well with the courses he normally teaches, Betty Bergland, chair of the history and philosophy department, said.

When she started teaching classes at UWRF, Kucukkirca said she was pleasantly surprised to find that students seemed to be genuinely interested in learning.

“I think the students are more open, and they ask more questions,” Kucukkirca said.

At Binghamton University, a large portion of her students aspired to get into law school after graduating, so they were more competitive and overall more worried about grades than learning.

“I don’t like that competitiveness much,” Kucukkirca said.

The Existentialism and Late Modern Philosophy class Kucukkirca is teaching now is her best teaching experience ever because the students are very interested in the subject and make insightful contributions to class discussions, she said.

Brianna Gullickson, a junior psychology major, is in Kucukkirca’s Existentialism and Late Modern Philosophy class. Gullickson said she likes Kucukkirca’s discussion-based teaching method.

“She talks to us like we’re humans,” Gullickson said.

Not everything about the move was positive for Kucukkirca.

“I left many friends in Binghamton whom I miss a lot,” Kucukkirca said.

A few of her friends who lived in Binghamton while she was still there introduced Kucukkirca to yoga, which has become a fixture in her routine.

Kucukkirca said she didn’t think she would like yoga at first, but then she tried it and discovered that there was a philosophical component to it. There is a distinction between the body and the mind, and people can run into trouble when they can’t get the two to work together, Kucukkirca said. She practices yoga to help bridge this divide.

“Breathing, I think, is the tool that brings the mind and body together,” Kucukkirca said.

Kucukkirca also hikes throughout the year.

“I think nature is perfect in every single season,” Kucukkirca said.

Kucukkirca said that she believes existence is limited to the physical features of the world that can be directly observed.

“I’m not religious,” Kucukkirca said. “I don’t believe in any god.”

Kucukkirca said she also considers herself to be a Marxist and a feminist. Since class and gender inequality are responsible for many of today’s conflicts, lessening inequalities would resolve much of the world’s conflict, Kucukkirca said.

Kucukkirca is incorporating her concern for women’s rights into her dissertation as she works toward her Ph.D.

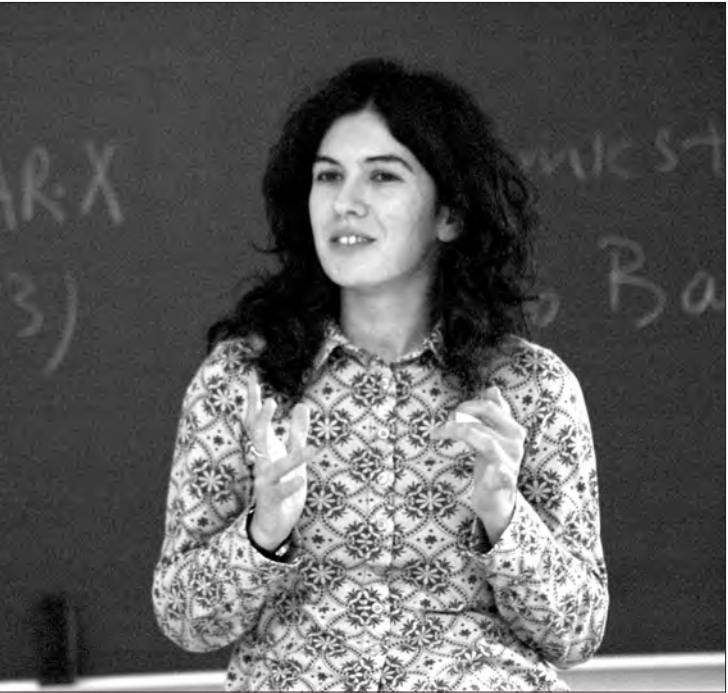
“My dissertation is on female seasonal workers in Turkey,” Kucukkirca said.

Turkey’s female seasonal workers are typically Kurds, an ethnic group concentrated in southeast Turkey and northern Iraq. Following news developments about the Kurds has become especially important for her now that Turkey is at war with them, Kucukkirca said.

The war won’t stop her research.

“I have to go,” Kucukkirca said.

Besides, the area where Kucukkirca conducts



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice
Philosophy professor Iclal Ayse Kucukkirca leads a UWRF class.

her research, Giresun in northeast Turkey, is fairly far from the area near the border between Turkey and Iraq most affected by the fighting.

Because they have few other job options, Kurds will likely continue their migration to northeast Turkey for seasonal work. The male to female ratio or overall number of workers may change in some way she can’t yet predict, Kucukkirca said.

Kucukkirca plans to go to Turkey to finish her dissertation after her year at UWRF is complete.

Crabtree Hall manager brings experience, passion

Josh Dahlke
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Crabtree Hall Manager Katie Bollig has a passion for people, and that is the main reason she has been involved in residence life since she was a sophomore.

Bollig came to UW-River Falls to visit her sister, and it did not take long for her to realize that this was the college for her. She applied at other universities, but she said that UWRF made her feel comfortable because the people are nice and she always had a good time.

As a sophomore, Bollig was a resident assistant (RA) at Hathorn Hall. At first she was reluctant to take on the duties of RA because she thought it would be too much work, but then she realized that it would be a great opportunity to meet a lot of people.

“That’s probably been the best ... the amount of people you meet through doing it,” Bollig said.

Bollig went on to become a RA at Parker Hall in her junior year. The following year as a senior, she applied for the hall manager position for Parker Hall and was accepted. Now, after years of experience in residence life, Bollig is finishing up her fifth year at UWRF, pursuing a double-major in business administration and organizational communication. At the same time, she is taking on the duties as hall manager for Crabtree Hall.

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Kenny Yoo/Student Voice
As manager of Crabtree Hall, senior Katie Bollig tries hard to build a strong community among her residents.

As a hall manager, Bollig’s primary duties include administrative issues of the hall, supervision of RAs and building a hall community “by offering a variety of events to enhance the out of classroom experience.”

This year, Bollig has tried to take advantage of events on campus by making them known to residents in her hall. Residents have also had the opportunity to attend a Twins game, eat a late-night breakfast, clean up the Kinnickinnic River and play an 80-person game of capture the flag.

“I think, for the most part, residents enjoy what we plan, or that’s my hope,” Bollig said. “Because a lot of what we do is based on suggestions from residents.”

She also provides a “study bucks” program, which she uses as an incentive for stu-

dents to study. Every time they are caught studying, residents get a study buck, which they can use to claim a prize at the end of the semester.

“She is very dedicated to her job, and she takes it very seriously,” Jade Spaeth, a freshman resident at Crabtree Hall, said.

Spaeth’s roommate has a similar opinion of Bollig.

“She is really strict, but she knows how to get her job done,” freshman Kala Pedersen said.

Outside of her duties as hall manager and a student, Bollig enjoys several other activities. She likes sports, her favorite being broomball. She enjoys reading non-fiction and playing cribbage and poker. She is also in the process of trying to learn how to skateboard.

After school, Bollig said she hopes to continue working with young people, especially college students. She is considering going to grad school for higher education administration and student affairs.

Kristie Feist, area coordinator for residence life, was one of the people responsible for hiring Bollig.

“Katie has proven herself to be an outstanding leader with dedication and passion for making things better for students who live on campus,” Feist said in an e-mail. “I can tell you that Katie is among the most talented, gifted and passionate students I have had the pleasure to work with.”

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News and information programming

Monday: "Act on Ag," with Jodi Kauth

Tuesday: "Let's Talk," with Rose Rongitsch

Wednesday: "Mad Movie Man," with Adam Hakari & Ken Weigend.

Thursday: "Game Break," with Phil Bock.

Friday: "Wisconsin and World Issues," with Ben Plunkett.

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‘Whorehouse’ builds relationships on UWRF campus

Niki Paton
niki.paton@uwrff.edu

UW-River Falls Department of Music and University Theatre opened a whorehouse in the Blanche Davis Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts (KFA) building in October. The musical, “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas,” officially opened the first of six shows to River Falls, Wis., audiences Oct. 25. “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas” musical, based on a book written by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson, inspired by the true story of the Chicken Ranch in La Grange, Texas, originally adapted into a musi-

cal in 1978, which opened in New York City on Broadway in the 46th Street Theatre, now known as the Richard Rodgers Theatre. Following the success of the musical, a movie adaptation starring Burt Reynolds and Dolly Parton hit theatres in 1982. UWRF performers’ pre-show jitters were not evident before the first official performance of the musical under Professor and Director James A. Zimmerman, yet the energy of opening night was unmistakable with the actors and actresses in the green room. The camaraderie of the cast, conveyed in laughter and conversation, bustled throughout as

student performers donned their costumes and make-up in front of the many warmly lit make-up mirrors. Names or nicknames on signs above the mirrors revealing the performers’ character and personality marked each individual’s green room space. Above John McConville’s mirror, an image of an acoustic guitar and the name Johnathan on a Texas A&M poster were visible while McConville got into make-up for his character as the narrator of “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas.” Actress Hannah Tjoflat, who performs the role of Miss Mona, had a simple paper sheriff’s badge with, ‘HANNAH’ in bold

type in the center of the star above her mirror. Tjoflat, a performer since age five, is now in her freshman year at UWRF. Tjoflat has enjoyed finding her confidence on stage while getting to know fellow students and cast members, who have become like extended family to her during production. “For me, getting to know people in the show and making these relationships,” Tjoflat said. “Just really feeling like we’re a team and getting up there and having a lot of fun ... it’s been such a fun process.” UWRF students endeavored to make “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas” musical come together in many areas

apart from performing on stage. Students participated in the tech crew running the soundboard, ushering the Blanche Davis Theatre during performances and handling ticket sales for the KFA box office. Kala Pedersen chose to handle ticket sales to fulfill a lab project requirement for an introduction to theatre course. “You can do 15 hours for the semester ... ,” Pedersen said. “I trained in last week. It’s stressful, but fun; I like it.” Audiences became a part of that fun process on opening night. UWRF students Casey Barker, Delaine Martin and Megan Felleg, whose neighbor, Tjoflat, plays Mona, attended

the opening night performance. Barker attended opening night to incorporate what she has learned so far this fall in a drama class to “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas” musical, while Martin came to support everyone and build on her appreciation of the theatre. “I loved the dancing cowboys,” Martin said. “The Melvin P. Thorpe Singers were hilarious... I really enjoyed watching them.” The UWRF Department of Music and University Theatre host the final two performances of “The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas” at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 2 and Nov. 3.

Carl Platou’s *Frozen Eve* full of warm emotions



Matt Loosbrock

Carl Platou is an interesting dude. The proclaimed “king of dark pop” (by his own Web site, no less) exhales a deep, relaxed tone through his vocal pipes. He has the nature of someone who obviously has a lot to say, but could care less if you listened. His instrumental abilities are similar to those of your regular acoustic rock guy, but he throws in peppy chords and guitar hooks that show the excitement in his music for him. Take “Long Time Ago” where piano and keyboards hover across a strummed, jumpy, acoustic guitar, occasionally interrupted by a country-infused electric, which mocks that of a banjo. There’s

clever guitar work abound in Frozen Eve. That’s not to say that it’s entirely a guitar album. The alt-country sound of “Sunday Morning” features some hefty work from violins, “Frozen Eve” has a vibraphone outro, while “Memory Motel” uses it more prominently within the song, giving a cold feeling of something lost. Platou’s sense of musicality and instrumentation is his strongest suit, as his songs have a way of emitting familiar emotions in each listen. The focus of Platou’s lyrical writing is mostly a straightforward, literal approach to telling a story through nature-like images, like in “Winter Eve,” where he sings painted visuals like “mountains sleep,” “pine trees dance” or “evening come in the winter sun” while playing laid back licks between each verse. The “dark” title he is given is prominent in his songs like, “Pearly Gate,” which begins with lone guitar picks taken straight from a spaghetti west-

ern movie like *High Noon*, as Platou delivers “Someday we’ll make it...open the pearly gates!” as bell chimes are played overhead. It’s really clever stuff. There are a few bumps along the ride. “Happy” sounds too much like itself, which is strange since Platou doesn’t seem to be convinced by his own title. “The Second Cold Winter,” the sappy love tribute, is one too many; Platou’s vocal line struggles to reach the lower range of his vocal pipes while he delivers cheese like “I won’t last without you.” All is forgiven though, in Frozen Eve’s closing song, “I Go With the Sun,” a power house of haunting guitars, piano, cello, and what sounds like a harpsichord. “I go with the sun by my side,” Platou moans, “I go with the sun.” When the song is finished, you’ll swear he has.

Matt is a senior double majoring in Music and Creative Writing who likes lots of music types, old and new (save for modern country, which is not his thing).

Letterdoku

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| G | I | | F | | C | | |

Difficulty: Easy

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 appears at www.uwrffoice.com.

Submitted

Reviewers divided over Carell movie ‘Dan in Real Life’



A.J. Hakari

I like to review films with all the fairness I can muster, both as a critic and a fan, taking on each movie — no matter how lame — with at least some semblance of hope. However, regarding “Dan in Real Life,” you’ll be hearing more from the latter fella than the former. My critic persona is currently lying bruised in a ditch outside of Woodbury. After slogging his way through “Evan Almighty” this past summer, Steve Carell continues his cinematic losing streak with this hamfisted dramedy. Carell plays Dan Burns, a popular advice columnist who’s had a mighty hard time raising his three daughters during the four years following his wife’s death. Luckily, the time has come for Dan to pack up his brood and head out for a beachfront get-together with the rest of his family. Dan’s world gets a bit brighter when he runs into a beauty named Marie (Juliette Binoche) at a bookstore and virtually falls head over heels in love after a few moments of chit-chat — until he returns home to find that she’s his brother’s new girlfriend. Although Dan’s hands are already full with a trio of kids who all want a little breathing room, his affection for Marie has him torn between letting sleeping dogs lie and doing something to better himself for once. It’s ironic that “Dan in Real Life” is titled as such, because

a story this soapy could only exist in Hollywood. Movies aren’t supposed to be the pinnacle of realism, but the aura of phony-baloney happiness projected on the screen here is enough to make you vomit. Although ripe with the potential to deliver some hard-hitting and emotional family interactions, the film offers nauseating distractions such as random exercises in the front yard, crossword puzzle competitions and, in a scene more ghastly than anything “Saw IV” dished out, a family talent show. The Burns clan makes the Brady Bunch look like a bunch of degenerates. Even if you shove the problems mentioned above to the side, “Dan in Real Life” comes across as a misfired slice of serio-comedy, albeit one probably made with the best of intentions. As always, Carell remains an intensely likable performer

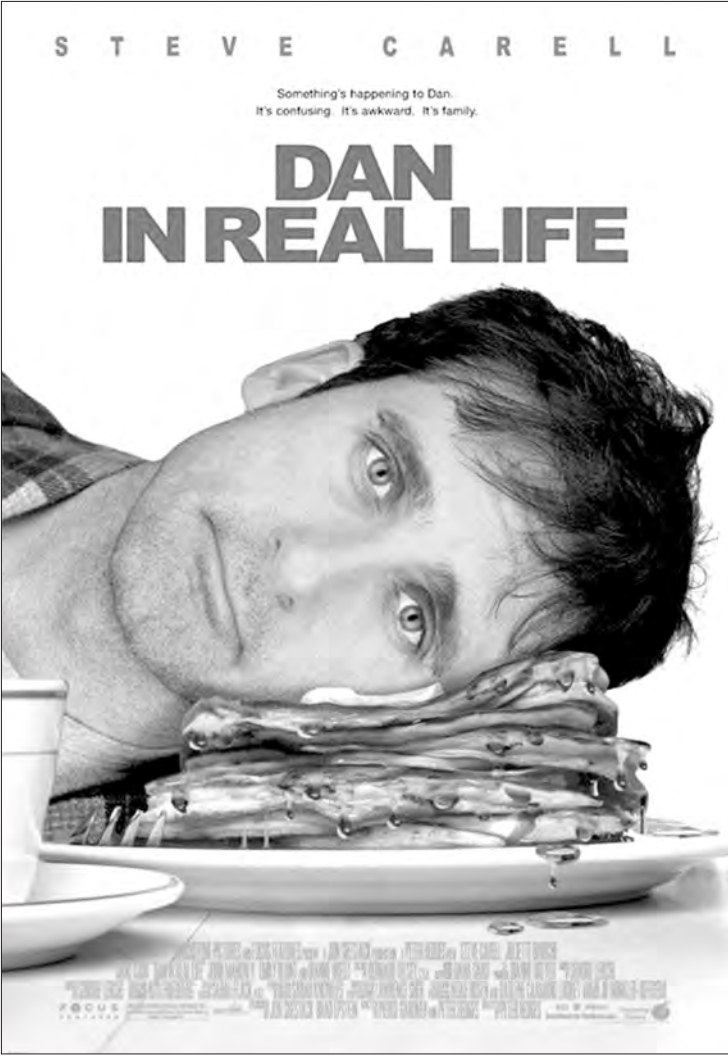
who struggles like a champ to earn the audience’s sympathy, despite plot contrivances exploding around him like depth charges. The lovely Binoche is an actress who’s impossible to make look bad, be it by way of a bad hair day or a lousy script. But, alas, the romantic conflict stems from a wholly unconvincing “meet cute” scenario, while Dan’s hypocritical daughters are veritable slaves to screenplay, acting as spiteful as can be one moment and being sugary-sweet whenever the story demands them to be happy. I’m not saying a tale like “Dan in Real Life” could never work, for look at all the other comedic dramas out

there that have managed to balance laughs and life lessons just fine. But instead of solving its characters’ various neuroses, “Dan in Real Life” inspires a set of new ones for its viewers. If Woody Allen had a grave, he’d be spinning in it right now.

A.J. is a senior year journalism student. He enjoys all genres, but he digs horror and documentaries the most.



Ken Weigend



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.

Blood is thicker than water, or so we are taught from infancy. Our moms would always be there to kiss our wounds, our dads always imparting the perfect pearls of wisdom. A beautiful thought if only it were true. The cruel fact is that families are far from perfect. That picturesque Brady household is something we can only dream about for 20 minutes at a time, in between commercial breaks. Peter Hedges, director/screenwriter of the new family dramedy “Dan in Real Life,” succeeds in translating the perfect family formula onto the big screen. Like all utopian visions, this is far from perfection but it manages to carry such a charmingly infectious quality about it that “Dan” makes us fall in love, flaws and all. Dan Burns (Steve Carell) is a great advice columnist. He helps countless people through countless problems. He is so good he is even being considered for national syndication. The only problem is that he isn’t listening to his own advice. A widower with three daughters, Dan is a sad and miserable single parent struggling to connect with increasingly distant children. This sad existence is rocked when he meets Marie (Juliette Binoche), a beautiful free spirit that embodies everything Dan needs to be happy again. Things begin looking up until Marie turns out to be the girlfriend of Dan’s brother (Dane Cook).

The movie stumbles to begin with. Dan is introduced as a stereotypical single dad, and his daughters are bland script-readers who moan out their part of the plot. But something happens as the movie progresses; Carell

brings such likeable exuberance to his role that he begins to embody all of our own unrequited love and romantic sorrows. We become connected with him in inexplicable ways. He moves from mere stock character to a personification of our own heartbreaks and secret desires. The interactions between Carell, Binoche and the rest of the Burns clan are so beautifully awkward. These exchanges are often funny but the tension and lustful pining is palpable just underneath the surface. A touching musical scene becomes a cathartic release for both Dan and the audience. Hedges may be criticized for crafting a family too soapy and perfect for modern society, but by keeping his supporting cast subdued, he is able to use them as foundation. These people exist in the film’s framework solely to support and enhance Dan, the character. The Burns family is indeed too wholesome for real life,

complete with morning exercises and talent shows, but they live in the viewer’s mind as a symbol of what family should, and could, be. It is refreshing to be presented with a family you can, and do, envy instead of one drenched in agony and dysfunction. Although “Dan in Real Life” has several flaws, they never overpower the feel-good message. It is a film that revels in its own cheesy sappiness; it portrays a simpler existence and urges that we believe in love at first sight. Like your first kiss or crush, there are things looking back that were not right but you don’t care; you wouldn’t dare alter it for the world.

Ken is a junior Journalism major with a minor in Film Studies. He is an aspiring film critic and an avid DVD collector.





Left: Big Ben stands tall during a cloudy London day. The clock was constructed in 1859, and its official name is the Great Bell. Right: The 2007 J-Term Mexico Study Tour poses in Queretaro, Mexico. Spanish professor Terry Mannetter has taken students to Mexico seven times in the past 11 years.



Submitted Photo

Study abroad trips give students opportunity to see the world

Sarah Packingham
sarah.packingham@uwrf.edu

Imagine spending a semester traveling across Europe, two months student teaching in Australia or a J-Term trip to Ireland.

For students on the UW-River Falls campus, these trips are not something students need to imagine, they are something that students here are able to experience.

“Our programs range in length from one week study tours to year long programs,” Carissa Williams, a student who works in the Global Connections office, said. “We also promote various programs such as IRSS (Inter-Continental Recruitment and Support Services) and COST (Consortium for Overseas Student Teaching). If a student isn’t quite ready to study overseas, we also offer the National Student Exchange program. On this program, a student can study at one of the 180 plus American universities (involved in this exchange) for a semester or a year.”

Students are given the opportunity for study tours over J-term, spring break and summer. There are also semester programs, which will keep students away from River Falls for substantially longer than those who do the approximately two week long study tours.

Semester Programs include: Scotland, International Traveling Classroom, France, Germany, Mexico, Taiwan and New Zealand; while the Study Tours include: Mexico, Italy, Ireland, Egypt, Japan, Uganda and Belize.

Studying abroad in Ireland

Ken Olson, an English professor, has traveled with students to Ireland for six years and will be going on a seventh trip in January.

A strong interest in Irish history and Irish heritage are what got Olson interested in traveling abroad.

“Both of my great grandparents on my father’s side were from Ireland, and

I had a long interest in Irish history and literature,” Olson said. “I studied Irish Literature at Kent State University, and I teach Honors Irish Studies Classes. I do the Ireland study abroad experience because it is a life-altering event for the students, and I love to see how they change as we progress in our Ireland journey. It is very exciting.”

Students who take part in the J-term trip to Ireland spend 15 days touring around Ireland and Northern Ireland. Cities they visit include Dublin, Belfast, Galway and Cork.

Students are not the only ones who enjoy meeting special guests while studying abroad. A few years back, Olson and his study tour met Alex Maskey.

“We met him [Maskey] at the government center in Belfast, and he met with my students for about an hour on a very busy day,” Olson said. “Maskey was the only ever Sinn Fein, Catholic Lord Major, and he is also a former IRA member. Then, two years ago my students were able to meet with Mariead Corrigan-Maguire, Nobel Peace Laureate from Belfast, Northern Ireland.”

Senior Maureen O’Donnell is currently spending the semester in Limerick, Ireland, studying along with one other student from UWRF.

O’Donnell has been in Ireland for almost two months and will return shortly before the end of the semester.

“Studying in Ireland is a little different. In the classes I have, there are no midterms, only one or two papers and then a final,” O’Donnell said. “So the final is a big part of your grade. There are also lectures and tutorials; the lectures are very broad-based and many

Oh, the places you’ll go...

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New Zealand

...and many more.

people are in them, whereas tutorials get more in depth and there are only around 10 to 20 people. The grade system is also different, but it’s a little too complicated to get into right now. It’s definitely a more relaxed atmosphere than back home.”

Student teachers get global

Every year, students get the opportunity not only to study abroad, but to teach abroad. In the past few years, a

number of education majors have traveled to Australia to teach in their classrooms. This semester, there are 15 students teaching in Australia or New Zealand.

Lindsay Woychek graduated in May, but still needed to student teach before getting a job in the United States. After doing some student teaching this fall in a suburb of the Twin Cities, she is currently in Australia finishing up her required student teaching.

Woychek left for Australia Oct. 20 and will return in December, and even though she has only been there for a short time, she has already noticed key differences.

“There are so many things that are different in Australia,” Woychek said. “They are all English speakers, but there are still different words and things, so I have been getting used to that. There is also a difference in the way schools are run. Kids will always be kids who are anxious to learn, but things run in completely different ways. I think teaching abroad has given me a whole new sense of what kind of teacher I want to be. It also will allow me to bring different experiences into my future classroom.”

Woychek is currently in Western Australia, in a suburb of Perth.

In January, senior Miranda Pogulis will be traveling to Australia for her own eight weeks of student teaching.

“I chose Australia because it was the only place that I could go to do my early childhood student teaching,” Pogulis said. “The COST program has places all over the world, though. Right

now I have friends student teaching in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and England...but they have the chance to go to other places.”

A home away from home

Spanish professor Terry Mannatter has gone with students for a Spanish 376 Winter Interim course seven times in the past 11 years. Mannatter’s favorite memories with the trips include spending time with Mexican families.

“We spend time with a Mexican family, which always makes a great impression on students,” Mannatter said. “They make us a traditional Mexican dinner and open up their home to us.”

Students are always amazed at how open and generous Mexican families are, and how close their family structure is—grandparents typically live with the family, and everyone helps out where they can.”

Students and staff who have traveled abroad all agree that study abroad opportunities are a must-have for any college student, regardless of major.

“I really would encourage anyone and everyone to study abroad at least once...even if it is only for a week on a study tour,” Williams said. “I cannot stress enough how important it is today to have that experience, especially on a resume. But don’t only do it for building your resume, do it to help yourself grow as a person and gain new perspectives on life. Studying abroad, for me, has been such an enriching and life-changing experience.

For more information on study abroad opportunities, students can contact the Global Connections office at 102 Hagestad Hall. In the office, staff members are available to answer questions regarding any of the student travel options.



Submitted Photos

Left to Right: A peace memorial stands tall in Northern Ireland; UWRF students Amber Dallager, Alice Reid, Logan Spindler, Gayle Opheim and Kassie Yaeck pose in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France; The Tower Bridge in London, England is one of the world’s most famous bridges, and leads to the crown jewels in the Tower of London.