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UWRF prof. advocates for opportunities in study abroad programs

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Columnist expresses frustration at hearing “deep intimate secrets”

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UWRF hurdler sets two school records, prepares for outdoor season



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

STUDENT

RIVER FALLS

VOICE

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RFPD investigates gas station robbery



Ben Brewster/Student Voice

Two men robbed the local BP Amoco Station on Paulson Road March 1. The men were dressed in black and confronted employee/UWRF student Anthony Fox. The robbers were equipped with a handgun and a large knife when they demanded the cash register’s money. Fox reported that the two men fled the scene with the stolen money. The River Falls Police Department does not have any suspects at th is time.

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Police are investigating an armed robbery that occurred at the BP Amoco Station on Paulson Road just before 9 p.m. Saturday.

According to a police report, two men dressed in black clothing, black stocking caps and bandannas entered the gas station at 8:40 p.m. Anthony Fox, a UWRF student and BP employee, was the only person working at the time.

“I didn’t pay attention to them at first,” Fox, who was reading a magazine in the empty store

said. “Then I heard a pop, and looked up to see these two guys standing there, staring at me.”

Fox said one of the men was holding a black handgun, the other a very large knife. Without a word, the robbers placed a note on the counter that said, “Money in the drawer - 30 seconds.”

“It’s so scary to see that happen to you,” he said. “You never know how you’re going react.

There’s no logic whatsoever. It’s all instinct.”

Fox quickly handed over the register’s contents and the suspects fled on foot, cash in hand. A witness pulled in as the two were leaving to find Fox in a panic.

“He thought they must have hit [Fox] over the head because he was so shook up,” said Sgt. Jeff Linehan of the River Falls Police Department.

Fox left the store briefly while the witness called police, returning when he noticed squad cars on their way to the scene. Sgt. Linehan, who spoke with Fox shortly afterwards, said his behavior was similar to someone in shock.

Fox’s co-worker, Paul Borofka-Webb, said the robbery, which was the first in his three years working at the BP, has made him more nervous about his job, but he doesn’t expect it to affect his performance.

“I’ll definitely be more cautious. But there’s not much

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UWRF develops team to address safety

Derrick Knutson
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A possible school shooter, natural disasters and power outages are just some of the events that the newly formed UW-River Falls behavioral intervention team is prepared to deal with.

The team is comprised of seven campus officials, personal counselors and a River Falls Police Department community liaison officer. The mission of the team is to promote student success, including academic, personal and professional development, according to a student affairs press release. The team plans to achieve these goals by identifying students involved in disruptive or at-risk behavior and determining appropriate steps to protect the students and the community.

“We’ve gone through a variety of scenarios and situations with Pierce County, St. Croix County, the River Falls Police Department, the hospital and University

administrators,” Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gregg Heinselman said. “One of the tabletop activities we went through this fall was an active shooter on campus. You basically present a scenario and individuals from the community and the campus are in a room together and [they] walk through all aspects of the scenario.”

In order for the team to accomplish its goals, UWRF and the River Falls community will have to collaborate.

“The success of our team is based upon faculty, students and staff providing us information about students that are at risk,” Area Coordinator for UWRF Residence Life Kristie Feist said.

Being prepared for a possible shooting is not the only function of the team.

“We’ve done a power outage [exercise] and this spring we’re going to do a severe weather exercise prior to tornado season,” Heinselman said. “If, unfortunately, something was to occur on campus

we, at least have conditioned ourselves and we have a plan to go to. We’ve tested that plan, we know what works, what doesn’t work and we can address those issues.”

UWRF faculty and staff were informed about team’s creation in a memo.

“As a faculty or staff member with regular student interaction, an effort at conversation is generally advisable,” Heinselman said. “In the aftermath of events like the Virginia Tech shootings, it is important not to perpetuate a climate of fear and distance between professors and students, especially students who may seem odd, eccentric or detached.”

Identifying at-risk students before something tragic happens is key to keeping UWRF a safe place to live and learn.

“With an increase in random public tragedies that have occurred across the U.S. in our schools, I think it’s important

See Intervention, page 3

Staff, design firm work on marketing strategy

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More than a dozen UW-River Falls staff members have teamed up with Minneapolis-based Woychick Design to determine the characteristics that set UWRF apart from competing schools so it can emphasize these points consistently through all campus communications.

Town hall meetings were held at UWRF March 10 to inform faculty, staff and students about the process, known as an integrated marketing campaign.

Dan Woychick, principal and creative director at Woychick Design, led the discussions, and the firm’s designer, Seth Johnson, answered questions from audience members at the end of each session.

UWRF has lasted 134 years without extensive branding efforts, “but the landscape has

changed,” Woychick said.

The population of young adults is decreasing, which means schools have to be more competitive to attract students with the most desirable applications and test scores. Additionally, changes in the racial composition of high school graduates and an increasing number of non-traditional students makes it important for schools to make their branding strategy more inclusive, Woychick said.

Schools then have the challenge of retaining students who tend to move between campuses through the course of their college career.

“It’s more like dating than a marriage,” Woychick said.

The aim of the marketing campaign is to develop a distinct brand, or identity, that will help UWRF secure the attention of new students as well as potential donors.

“If you don’t stand for something, you stand for

nothing,” Woychick said.

While UWRF has been slow to invest money in marketing, other area campuses, including Augsburg College in Minneapolis and Minot State University in Minot, N.D., have benefited from investing more money into campaigns to market their schools. Increased visibility can mean more donations and students with higher ACT scores, among other measures of a successful marketing campaign, Woychick said.

Any brand UWRF develops will have to be consistent through all modes of University communications if audiences are to pick up on it, Mark Kinders, director of UWRF Public Affairs, said.

The marketing campaign project team includes staff members who deal with public affairs, fundraising, recruitment and print and Web site operations at UWRF to make sure all groups are

involved in the marketing campaign.

Surveys of current and prospective students, alumni, faculty and staff are the first step of the marketing process.

“The information we are gathering now will ensure that those communications are very consistent with one another,” Kinders said.

On March 6 and March 10, the project team’s research committee sent out e-mails with a link to the first survey of the campaign. The survey asked respondents to select from a list the adjectives that they felt best describe UWRF. Surveys distributed during the qualitative phase of research will ideally reach 1,000 to 3,000 people, Woychick said.

The research committee will move onto the qualitative phase, which will involve focus groups to get more spe-

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University celebrates Women’s History Month

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Susan B. Anthony, Hillary Clinton, Sally Ride, Eleanor Roosevelt and Harriet Tubman are a just a few of the prominent women in U.S. history.

The month of March is a time when the work those women did along with the work of hundreds of other women, is recognized.

Women’s History Month started as a week-long celebration before transforming into the month that it is now.

“In 1987, the National Women’s History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to the

entire month of March. Since then, the National Women’s History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate. Each year programs and activities in schools, workplaces, and communities have become more extensive as information and program ideas have been developed and shared,” the National Women’s History Project Web site said.

History professor Betty Bergland said prior to Women’s History Week, Women’s History Day was celebrated.

Here at UW-River Falls, members of the history and

See Women’s History, page 3

Plunkett, Fry campaign for county board position

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On April 1, two of UW-River Falls’ more recognizable faces will be running for District 4 of the Pierce County Board.

Special Assistant to the Chancellor Blake Fry will be challenging incumbent UWRF student Ben Plunkett.

“The most important task a member of the Board of Supervisors is charged with is effectively representing the interests of their supervisory district,” Fry said.

The duties of county board members include setting policies, approving budgets, making laws for the county and serving on various committees.

Plunkett first came into office when he received 10 votes as a write-in candidate in 2006, which was enough for him to come away with the win.

“I ran for election the first time to advance the issues and

factors that I believe make Pierce County a better place to live, and to get the maximum value possible for my tax dollars,” Plunkett said.

In his first term Plunkett worked on several county committees, including human

services, board of health, law enforcement, solid waste and industrial development.

This will be Fry’s first time running for public office, but he is not new to administrative positions.

“I have provided this type of leadership to colleges and universities throughout my career and I am committed to doing the same as a member of the

See Board, page 3



Blake Fry

VOICE SHORTS

Lunch ‘N Learn focuses on communication techniques for the professional world

A Lunch ‘N Learn discussion on professional communication is scheduled for Thursday, March 27. Those in attendance will learn how to choose the appropriate types of communication and how to develop practical skills and techniques to use in the workplace. The importance of audience, e-mail etiquette and choosing appropriate communication channels will be emphasized.

Lunch ‘N Learn is open to anyone who wants to improve their business communication skills, whether on campus or off.

Mialisa Moline, assistant professor of English at UW-River Falls, will lead the discussion. Moline has been at UWRF since 2006 and teaches business and technical writing, professional and technical editing and cyber-literacy.

Those who wish to attend the discussion must register in advance at 715-425-2533 or www.rfchamber.com. The cost is \$25 for students and chamber members and \$30 for all others. Lunch and parking is provided.

Energy executive to speak at UWRF

Cynthia Leshner, president and CEO of Northern States Power - Minnesota, will give a presentation entitled “The Energy to Make Things Better: A Look at the Present and Future Energy Issues” Tuesday, March 25 in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center.

Northern States Power - Minnesota is an XCel Energy company. Leshner was president of NPS Gas before that company merged with New Century Energies to create XCel Energy, and after the merger she served XCel as vice president, chief administrative officer and chief human resources officer. She currently serves on the board of directors of Alliant Techsystems, the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Twin Cities Area Red Cross and the Saint Paul Foundation.

Leshner’s presentation is part of the College of Business and Economics’ Executive-in-Residence Program.

UWRF to host third annual show pig sale

On March 29, UWRF will be selling an estimated 150 head of show pigs, to be used for breeding or fairs. Breeds included in the sale are purebred Hampshires, Durocs, Chester Whites and crossbreeds.The auction will take place at the Mann Valley Lab Farm, located on S. Glover Road off of County Road MM.

Viewing starts at 10 a.m. and the auction begins at noon. A lunch will be provided for by the UWRF Pre-Vet Club.

Observatory viewings set for April 7-10

On the first clear night of the week of April 7-10, the physics department will be holding observatory viewings at Centennial Science Hall.

The evening will start with a presentation entitled "Toys in Space" by professor Eileen Korenic. The presentation will start at 8:30 p.m. followed by a viewing at 9 p.m.

Those in attendance will be able to view Saturn, Mars and a new to crescent moon.

Those who wish to attend should check the physics department Web site before heading out in case the event is canceled due to weather and to confirm the viewing date.

Voice Shorts compiled by
Student Voice staff

Corrections

-- In the article "Senate approves student fee increase for HHP, Ramer Field" published March 7, 2008, Kristen Hendrickson was referred to as the Vice Chancellor. Hendrickson is actually the budget director.

-- In the Voice Short "Meeting on Jersalem to be held at library" published on March 7, 2008, the title of the presentation is mislabeled. The short called it Journalism: 3,000 Years of Holiness but the correct title is Jerusalem: 3,000 Years of Holiness. The word Jerusalem was also misspelled in the headline for the short.

The Student Voice regrets the errors.



Tune in to WRFW 88.7 FM

News and information programming

Monday: "The Week in News," with Phil Bock & Nicole Aune

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

Wednesday: "Act on Ag," with Jodi Kauth

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

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

ALL NEWS AND INFORMATION BLOCKS: 5-6 p.m.

Senate approves military minor

Jerry Clark
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Student Senate gave its unanimous support to the new military leadership minor on Tuesday night.

Guest speaker Lt. Col. Scott Bolstad, director of ROTC at UW-Stout and military science professor at UW-River Falls, opened the Senate meeting with a presentation concerning the details of the new military leadership minor. The minor will encompass fields in history, foreign relations, leadership management and military science. It will be open to any UWRF student whether they are in ROTC or not.

Upon completion of Senate director reports, discussion was held concerning the motion to lend Senate support for the military science minor. Matt Dale spoke highly of the proposed minor.

"This would be a most excellent minor to add to our curriculum... for several reasons," adding that "in the long run this is going to actually save lives," he said.

Other students also thought the addition of this minor would add to the appeal of the University.

"I think what makes UWRF an appealing school is the variety of majors and minors we offer. I think that by offering this we're just [expanding] what we can offer the students," parliamentarian/ethics chair Nathan McNaughton said.

The minor program is sched-

uled to begin in the fall.

Other Senate News

- End of year budget constraints drove much of the debate concerning the amount of funding for the "Take Back the Night" event to be held March 24. Diversity Issues and Womens Initiatives co-director Laura Adrian spoke to the event's importance.

"The purpose of 'Take Back the Night' is to raise awareness of violence against women and sexual assault," Adrian said.

The event will feature speakers, live music and an open mic session where attendees will be free to share their experiences. Also scheduled is a "clothesline" project where participants will make T-shirts to be hung in front of the University Center , which is designed to promote awareness. After amendments were made to the budget, the motion was carried unanimously.

- Relations between students and UWRF will be affected greatly by UW-System Chapters 17 and 18 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. Chapters 17 and 18 concern the Jurisdiction of UWRF (along with all UW-System Schools) concerning non-academic misconduct. The policy would allow UWRF to extend its authority to not only the surrounding community, but also to anywhere in the world. This policy applies to any students who are enrolled at UWRF (including while on summer break). Potentially a

CAFES adds sustainable agriculture courses

Nicole Aune
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The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Studies (CAFES) is adding four new courses next year which will focus on sustainable agriculture.

The new courses are part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) challenge grant called Sustainable Agriculture in Western Wisconsin. The \$460,000 grant was awarded last year to UW-River Falls, the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) and the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) to develop curriculum pertaining to sustainable agriculture.

Michael Croster, Juliet Tomkins and William Campbell submitted the grant request to the USDA early last year. Croster is an associate professor in plant and earth sciences and Tomkins is a lecturer in agricultural economics.

"We're looking to train students in this diversified sector of agriculture in our region," Croster said. "There are a lot of students who have interest in that area, and regionally there aren't a lot of specific programs to train students in those areas."

Two of the new courses will be offered in the fall. They include a crop course in organic production systems and an agricultural economics course in direct mar-

keting. The organic production course will be taught by Croster and the direct marketing course will be taught by Tomkins as a special topics course.

The organic production course objectives are to "provide knowledge and understanding of organic animal and plant production systems, methods of organic certification and organic nutrient and pest management. It will also define and describe issues related to soil and water concentration, environmental stewardship, gene conservation, consumer responsibility, economics, organic organizations and specialty marketing" according to its course description.

The other two courses, which will be offered in the spring of 2009, are a natural meat and animal production course and an agriculture law land use planning course. The production course will be taught by Gary Onan associate professor of animal and food science and the law course will be taught by Tomkins. The spring courses are still awaiting approval from the University.

"We want to develop visibility that our campus is going to be known for servicing this area of agriculture," Croster said.

"We're looking to train students to meet the needs of the workforce and to maintain pace with current trends in agriculture."

For students outside of CAFES, the

new courses can be taken as electives. In the crop and soil sciences major, one of the tracks that a student may take is sustainable agriculture. For those students, some of these new courses will be required. For other CAFES majors, the courses may meet the needs of a directed elective course.

"All of this came about because we've had students on campus who have specifically asked for courses like this, areas of study like this," Croster said.

CAFES has also been pressured by the agriculture industry to have more specialized sustainable agriculture courses.

"While at the Organic Farming Conference, people were saying that they want more students to be trained in these specific areas so they can have better hires," Croster said.

The Organic Farming Conference is held annually by MOSES in La Crosse, Wis. This year 2,500 people attended the conference, according to the MOSES Web site.

"If anyone ... has interest in sustainable agriculture or these courses, they can contact me and I can get them organized and set up to help them out," Croster said. "Whether they want to major in these areas or just explore the courses, I'd love to help."

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.

March 7
--An iPod Nano was reported stolen from a coat pocket in the University Center. The iPod was valued at \$200.

March 8
--Approximately \$200 worth of damage was done to a car in K-Lot. A CD player was also stolen from the vehicle worth \$200. There are no suspects at this time.

March 9
--Approximately \$350 worth of damage was done to a pool table and the walls in Crabtree Hall. Hall workers found vandalism covering the walls and the pool table surface.
--Lindsay N. Arrington, 18, was cited \$249 for underage con-

sumption in Crabtree Hall.

March 10
--Public Safety officers were called to South Fork Suites regarding the possibility of the use of marijuana in the residence hall.

PARKING NOTES

Student permit spaces will not be enforced over Spring Break. Open parking in student permit spaces will be allowed from 4:30 p.m. March 14 through 6 p.m. March 23. The parking department will begin enforcing student permit spaces at 6 p.m. March 23. All other spaces will be enforced as posted.

The Student Voice is accepting applications for editor and assistant editor for Fall 2008.

Pick up an application outside the office at 304 North Hall or download one from uwrfvoice.com.

The deadline for these positions is April 18.

E-mail editor@uwrfvoice.com for more information.

Board: UWRF affiliates challenge each other in upcoming election

from page 1

Pierce County Board of Supervisors,” Fry said. Before coming to UWRF, Fry had worked as the Director of Campus Life at the University of Central Oklahoma and the Director of Student Activities and Webmaster at Avila University. The county board seat is non-partisan, so the candidates run independently of party affiliation. They do come from varying political backgrounds. Plunkett is involved with College Democrats, but Fry is not affiliated with any party. “I am one of an increasing number of independent voters,” Fry said. “A perfect example is that in the last three presidential elections, I have voted for candidates from three different political parties.” Both candidates have specific aims if they win. “My primary goal is to assist the county in preparing for growth with fiscal and environmental responsibility,” Fry said. “I am also dedicated to ensuring the county is properly prepared for emergency situations.”

Plunkett will be working on things such as encouraging land use that plans for future fuel shortages and reducing prison populations in Pierce County. “Every dollar we spend on incarceration is a dollar we don’t have for any other use,” Plunkett said. He will also be introducing legislation on overtime for hourly employees and mandatory paid sick time for food service workers. Fry and Plunkett are working to gain support. Plunkett has participated in candidate forums and talked to voters in his district. “Up to this point, I have been speaking with leaders in Pierce County and River Falls about my candidacy,” Fry said. “I am planning a more aggressive publicity campaign as we get closer to the April 1 election date.”



Ben Plunkett

Marketing: Committee sets out to find ‘brand’ for UWRF

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cific responses. The surveys will help the project team “better understand how different groups of people currently view UWRF,” Darryl Miller, chair of the research committee, said. Final results will be ready for various campus committees and officials to review by the third week in April. Once public attitudes about UWRF are better understood, Woychick and the team will determine the brand that best represents UWRF and differentiates it from other universities, according to a timeline shown at the Town Hall meetings. The final stage of the project will involve redesigning the campus Web site and other communication modes so they reflect the new brand. Freshman Sam Emmons said most people here seem pretty happy about their decision to attend UWRF, which makes the campaign to develop a brand for UWRF seem unnecessary.

“I thought the school was doing a pretty good job with marketing as it was,” Emmons said. Junior Eric Johnson said he approves of the marketing campaign as long as Woychick Design sticks to the role of overseeing the project and lets UWRF, including students, have a major role in campaign decisions. The project team plans to release a summary of research findings sometime in May.

Intervention: Team prepares to deal with emergencies

from page 1

to have resources like the behavior intervention team,” UWRF senior Vanessa Orme said. UWRF junior Dan Carbone wasn’t sure about the student response that the team might garner. “I don’t think the majority [of students] will respond to the team,” Carbone said. “Most of the parameters for identifying at-risk students seem pretty vague as well.” Behaviors that suggest a health or safety risk include hostile, aggressive or otherwise disruptive

behavior; references to suicide; inability to communicate clearly; disjointed thoughts; garbled or slurred speech; seeing or hearing things that are not there and comments idolizing school shooters, according to the press release. Some behaviors may be easier to spot than others, but the team wants students, faculty and staff to be looking for odd behavior nonetheless. “We encourage people to report unusual and concerning behavior,” Heinselman said. “The biggest challenge is to get people to pay attention.”

Women’s History: UWRF raises awareness on gender topic, honors influential, historical women

from page 1

women’s studies departments are working to put together events throughout the month to promote awareness of the celebration. “We celebrate by bringing speakers to campus and opening their talks to the public to increase public and campus awareness of gender issues,” English professor Michelle Parkinson said. “Just last week we had the president of the National Association of School Psychologists, Rhonda Armistead, speaking about women and girls and psychological resilience. Many people turned out for this event. We also have two artists whose works will be available to view in the Harriet Barry Gallery in the library starting March 11. Both artists, Patrice Avon Marvin and Lynn Jermal, will be speaking about their works.” Jermal and Marvin’s presentation will be at 2 p.m. March 31 in the Gallery. While Parkinson is currently helping plan the month’s festivities, she will be taking over as the coordinator for the women’s studies program in the fall. She will be replacing Barbra Warner. Faculty members like the English department’s Kathleen Hunzer, believe that Women’s History Month is something that needs to be celebrated. “Women’s history has long been overlooked or under-represented in many venues; Women’s History Month gives us the chance to hear stories that were previously silenced and to consider the contributions made by important women in the world,”

she said. Students also agree. “It is important to celebrate women’s history because it celebrates a part of history that is often overlooked,” senior Heidi Vanderloop said. “These women have changed the shape of history not only for women, but society as well.” Although Women’s History Month is a positive event, some perceive it to be an event with negative connotation. “I do think a lot of people mistakenly think that feminism and feminists are hostile and angry toward men, and that Women’s History Month must be motivated by that kind of attitude; but this is a positive celebration of the contributions of people who do, after all, make up about half the population,” Parkinson said. “We have all been influenced, in one way or another, by women. For many of us, our first human attachment was to a woman. For others, women are lovers, friends, sisters, aunts and grandmothers. When we look around, we also see that women are gaining influence in the public sphere, despite continued pay inequity and discrimination. So, Women’s History Month just makes explicit what most of us already know: that women matter.” The celebration of Women’s History Month will wrap up April 7. Wang Ping, a writer, will be part of a discussion on “Women in Modern China.” “Even today it’s important,” Bergland said. “It’s important to call attention to those women and to ensure progress in addressing ongoing gender issues.”

BP: Police search for culprits in Saturday’s robbery

from page 1

more I can do about it,” he said. As of Tuesday, police had not named any suspects. According to Fox, security cameras were not recording during the robbery, which could slow this process. Sandy Balcerek, who manages both the Paulson Road station and the BP Amoco on North Main Street., declined to comment on the case. Fox said the store is in the process of replacing its cameras. Saturday’s incident was the first reported robbery at a River Falls business since October when, on two occasions, a man threat-

ened employees at Freeman Drug on Main Street with a bottle of gasoline. The suspect was arrested and prosecuted. River Falls Police have encouraged anyone with information on Saturday’s robbery to inform the station directly or call the area Crime Stoppers line at 1-800-303-8477.



Be good to yourself over spring break

Make smart choices the night before... that way you won't have any emergencies to deal with the morning after!

"Emergency contraception" is a powerful, high dose of steroids that tricks your body into thinking it is pregnant. These steroids can cause **chemical abortions** and deadly blood clots.

For more information about safe and healthy choices, contact Pro-Life Wisconsin at (877) 463-7945 or at www.ProLifeWisconsin.org.

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EDITORIAL

Communication silenced by tech

Technology is great, but it also seems like it has hampered the face-to-face social interaction in our daily lives.

It doesn't matter if it's Facebook, cell phones or iPods; our generation seems to be getting more addicted to them by the day.

How many times a day is too many to check Facebook? Realistically the answer is probably two, but we so often use it as a means of communication it is hard not to be on it constantly.

Facebook offers features that are somewhat like private messaging and message boards and that makes it so easy to communicate with each other. Instead of going to see your friend across campus, why not just send them a message on Facebook and see what's going on? It saves the effort of the walk on days that are either too cold or too hot.

But despite the uses of Facebook, there are still downfalls. Some people can't seem to get enough of it and are on the site 24/7.

Cell phones are used by almost anyone these days. Some six-year-olds have them. Even grandparents use them to keep in contact with their loved ones. But cell phones can cause problems, too.

Students text message during class, people have inappropriate conversations in public and sometimes even ignore a friend because they are too busy texting or talking.

Even something as simple as listening to music makes daily conversation difficult. There are so many students on this campus that listen to music on their iPod's or MP3 players so loud while walking across campus they don't even notice if someone says hello to them.

When that happens, their friends are stuck looking stupid saying hi and waving to someone who doesn't say hi back and the communication between them dies.

Obviously, cell phones make it easier to send a quick text when you have a question for a friend. There is no point in calling to say "Hey, I'll meet you for lunch in an hour" when you can just say in a text. And music is enjoyable, entertaining and relaxing. It's something we all need in our daily lives. And Facebook is something that we can use when we have a longer question about missing a class or whatnot.

Technology is great; we just have to learn how to embrace it without letting it change us and how we act. Use the technology that our era has given us, but don't forget to keep in touch with your friends, pay attention in class and just remember to say hello.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

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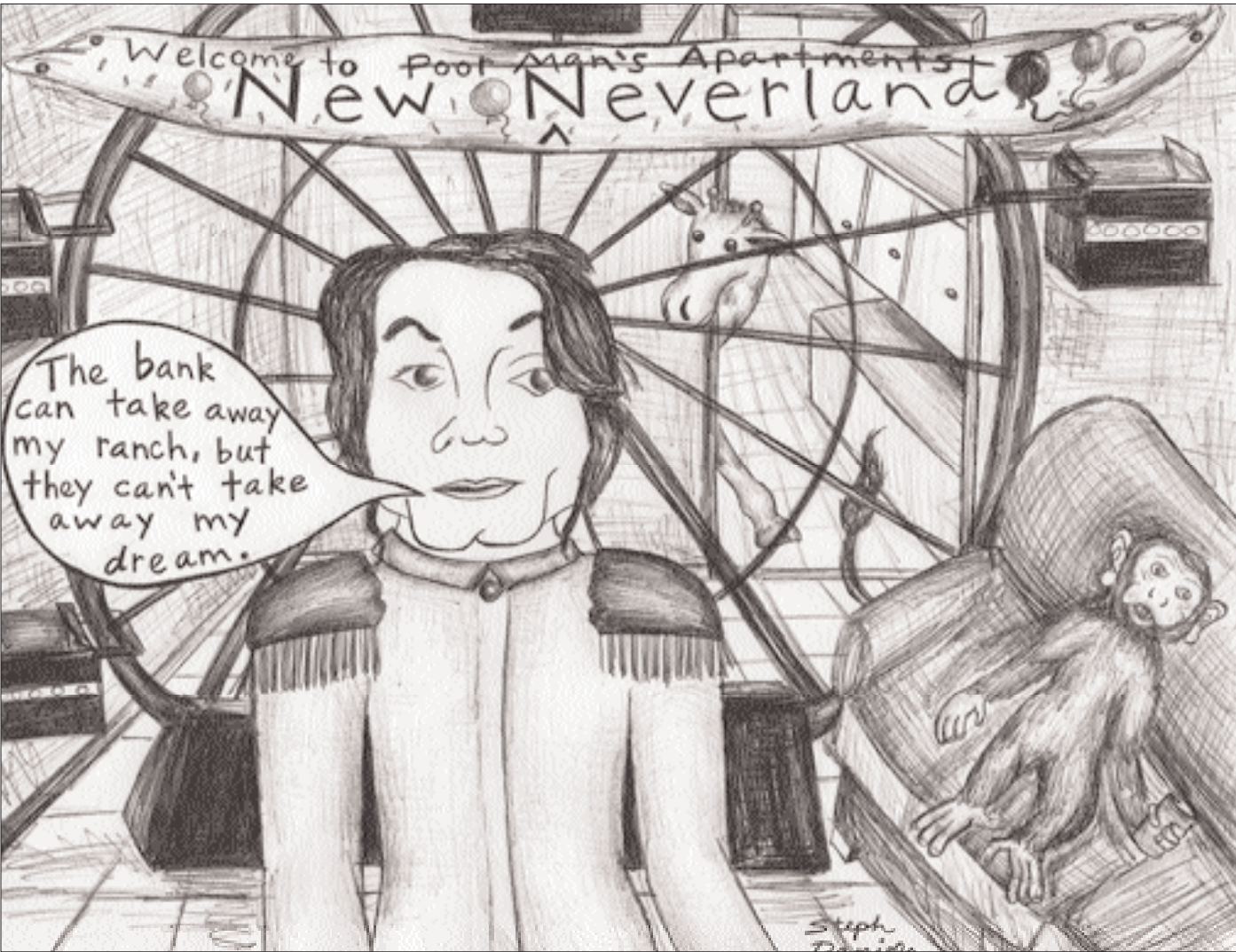
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McDonald's distributes joy through meals

Though their burgers may not be made of beef, nor are their fries from potatoes, nor are their filet-o-fishes from fishes, I love McDonald's.

Those golden arches represent all that is good with America. The man who made the restaurant great was not the original founders of Dick and Mac McDonald, but Ray Kroc, who was a true American patriot. This man understood that people want food fast and tasty, not healthy.

But now, after this man blazed the trail for the likes of Burger King and Wendy's, neither of which are actual competition for Mac-Do, our society rejects him.

If Kroc were to be alive today, he would be exiled for his role in the increasing amount of obese Americans. But that's not how it should be. There shouldn't be anti-

American/McDonalds propaganda like "Super Size Me;" there should be an annual contest where one person gets to do what that guy did in that movie.

Raise your hand if you ever went to a birthday party at McDonald's. Raise your hand if you loved getting a sweet Hot Wheels car in your Happy Meal when your sister got a stupid Barbie doll.

We don't want breakfast sandwiches, we want Egg McMuffins and McGriddles. Do you know why we want all of this? Because it tastes and feels good, not because it's healthy, and guess what ... that's OK.

We don't have to spend our lives eating garden salads to increase our life by

a couple days, though you can get a salad from McDonald's. Apple pie is as American as McDonald's.

Though Kroc himself never was technically "exiled," McDonald's is facing that right now. But we should accept it for the joy it can bring us.

Go out and get yourself a Big Mac meal, super size it, replace the diet coke with a super sized Shamrock Shake and sit back and enjoy the cholesterol. And if you're getting a little bit heavier, just walk it off. Don't blame McDonald's and don't blame me—I'm a diabetic for crapes sake.

Caleb is a journalism major and economics minor. He enjoys debating about politics and the NFL draft.



Caleb Stevens

Guitar Hero addiction transforms existence

I am about a decade late on this subject, but I wish to write about it anyway.

I'll just go ahead and admit it: I recently discovered Guitar Hero, and it has been eviscerating my free time for the last week and a half.

Homework and school in general have reached an even lower status on my list of priorities (kidding, Mom) as my skillful hands have become accustomed to the weighty, satisfying heft of that plastic Les Paul axe.

Everything has changed since I discovered the classic riffs and addictive game play of Guitar Hero. So far, I've given up both food and water, relying instead on the vibrant

and rhythmic sustenance of my favorite video game. This means there is a massive shortage of energy in my body, but that's alright by me.

As long as my fingers can flail on the fret board and I can will my eyelids back open each time I blink, I'll be okay. Either that, or someone will find my body days from now, frozen in the motionless dance of rigor mortis, clutching a plastic guitar.

How delectably dramatic! And this is crazy. For one half of a second last week, I actually biologically morphed into Eddie Van Halen while strumming to "You Really Got Me." It only lasted for a

few fleeting moments, and it was pretty trippy.

My girlfriend freaked out because for that ONE second, she was dating an actual rock star. I think she felt pretty special, which is understandable. It's not very often one gets to date a Guitar Hero hero.

Well, I really shouldn't talk. Truth be told, I rarely beat anyone in Guitar Hero. It's hard trying to catch up with everyone else in the world, who have all been playing this damn game for years now.

I've seen the YouTube videos—it's sick. There are toddlers out there just owning the game on the Expert difficulty level. Nothing makes me feel like less of a man than seeing a three year old cruise through "La Grange" without a hitch while I'm stuck screaming and mashing

buttons like an unskilled monkey on PCP.

I suppose I'll have to struggle through somehow, and tolerate those ugly moments of extreme frustration. It's all worth it, in the end. Someday, I'll be able to confidently stride across campus with my plastic axe strapped across my back, like a Johnny Cash of the 21st century.

If anyone dares challenge me, I can whip out that wire-less Les Paul and flame out on those buttons, even the orange one, eventually.

Until that fateful day, I will huddle in my darkened apartment and practice the hours away. But mark my words: I will catch up to the toddlers. Maybe.

Joe is a marketing communications major with a sreative writing minor. He is interested in movies, religion, politics, culture and people.



Joe Hager

Vehicle ownership requires necessary time, space, money

Living, working and schooling in River Falls is great for me and anyone else that prefers to have all of life's essentials within walking distance. The necessity of owning a car is minimal when the grocery, school, work, bars, restaurants, hardware stores, coffee shops, bakery and video stores are in close proximity.

However, I own a car only for my Twin Cities need, a need to venture out of the small town for the slight cultural enrichment of a Midwestern city.

If I lived in the Twin Cities there would be no need for a car. If the grocer is too far to walk to, which it most likely wouldn't be, public transportation is easily accessible and usually affordable.

As much as I like my car and enjoy driving it long distances, I long for a public bus to hop on to get me to the Twin Cities, or an underground metro system that will get me there in even less time.

Until then, I own a car. The car is paid for, extremely used with blown speakers, a clunky interior and miscellaneous broken items. I pay the auto insurance once

a month. With the most minimal of auto insurance at only liability, I pay approximately \$77.

This may not seem like much, but when I factor in the frequency of use, it down-right pisses me off that I am supposed to pay some random number out of my bank account to a company that doesn't actually give me anything tangible for only driving it less than once a week.

I have never been in an accident (as a driver) and consider myself a safe driver. Auto insurance should be optional rather than illegal not to have.

So after careful considerations through several months, I decided to cancel my auto insurance. Later, my parents will convince me that I should have it again. Within a single year I will change my mind back and forth about auto insurance four to five times.

Some are lucky enough to own a car and are consequently fortunate enough

to have acquired free parking, whether it is a garage, driveway or a parking lot. I, however, chose the location of my apartment over the benefit of a parking space for the rarely used vehicle.

As I look around my surroundings I see several empty parking spaces in large lots go unused for long periods of time. This not only applies to River Falls, of course.

Some institutions find it necessary to call the Auto Satan (the towing company) to come over and steal your car because you needed a place to keep the chunk of metal.

I understand maintenance costs, but the logic in paving the ground and not utilizing the space properly makes no sense to me.

Of course, there are other monetary issues involved with owning a car. The cost of fuel, maintenance and parking are just the most basic.

Teresa is a journalism major and a geography minor. She enjoys kangaroo burgers and creating pretty maps.



Teresa Aviles

Columnist questions careless conversation

Personal privacy is a concept that many college students understand and want when it comes to most issues in their lives.

However, I have recently noticed a growing number of students on campus who don't

seem to understand that a private conversation cannot be considered private if it can be heard by those around you.

Have you ever been walking through campus and noticed the large number of people, staff and students alike, who are on their cell phones between pit stops?

This was a question brought up in my Listening 207 class a few weeks ago. It is nothing short of amazing how open people will be with their phone conversations while standing in the middle of a crowd. I suppose this would be a really great way of getting to know someone without actually having to know them.

Upon this classroom discussion, I started taking note of how many people express very deep intimate secrets about a wide

variety of areas in their lives. The most common topic of chat is the ever-abounding sex lives of the young and the dating. What a scandalous campus we seem to have here in River Falls.

It makes me wonder what the speakers would say if I walked up to them and asked for more details. I have a strong feeling their face would turn red and a strange look of confusion would flood their

face.

Another frequent conversation is the one where you can completely hear the fight, but can only see one of the fighters. Honestly, if you're going to give a show at least present both arguments.



Linda Abel

These types of conversations make me feel bad for the person on the other end of the phone.

As a passerby, I feel as though I have been cheating

on the speaker too, and I'm not even involved.

Aside from sexual endeavors and ear blowing arguments, there is, of course, that all too common conversation with the parents.

This is simply a funny topic to happen upon, because we all go through it: "Yes Mom ... OK; yeah I'm doing my homework ... sounds great ... I love you too."

It's as though you can hear exactly what she's lecturing about.

There are some very interesting individuals living here on our campus. I must say, after listening to the non-stop cell phone chatter, I have noticed that the

idea of privacy sure has taken a new shape.

The real question is, if people are talking about these issues on the sidewalks, what do the conversations sound like behind their dorm doors?

Linda is double-majoring in marketing communications and business communications with an emphasis in professional organization. In her free time she likes to dance, watch movies, hang out with friends and spend time with family.

The most common topic of chat is the ever-abounding sex lives of the young and the dating. What a scandalous campus we seem to have here in River Falls.

STUDENT VOICES

Do you see any problems with use of cell phones in public places on campus?



Alex Linau, freshman

"Yes, I find that people are unaware of their surroundings and use their phone in areas where other students work on homework or study for class."

Laurel Kolkind, senior

"I don't see any problem with this; it's only disruptive in the library or in class."



Nick Moelter, freshman

"No, as long as it doesn't disrupt others."

Emily Wessels, sophomore

"No, as long as it doesn't go off in class."



Sean Johnson, freshman

"No, I see no problem with this. I think that communication is important."

Student Voices compiled by Sally King.

Presidential race persuades with fear

There is an old saying that says if you want to avoid an argument, stay away from three subjects: sex, religion and politics.

Well, I'm going to risk an argument and talk about politics and, right off, I'm going to put my biases on the table for all to see. I am a registered Democrat and a rabid anti-Bush-Administration voter. OK, that being said, I'll move on.

I consider myself an open-minded person and try to take in news and opinion from at least three different papers, Web sites or newscasts per day. Though I would tend to agree more with someone like Keith Olberman on MSNBC, I do turn to Fox News occasionally and listen to Bill O'Reilly (though I am usually quite perturbed by this guy).

One thing that concerns me about news coverage and the current race for the presidency is our politicians' overwhelming tendency to use the politics of fear to sway the voters.

When I was in college it was the Cold War. As the Soviet empire crumbled, I thought for sure that China would immediately replace it in the fearmongers' repertoire. Though China has indeed come into this group's focus, it is radical Islamic fundamentalism and the terror associated with this fringe that takes center stage when the politics of fear rears its ugly head.

Though I can't quote the source, I have read that the average American is

twice as likely to be struck by lightning TWICE than to ever be the victim of terrorism.

With a defense budget larger than the rest of the world's defense budgets combined, it would seem that we are relatively safe in our beds (at three in the morning).

Despite this figure, most Americans list national security/terrorism as the issue most on their minds in the average election campaign, though it can take second to the economy when things are not looking good (as is the case now).

I don't blame people for worrying about our country's safety, but it occurs to me that there are far more pressing issues to consider. Obviously the economy would be one, our nation's image in the eyes of the world would be another, health care for everyone has to be way up on the list, AIDS, poverty, global warming... the list goes on and on.

Unfortunately, the candidates return time and time again to the politics of fear to woo the voters. This plays to the masses and the tendency to be able to convince most voters that they have to ignore the problems that hit closest to home and concentrate most of their concern on this one issue.



Faculty column

Bill Henderson

I hope you've noticed that I have not accused one side or the other of this pandering. Both sides do it! I have to admit that more issues are being debated than in previous elections, but the overwhelming majority of the debates are being spent on an issue that, frankly, doesn't occupy a great deal of my concern at this time.

I would much prefer a week's worth of fighting in Iraq be spent on the roads and bridges in this nation (one billion dollars spent on our infrastructure would just about cover Minnesota alone).

My point in this diatribe is to encourage the students, faculty and staff (and hopefully their families) to be sure and keep eyes and ears open and not allow the politics of fear to overwhelm their decision making.

We do need to keep a watchful eye on our security—no mistake about that. I just feel there are other issues out there that we could be spending our time on much more wisely.

Drink lots of water!

Coach Bill Henderson is the head coach of swimming and diving at UWRF and serves as the athletic department's equipment manager. He received his bachelor's degree in Journalism and his master's in Physical Education from Sacramento State in California.

Time changes, generations remain the same

Do you remember that scene in "The Blair Witch Project," that shaky, dark scene where the girl was crying out to anyone who would find that worthless documentary they were working on?

I'm starting to feel a lot like that poor, panicked character, the one portrayed by that poor, talentless actress whom no one ever heard from after opening weekend. Except, instead of being trapped in some Hollywood forest, I'm trapped inside of a school district.

That's right education majors, I have actually made it to my student teaching. I have been immersed in "the real world" for 53 days and counting as you read this. I have been teaching students at the junior and senior high level in a large urban school district nearby, and I have learned plenty about life, liberty and the pursuit of spring break.

Here are a few of the things I have learned about the real world: 5 a.m. is no longer a bed time. Junior high students are just as afraid of you as you are of them. The hallways of the junior high are like war-torn

zones in Kenya, filled with different factions of extremists. Instead of empty grenade shells, it smells like someone emptied seven or eight cans of Axe body spray. And, above all else, these students are not wild animals, they truly are the next generation of world history.

If these students are the next generation of world history, then we are the current.

That brings up the most difficult challenge that has presented itself to me since Jan. 2: this is the time to make history, but I have no idea how to do that.

Instead of thinking about that endless question, "So, where do you see yourself in 10 years?" I'm thinking about where I was 10 years ago.

I distinctly remember that cinematic, life-changing moment back in 1997 when girls were swooning over Leonardo DeCaprio and us boys were experiencing rapid pubescent growth when Kate Winslet bared all in that heart-wrenching, epic drama,

"Titanic."

How about those awkward days in the lunch room—did you hear that Adam and Andrea were holding hands in the hallway!? And how can we forget that post-gym class scent that lingered in the afternoon health class condom lecture.

Girl power rocked KDWB, Seal crooned over the loudspeakers at the school dance with "Kiss From A Rose" and Will Smith got Jiggy Wit It.

Girls were concerned about their butts being too big in their Calvins, and boys wore their pants just below the knee, thus defeating the purpose of underwear. I have news for you;

not too much has changed. I don't mean these schools are still serving ham stackers and fruit cocktail; plenty has changed since 1998: kids are making robots in their free times, girls' butts can't be big enough and underwear is, thankfully, under our clothes again.



Guest column

Mike Pearson

Student administers pre-study abroad advice

By the time you read this I will be in Berlin.

As an international studies major I've put off going abroad about as long as I could. Actually, since I'm graduating in May, this is really as long as I could put it off. I've been busily packing my oversized backpack and dealing with the necessary agencies to ensure that my journey will be as enjoyable, safe and economical as possible.

People often ask me how I am enjoying my last semester of college and my usual response has something to do with going to Europe.

I've been involved in a number of different things while I've been in River Falls, but nothing has started more conversations than my forthcoming trip to Europe. Being that I'm someone who's been in college longer than most of you've had your drivers licenses, I believe that I have somewhat of a duty to share with you some of my experiences leading up to traveling abroad.

The first and most important part of traveling abroad is actually going abroad.

From what I hear, people in Europe are either the nicest people in the world or a continent full of America-hating jerks.

Erring on the side of caution, I will assume that everyone in Europe is much like the Van Trap family from "Sound of Music."

Save yourself the disappointment of missing something you had your heart set on and just see as much as you can...

one chooses to go to.

The second thing I learned about planning my trip to Europe is not making any plans. Most of what can be experienced in any country can be read about in a book or watched for free on television. Books and free television are much cheaper than a trip to another country.

The key is to experience another culture. For a few days I will wander the streets of London looking for things to do. I've read a million guides on London and saw 49 hours worth of travel documentaries about the city. Rather than make any plans to do anything, I'll let my feet

decide where I'll go.

Luckily, I've made a conscious effort to walk a little bit more. A couple months ago my feet would guide me to a bench. While I don't doubt that London has nice benches, I don't think it'd be quite the same experience.

No matter what you have planned or how detailed your plans might be there is no way you will see or do everything you want to while you are gone. Save yourself the disappointment of missing something you had your heart set on and just see as much as you can without making plans. It's almost a guarantee that whatever you see on your trip will be a memorable, lifelong experience.

The most important thing I've been told about a study abroad experience is it is totally unique. I hope to see European history and politics in action while I'm gone. It's been established that I am a nerd for that stuff, so my expectations are probably different from what yours will be.

Go abroad, see the world. The world has a lot to offer if you can just get out of River Falls—the best advice ever.



Joe Eggers

Joe will be graduating this May. He has been involved in several activities on campus, including last year's Student Senate President.

Falcon hurdler ready for nationals, outdoor season

Alayne Hockman
alayne.hockman@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls junior Jessica Reed, a member of the women’s indoor and outdoor track team, has set two school records and looks to continue her success this season.

Reed participates in the hurdles on both the indoor and outdoor women’s track teams, the hurdles. With the indoor team she does the 55-meter hurdles and on the outdoor team she does the 100-meter hurdles. Reed does occasionally take part in relays and the open 200-meter dash, but hurdles have long been her biggest interest.

Reed has been a member of a track and field team ever since she was in junior high school. She explained what made track and field interesting to her at such a young age. She said it was one of the only sports offered for that age group. And she stuck with it.

“I got moved up to varsity as an eighth grader. My coaches were like, ‘Here, this is what you’re going to do.’ Ever since then it’s been my passion,” Reed said.

Another reason Reed enjoys track is how close the Falcon women’s team has become.

Reed discussed what the transition was like for her from high school to Div. III college athletics. She explained that although the “training is more intense and it’s more disciplined,” she didn’t experience much difficulty with it because of the support her fellow teammates offered her.

“Track isn’t like any other sport. We’re more of a family than anything,” Reed said.

Reed has broken two school records in her first three years at UWRF. She currently holds the record for the indoor track 55-meter hurdles with a time of 8.45, which she broke in 2007. She also holds the record for the outdoor track 100-meter hurdles, which she initially broke as a freshman and broke again with a time of 14.75 in 2007.

With a great kickstart to the 2008 indoor season, Reed provisionally qualified for the NCAA Div. III Indoor National Meet with her top finish at the UW-Stout Invitational Jan. 26. Unfortunately, Reed’s provisional qualifying time just missed the cutoff for nationals by fractions of a second.

Reed is currently the conference champion in women’s 55-meter hurdles after taking first place at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference meet March 1.

Reed admits to having had a few difficulties with starts this year in the indoor track events. “I’m making little changes, and sometimes with those little changes you hit rough patches,” Reed said. “Hurdles are so technical; any little change makes a big difference.”

“This year my starts weren’t that good,” Reed said. “In 55, once you get going, you’re done.



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

UWRF junior and Falcon hurdles competitor Jessica Reed is looking forward to the upcoming outdoor track and field season. Reed placed first in the women’s 55-meter hurdles at the WIAC indoor track and field conference meet March 1.

With 100, you have time to catch up.”

As a whole, the Falcon track and field teams have been good this season. Seniors Vicki Cooper and Krista Hasselquist have been doing well in shot put throws and will be going to nationals this year. Becca Jordahl has also qualified for nationals in the 5,000-meter run.

Nick Zeien will also be competing at nationals

in the men’s 800-meter dash, according to the Falcon Athletics Web site.

The outdoor track and field teams will start their season with the Alabama relays the last weekend in March. As the 2008 indoor track and field season winds down, Reed is preparing herself for the outdoor track and field season. She and her teammates have already started

training. Reed is optimistic, eyeing the outdoor team’s potential for success.

“I’m really excited. Our girls team could do very well,” Reed said. “If everyone does as well as we could, our women’s team could win nationals.”

The NCAA Div. III Indoor National Meet will take place Friday and Saturday.

Brewers can hope to continue last year’s trend

I recently took a look at an old column of mine on my lap-top. Normally, this is a haunting occurrence, as I usually see my column where I predicted the Vikings were going to run all over the Green Bay Packers last November. (NOTE: The Packers won 34-0, but now that Favre is gone you have nothing to look forward to.)

However, I saw a column where I had correctly predicted something. The column talked about the Brewers young nucleus and how they were going to develop into contenders soon, after wallowing in mediocrity for 25 years. Well, the Brewers still haven’t made the playoffs since then, but they’re considered by some to be a favorite in the week National League Central division.

Last season the Brewers got off to a red-hot 24-10 start. The Brewers were led by shortstop J.J. Hardy, who suddenly learned how to hit home runs. This was intriguing. Not only did the Brewers play teams that were under .500 teams at home, but they also had a third baseman named Ryan Braun in the minors because he couldn’t play defense. The Brewers started to slowly fade away and would eventually give up the division to the Chicago Cubs. However, there are signs that point to this year as being the year that the Brewers finally get back to the post-season.

The main reason is that the Brewers put Braun in their lineup. Braun was called up in late May by the Brewers after Tony Graffanino and Craig Counsell could not play a solid third base. Braun lit the world on fire the rest of the season as he went out and cranked 34 home runs in just 113 games. Braun is the type of player that teams dream of having. A franchise cornerstone that can hit for power, average (Braun hit .324) and has adequate speed (15 stolen bases). The only problem with Braun is his defense. Braun committed 26 errors last season at third base. The Brewers think they have solved this problem by putting him in left field.

However, when you put someone else in the outfield, someone has to play third. Enter Bill Hall. Hall has the nickname of “Do It All” because of his ability to play anywhere on the field. The Brewers may have over-utilized that last season when they put Hall in center field. Hall struggled as center is one of the most important positions on the field. Hall had trouble judging the ball off the bat and made a couple bad defensive plays because of it. This started to wear on Hall’s mind as he had a falloff offensively. In 2006, Hall hit .275 with 35 home runs and 85 runs batted in. Last season Hall hit .254 with 14 home

runs, 63 runs batted in. Perhaps a return to the infield may spark Hall to the numbers he put up in 2006.

Finally, the main weakness of the 2007 Brewers, the bullpen, was addressed in the off season. The Brewers did lose all-star closer Francisco Cordero to the Cincinnati Reds, but they picked up Eric Gagne, who may benefit from a change in scenery after he failed miserably as a setup pitcher in Boston late last year. The Brewers also picked up several relievers including Guillermo Mota and Solomon Torres. As long as Derrick “Where’s the nearest White Castle?” Turnbow doesn’t blow too many

leads, the bullpen should be better this season. This season’s Brewers team reminds me a lot of the 2002 Minnesota Twins. While this may make some hardcore Wisconsinites puke, consider what happened to the 2001 Minnesota Twins.

The Twins were downright horrible in the 1990s with the exception of 1991 and 1992, and had missed the playoffs the last 10 years before the 2001 season. The Twins soared to a 15-3 start and were the darlings of the national media for most of the season as they held on to the American League Central division before succumbing to the Cleveland Indians. The next year, the Twins won the division by 15 games and went to the ALCS, where they lost to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

To recap, the Brewers started 24-10 last year and held onto their division for most of the season before the Cubs caught them. Could Harvey’s Wallbangers be revisited in 2008? Time will tell, but history is on their side.



Chris Schad

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.

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SPORTS WRAP

Women’s rugby takes to the pitch

The UW-River Falls women’s rugby team will be playing in their first game of the semester Saturday. They will be taking on St. Ben’s at noon at the intramural fields.

This game is also a chance for women who are interested in rugby to come out and see what the game is all about.

For those who have more questions, contact Katie Nelson at katie.nelson@uwrf.edu.

Falcons have a success on the diamond

The Falcons picked up two wins Saturday afternoon at Augsburg College to improve their record to 6-0.

The Falcons won the first game 11-2 and the second 8-1.

In the first game the Falcons scored 11 runs on 14 hits and made no errors. Augsburg’s two runs came off five hits and made no errors.

Ashley Bertrand went the distance on the mound to pickup her third win of the year. She is now 3-0. She allowed five hits and two earned runs. She struck out five and walked one.

In the second game of the double-header, the Falcons scored eight runs on 13 hits and made no errors. Augsburg scored their one run on four hits. They made no errors.

Brittany Rathbun got the win on the mound. She went the distance and allowed one earned run and four hits. She didn’t walk a batter and struck out four. She is now 3-0 this year.

Feller named Player of the Week

Junior and first baseman Keri Feller was named WIAC Player of the Week according to Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

Feller went 10-14 at the plate, bringing her average for the week to .714. She hit four doubles and two three-run home runs. She also had 13 runs batted in.

In plate appearances she did not strike out once.

During the week, perfect on the field with no errors and picking up 21 put outs.

Falcons prepare for Florida tournament

The UW-River Falls women’s softball team is preparing for their annual spring trip to Florida to compete in the Rebel Spring Games.

The Falcons are currently 6-0 and will play 10 games over the course of March 16-21.

The Falcons start the tournament with a double-header Sunday. They will take on Montclair State at 1 p.m. and Bethany at 3 p.m. in Kissimmee.

‘March Madness’ bracket contest returns

The UWRF recreation department is sponsoring a “Men’s College Hoops Bracket” contest via the Yahoo Web site.

The contest is free and open to all students and the winner and runner up will win an intramural T-shirt.

Those who are interested in participating can go to the Yahoo homepage and then click on “sports” followed by “fantasy.”

Once getting to the “fantasy” portion of the page, click on “Join A Group.” Once that happens, the group ID and password will have to be entered. The ID is 37320 and the password is Falcons.

Students are instructed to then register their team using their own name as their bracket name to help identify the winner.

Brackets will have to be filled out by March 20.

If anyone has any further questions they can e-mail Kurran Sagan at intramurals@uwrf.edu.

Indoor track, field prepares for nationals

Seniors Vicki Cooper and Krista Hasselquist have both qualified for nationals in the shot put throw. Becca Jordahl has also qualified for nationals in the 5,000-meter run.

On the men’s side, Nick Zeien will also be competing at nationals in the men’s 800-meter dash.

The national meet will take place Friday and Saturday.

The track and field team will begin their outdoor season with the Alabama Relays the last weekend in March.

Sports Wrap courtesy of UW-River Falls Sports Information

Varsity Sports Calendar

Friday, March 14

Track & Field at NCAA Div. III Indoor National Meet (at Ada, Ohio), 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

Track & Field at NCAA Div. III Indoor National Meet (at Ada, Ohio), 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 16—Tuesday, March 25

Softball vs. Montclair State, 1 p.m (at Rebel Spring Games)
vs. Bethany, 3 p.m. (at Rebel Spring Games)

Thursday, March 27—Sunday, March 30

Outdoor track at University of Alabama Relays

Gabriel brings experience, leadership to Falcon squad



Ben Brewster/Student Voice

Falcon women’s softball head coach Jody Gabriel works on batting with Cassie Peterson during Tuesday afternoons practice. Gabriel is the interim head coach for the Falcons, replacing former head coach Faye Perkins.

Teresa Aviles
teresa.aviles@uwrf.edu

The Falcons’ softball team acquired a new head coach in July to lead them to another anticipated record-breaking season.

Jody Gabriel fittingly took the position of interim head coach from former head coach Faye Perkins. Prior to taking up her new position, Gabriel was the assistant coach for softball and worked with Perkins for five years at UW-River Falls.

This is the first change of the head softball coach in 19 years.

Last season the team finished third at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) and set the record for college softball wins at 32-12, a record they hope to break again this season.

“This year’s team is really strong. We expect to be on top of the conference,” said Gabriel.

Last July, Connie Foster took the position of provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, leaving the position of interim dean of education and professional studies open. Perkins took that opening and left the head coach position vacant for the assistant to take her place.

“I do feel very confident in Jody and that

it will be a smooth transition,” said Perkins. “She knows the players, the conference and the competition levels. She is very well-prepared as head coach.”

The transition of leaders for a team can be difficult for players, especially the senior players, who have become accustomed to the new coaching.

“When Faye decided to take the dean position at the beginning of this season, knowing Jody was still going to be involved with the team was a relief,” Ashley Bertrand, a third-year senior on the team said. “It’s scary to have a new coaching staff.”

Perkins feels great about her new position as dean of education but bad about leaving the team and the department of health and human performance.

“It is a great opportunity for me to become interim dean. The timing is great,” said Perkins. “Everyday at 4 p.m. I look at the clock and want to go to practice. It was a major part of my life.”

Although Perkins mentioned that it is hard to stay away from the team, she said she “tries to maintain a distance so Jody can do her job as the head coach.”

“Jody had some big shoes to fill after Faye left, but there was no doubt that she’d be a perfect fit for the program,”

Brittany Rathbun, who has been with the team and Gabriel for four years and is one of four senior players, said. “She has really done a great job of finding that balance of keeping the tradition of Falcon softball around while bringing in some new things to challenge us. It has been a really nice transition for all of us.”

Gabriel’s softball experience proves she is prepared for the job. Before coming to UWRF she played high school softball at Forest Lake, Minn. from 1990-92. She competed with the Falcons as a student from 1994-96. The 1994 team won the WIAC title. Gabriel coached at the University of Minnesota-St. Mary’s for two years, where the Cardinals were co-MIAC champions in 2001 and placed second in 2002. She has also coached high school and travel levels of softball throughout the Twin Cities, working primarily with infield corners and hitters.

Gabriel graduated from UWRF with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1996 and her M.S.E. in social studies. She is now currently teaching social studies at Hudson High School. She lives in Hudson with her husband Barry and their two children, Sydney—4, and Caden—1.

Wisconsin sports overlooked because of ‘Minnesota bias’

One of the most important things an aspiring journalist learns about the business is to be unbiased. Unfortunately the *Student Voice* is guilty of being slanted. You can’t blame it though. The whole UWRF campus has what I call a “Minnesota bias.”

This paper somewhat reflects the student body, which is comprised mostly of Minnesota sports fans. As a result, the *Student Voice* has focused heavily on Minnesota sports.

Granted, this campus is only forty-five minutes away from the Metrodome, as opposed to the five hours or so from Miller Park.

It doesn’t matter. This is a University of Wisconsin school, and it should focus on Wisconsin, not just nearby Minnesota.

If you are from the southern part of the state, there is so much to look forward to and to be proud of, especially this baseball season. The Milwaukee Brewers are actually contenders this season, looking to lock up their first playoff spot since 1992. They came so close last year, but the Chicago Cubs left a bitter taste in their mouths.

The Brewers have the 2007 National League Rookie of the



Jenny Sippola

Jenny is a 19-year-old journalism major. She is interested in sports and hopes it leads her to her future career.

Year, Ryan Braun, and the 2007 National League home run leader, Prince Fielder, on their side. The additions of Mike Cameron and Eric Gagne boosts the potency of the Brewers’ offense and bullpen, respectively.

Do you know that Milwaukee even has a professional hockey team? I’m guessing not. The Milwaukee Admirals may not be an NHL team, but they won the AHL’s Calder Cup, the equivalent of the Stanley Cup, in the 2003-2004 season. The last time the Minnesota Wild (then called the North Stars) made an appearance in the Stanley Cup finals was 1991.

Not much can be said for the Milwaukee Bucks. They are not even close to being a threat in the Central Division, with a record of 23-40. To put it bluntly, they’re terrible.

But that’s not the point. The point is that the Wisconsin teams should have equal space in the news hole. It’s only fair. It’s only good journalism.

The *Student Voice* will soon be accepting applications for fall 2008, so start thinking about what positions you would like to apply for.

Food science instructor, students create new cheese

Joe Engelhardt
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After two years of planning, UW-River Falls professor Rane May and her students have created a new cheese: Cobblestone Red.

This is a wine-infused cheese that has gotten attention in several publications in the Twin Cities area including the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

May has been at UWRF since 1982 working as a food science instructor as well as the plant manager for Falcon Foods. She has a bachelor's degree in food science from the University of Nebraska as well as a master's degree in food science from the University of Minnesota.

May has been making cheese since 1973 around the world, including Paraguay and China.

May and her family moved to River Falls in 1982 when her husband got a job here in agricultural business. When a professor became ill and couldn't teach, the food science department called May her in for an interview, and she hasn't left since.

She started as the plant manager and later became an instructor for a few food science courses.

It was in the second semester of a dairy manufacturing class that she challenged the students to come up with a new kind of cheese.

After much deliberation, May and her students came up with the idea of a wine-infused cheese.

The idea for this kind of cheese just came out of the blue, May said.

"Wine and cheese parties are big, so why not combine the two," she said.

Cobblestone Red is not like a typical cheese.



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Falcon Foods project manager and food science professor Renee May helped invent a new flavor of cheese. Cobblestone Red is infused with wine to give the cheese flavor and some red coloring. The cheese is considered to be more of a desert cheese.

"It's more like a desert cheese," May said. "You would eat more after dinner instead of with hors d'oeuvres."

According to the Falcon Foods Web site, Cobblestone Red is described as a semi-soft sweet cheese that picks up hints of berries, black cherries and vanilla from the wine.

The food science department has partnered with the Chateau St. Croix, a local winery, to provide all the wine necessary for the product.

"The wine doesn't overpower the cheese, but you can still see and taste the wine," said Josh Burgan, a student who is in his second year working for Falcon Foods.

Now that Cobblestone Red has been made, May is looking into getting it trademarked.

"There are two reasons as to why I am looking into getting it trademarked," May said. "One is so nobody else can copy it, and the second reason is that this creation is something that

River Falls could be known for."

May also said that they are hoping to create a line of flavor-induced cheeses.

"One we're working on is a cheese that would have special herbs and spices from the Wisconsin area."

Cobblestone Red is currently available at Falcon Foods for \$12 per pound which, according to May, is right in line with the current market.

Forensics team prepares for national tournament

Sarah Packingham
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The UW-River Falls forensics team has been working since September to get ready for upcoming competitions and prepare for nationals which will take place in April.

The team is lead by senior and team president Denise Burce and sophomore vice president Emily Pfannes. They are coached by professor Eric Eberhardt, and their advisor is James Pratt.

"The word forensics means to research," Burce said. "People usually think of forensics as a science or something, but it's not."

Pfannes said some of the confusion lies in the difference between Minnesota and Wisconsin. She said generally schools in Minnesota use the term "speech team," while Wisconsin uses "forensics."

Burce said that her team tries to ease the confusion of the two titles by having their official title be the UWRF Speech Team (Forensics).

For a majority of the members of the team, UWRF was not the first time they were part of a forensics team, having been on a team in either junior high or high school.

"My goals were to improve my speaking skills and achieving qualifying for nationals," Pfannes said.

Those involved in the organization will prepare a speech to give from a number of different categories and usually work on it for the entire season. Some of the categories include: prose, impromptu and entertainment.

While members usually work on the same piece all year, the work they begin the season with can be completely different by the season's end. Teammates work together to help hone each other's presentations and make it, hopefully, a national qualifier.

One of the more difficult categories is impromptu. In that category, participating students are given a topic and they have one-and-a-half minutes to prepare a five-and-a-half minute speech.

"We've had a really good

season with really dedicated people," Burce said. "I sort of think of it like track and field. We work on our own pieces and then together we train and improve."

"There is a lot of room for personal and team growth."

So far this year, five different individuals have qualified for nationals.

There are two different national tournaments students can qualify for, the American Forensics Association and the National Forensics Association.

Qualifying for nationals is different depending on what the tournament is. The first criteria, no matter what, is that there has to be enough people competing to consider it a national tournament qualifier.

Some tournaments require a certain score to advance to nationals and others need students to make it to the first round or to finish in first or second place in the competition.

Forensics is not just an organization that people can be involved in.

"Forensics can be taken as a credit course," Burce said. "Some people may be interested in that. It's a one-credit course that can be taken for two semesters."

The team is working to put together a Forensics Festival May 8. The activity will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theater in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Students will be performing some of their more entertaining pieces and if anyone on campus is interested in performing they are invited to do so.

Forensics is not only for students in speech-related majors. The members of the team have a variety of different areas of study.

Those who want more information on the team can e-mail speech.team@uwrf.edu or denise.burce@uwrf.edu or check out one of their practices. Practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:45 p.m. until about 6 p.m. Practices are either in the Black Box or B25 in KFA.

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‘Genuine’ 4th album from Stephen Malkmus and the Jicks

When indie rock heroes Pavement broke up in 1999, fans and critics alike took it to heart. As one of the most prominent acts in the 1990s, the split left people wondering where each member would venture. Mark Ibold dabbled in multiple side projects like Free Kitten, Kim Gordan’s (of Sonic Youth) second band and bartending in New York City. Some, like Bob Nastanovich and Scott Kannberg went to form new bands with moderate success, The Silver Jews and Preston School of Industry, respectively. But it was front man Stephen Malkmus who would continue to pave way for new sounds, new voices and a new sense of self. On their fourth album, *Real Emotional Trash*,



Matt Loosbrock

from “Spanish Castle Magic,” fuzzed-out amps quickly transform into another beast, although Malkmus gets kudos for using a vibraphone where most would prefer the usual guitar format. But that doesn’t mean Malkmus shies from his ax — it’s actually the opposite. Malkmus’ past albums were more eclectic in their instru-

Stephen Malkmus and The Jicks forgo the usual path of indie rock (going nuts with experimentation) and instead focus on what they know best: writing genuine music. On “Dragonfly Pie,” Malkmus feasts on psychedellic rock, fusing the likes of Jimi Hendrix into his guitar. The opening riff takes cue from “Spanish Castle Magic,” fuzzed-out amps quickly transform into another beast, although Malkmus gets kudos for using a vibraphone where most would prefer the usual guitar format. But that doesn’t mean Malkmus shies from his ax — it’s actually the opposite. Malkmus’ past albums were more eclectic in their instru-

mentation, but on “Real Emotional Trash,” he gets lost in an ocean of feedback, allowing his steel strings to talk for him. Good thing too, as most of his words drift into random gibberish. “At the center where they go on weekdays ... It takes hours just to slay that thirst ... At the heels of a daunting pulse rate ... Bad idea for your blistered toes,” Malkmus sings on “Cold Son.” What does it mean? No clue. But the truth is you’ll be stunned by the amount of feeling, not being strapped down by lyrics, and you won’t care. Malkmus is on top of his game along with

the rest of his band, including the magnificent drumming Janet Weiss of the now-disbanded Sleater-Kinney. Need proof? Take a ride with the hypnotizing “Elmo Delmo,” or the power house “Wicked Wanda.” The only song that drags is “We Can’t Help You,” but it’s only three minutes. Easily forgivable, but if nothing else, at least give in the album’s best song of the same name. A 10-minute masterpiece of change, fret work and bliss and you may just have one of the best songs to come out this year. Malkmus may be rid of his emotional trash, but this album is not something to dispose of.

Matt is a senior double majoring in music and creative writing who likes lots of music types, both old and new, especially if it's good.

Students ‘go bananas’ for comedian



Comedian Rob Paravonian entertained students in the Falcon’s Nest Wednesday night. Paravonian began performing while attending the University of Southern California.

Letterdoku

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

Difficulty: Medium 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.uwrvoice.com.

New flick ‘10,000 B.C.’ fails to live up to epic hype



A.J. Hakari

The epic has made something of a comeback in recent years. Thanks to the efforts of “300” and “Apocalypto,” this ambitious genre is undergoing an artistic resurgence, turning up flicks that combine spectacle and storytelling into one glorious package. Then there are movies like “10,000 B.C.” on the other end of the spectrum. To call this film ambitious would mean inferring that it actually had the drive to be something special, which it certainly doesn’t. “10,000 B.C.” is perfectly content with getting by on the bare minimum of thrills, chills and spills, an exhaustingly mediocre movie that, despite not being awful, still never gets around to justifying its own existence. Taking place in, where else, 10,000 B.C., the story focuses on the life of young tribal hunter D’Leh (Steven Strait). Branded the son of a coward after his father fled their little community, D’Leh strives to be accepted by his fellow tribesmen and prove his worthiness as a potential leader. Such a chance arises when a group of marauders ride in and swipe away a handful of tribe members, including his lady love, Evolet (Camilla Belle). With a couple of his tribe’s strongest accompanying him, D’Leh sets out on a quest to track down the kidnappers, a trek that proves to be fraught will all manner of dangers,

ranging from massive mam-moths and saber-toothed tigers to a cult bent on enslaving all those who cross their path. There’s just so little going on in “10,000 B.C.” In terms of scope or thematics, all you can really do is sit back and wonder what the point of it all is. The plot is essentially a vague rendition of “Apocalypto’s” turn of events, which is fair enough; both are chase movies at heart and follow similarly logical progres-sions. But the difference between the two is that Mel Gibson’s masterpiece excelled in storytelling and shook you with its more violent moments, while “10,000 B.C.” plays things waaaaay too safe. You get the feeling that the actors are playing dress-up and flouncing around on left-over sets from the “Flintstones” movie, not concerned in the slightest about bringing to the screen a real slice of prehistoric life. The leads are GQ models coated with a bit of dirt, and everyone’s stuck bellowing their lines in random, mis-matched accents (including the lead villain, whose voice has been digitally lowered to a laughable effect). Even the fake-o special effects serve as laughable distractions from the paper-thin plot. After all of my complaints, you’d think I’d be ready to declare “10,000 B.C.” a cine-matic stinker on the same level as “In the Name of the King.” But in the end, it’s completely bearable, thanks to an admittedly tense moment or two and some lovely eye candy courtesy of the beautiful Belle. Still, if you decide

to see “10,000 B.C.,” don’t be surprised to find yourself wanting a Spartan to come along and show this cheap imitation how to be a true epic.

A.J. is a senior journalism student who has been reviewing movies for almost 10 years. He digs horror movies and documentaries the most.

It is ironic that “10,000 BC” Idawns with the narration “only time can teach us what is truth and what is legend.” The film attempts to capture an essence of pre-civilization, but instead proves that time doesn’t distinguish truth from myth—it only blurs the lines. Director/co-writer Roland Emmerich embraces this his-

torical haziness, adding even more layers as his faux-epic first flirts with absurdity before swan-diving into pre-posterousness. The Yagahl, a receding tribe of snuffleupagus hunters, are preparing for their final hunt when they are savagely enslaved by marauders riding “four-legged demons.” Among the people captured is the blue-eyed child of prophecy, Evolet (Camilla Belle), destined to be the soul-mate of the one who would someday rise up and deliver the tribe to salvation. D’Leh (Steven Strait), a lowly hunter cast down for the cowardice of his father, sets out to rescue his beloved Evolet, becoming the cave-man equivalent of Braveheart and inspiring the once-peace-ful agrarian tribes in the region to rise up and over-throw their oppressors, a pyramid-building empire reminiscent of biblical Egypt. Mr. Emmerich has made a habit of producing action-ori-ented end-of-the-world hero-quests that appeal more to your sense of wow than your sense of how. And even though this latest farce attempts to whisk viewers back to the beginning of all things, “10,000 BC” still retains a desperate terminal charm, one that finds hope just out of reach. This dose of pre-historic apocalyptic adventure, along with a dash of religious allu-sion, does little to mask what boils down to a simple “boy meets girl” story. D’Leh meets Evolet. D’Leh loses Evolet. D’Leh fights to win Evolet back. It’s love in the time of cave-dwellers rooted in the philosophy that the



Ken Weigend

action will ensnare guys while the quest for love will entice girls. This excited tension unfortu-nately grinds to a halt because of the very computer animated cog that should thread even the most wayward elements together. At times the CGI fal-ters from fantastic to phony, shattering the suspension of disbelief while ripping view-ers out of their fantasy and throwing back in their face the fact that they are merely sit-ting in a theater chair. Hiding behind this silk-screen curtain of falsified real-ity is a Frankenstein’s monster of a script. Emmerich and co-writer Harald Kloser borrow ideas-entire scenes, even from their inspiration. Sadly, none of “10,000 BC’s” frantic action can compare to the poetry in motion that was Scrat’s acorn-driven misad-ventures in “Ice Age,” and at least “Quest for Fire” knew enough to not give cavemen speech. “10,000 BC” isn’t a classic, or even a convincing period piece, but it is a pretty cool action-adventure popcorn-flick; the space empty of story and brains is more than filled with heart and adrenaline. This is a coloring book of the-matic elements; while Emmerich is safe following the rules by coloring within the lines, his art will never be masterpiece.

Ken is a junior journalism major with a film studies minor. He has aspirations to write film reviews as a career. His favorite genres are drama and comedy.



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.



Students experience learning, culture through Scotland program

The following is written by English professor Marshall Toman, who is currently teaching in the Wisconsin in Scotland program. Since joining the University in 1988, Toman has coordinated the Ethnic Studies program and chaired the English department. He also taught on the International Traveling Classroom in the spring of 2006.

Opportunities are abundant to make history, literature and culture come alive for UW-River Falls students who travel on such programs as Wisconsin in Scotland (WIS), the International Traveling Classroom (ITS) and other study abroad programs offered at the University.

I am teaching two courses on the WIS program this semester, The Short Story and Arts and Ideas II: The Baroque to the Postmodern, where I often have an opportunity to connect the ideas or people we are studying about to the milieu in which they took their growth.

The result of an attempt to infuse Scottish short stories into the first of these two courses was that my students encountered a tale by James Hogg (1770-1835). Hogg was a bit more interesting to the students because both he and they had the same benefactor, the Duke of Buccleuch. Hogg wrote stories, poetry and an animal science treatise on sheep and their diseases. Many pastoral poets write as if they were shepherds. Hogg, a child in an impoverished rural district of Scotland, actually was one. He was also a genius.

Recognizing his ability, a local landlord opened his library to young James. Self-taught, he went on to write many beloved lyrics, often set to song (students heard a number of his melodic compositions on CD), an epic poem about Mary Queen of Scots and a biography of Walter Scott. The Duke of Buccleuch, one of the wealthy landed nobility of Scotland, appreciating Hogg's patriotism, bestowed a farm upon Hogg in order to allow him a guaranteed income and thus more time to write.

Dalkeith House, the 18th century manor house that WIS uses for instruction and to house its students and faculty, is rented from the current Duke of Buccleuch.

Outlining Napoleon's career for students in the Arts and Ideas course, I mentioned that he was defeated at sea by Admiral Nelson, whose statue at Trafalgar Square in London was bound to be seen by some of the students on their imminent travels during the first (of two) "extended weekend" (no classes or field trips scheduled Thursday through Sunday).

When it came time to mention Napoleon's final defeat at Waterloo, I asked who is credited with this victory. Though,

"Situated within the Dalkeith context, students learn extremely well."

Marshall Toman,
Wisconsin in Scotland professor

of course, our reading materials had mentioned the commander of the forces arraigned against Napoleon, it was the sort

of question that should ordinarily not expect an answer from a typical general education course audience, unless there happens to be, as sometimes, a military enthusiast in it.



Submitted Photo

UW-Stout students Kelsey Dodson-Smith and Katie McCarthy receive a traditional Scottish bagpipe welcome upon their arrival at Dalkeith. UW-River Falls and other UW-System schools participate in the Wisconsin in Scotland program.

Therefore, I had devised, and even hoped for, a wee field trip to the marble hall of Dalkeith House—one doorway away from where we were currently conducting class in front of a roaring fire in the dining hall. In the marble hall, with its beautiful white marble floor and white marble grand staircase covered in impeccably-laid black, green and blue tartan, is a statue of the Duke of Wellington. However, in this group of students, Emily Thell (History and German, UWRF) knew the answer. When I mentioned that she had saved the class a field trip to the hall,

she withdrew the answer. Nonetheless, the consensus was that staying by the fire was preferable.

In J. S. Mills's "Autobiography," also studied for this course, Thomas Carlyle's very persuasive theory of how to be happy is embraced. I asked Liz, who had just enthusiastically visited Edinburgh's portrait gallery, a gorgeous dark red neogothic building with marvelous interior friezes, marble halls, busts and paintings, if she had seen a statue of Carlyle recently. (Upon entering, you see statues or busts of

the Scottish literary triumvirate, Robert Burns, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Walter Scott; if you turn 135 degrees to your right, a large statue of Carlyle occupies that corner). She didn't remember any. But the museums here are free and open to a second or third trip, as museums should be visited.

Mill also mentions his controversies with the "Edinburgh Review," the influential 19th-century opinion journal, still functioning today from near where it had its origins in 1802, 22 Buccleuch Place by the University Edinburgh. Students pass the university

frequently on trips to the capital from Dalkeith.

The concrete experience of place has an important effect on one's intellectual development. Situated within the Dalkeith context students learn extremely well. And it is easy to expand the context in their travels, which so far have included London, Dublin, Cardiff, Bath, Salisbury, Stonehenge, Liverpool (some students at the university today are still interested in The Beatles), Paris, Amsterdam and Barcelona.


Sign-Up for 2008-09 FALL HOUSING


2008-09 Fall Housing Online Sign-Up Process
Go to: sa.uwrf.edu

You will need your Falcon Account username (example: W2500000) and password.

Projected Fall Semester 2008-09:

- Double room rate: \$1542
- Suite/single room rate: \$2052





PHASE ONE:
April 7 - 8 • After 8:00 a.m.
Current UWRF hall resident may reserve a space in his/her present room online. (Exception: Where rooms are no longer available due to wing/floor use changes).

PHASE TWO:
April 10 - 11 • After 8:00 a.m.
A current UWRF hall resident may reserve a different space in his/her **present residence hall** online.

PHASE THREE:
April 14 - 18 • After 8:00 a.m.
A current UWRF hall resident may reserve a space in **any residence hall** online.

PHASE FOUR:
April 28 - May 1 • After 8:00 a.m.
(All UWRF students)
A current UWRF student living off-campus who has completed a housing contract and paid the \$125 housing deposit/processing fee at the Residence Life Office may reserve **any available residence hall space** online. (The South Fork Suites information listed under Phase Three applies).

Note: After May 1, 2008, off-campus students applying for University housing will receive assignment consideration in contract/deposit date order with all new and transfer students.

Residence Life will continue to enforce the Two-Year Residency Requirement at UW-River Falls.

Please review the 2008-2009 Housing Contract and Information Booklet at: sa.uwrf.edu/sa/documents/contract.pdf

THE STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES:

Countdown to LEADERSHIP

Top Ten Reasons to Run for Senate

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

And the Number One Reason to Run for Senate...

1. BE A LEADER!

HOW TO RUN FOR SENATE

Pick up a petition at the Involvement Center Desk in the University Center. Petitions will be available on Friday, March 14th at 8 a.m. and will be due on Friday, March 28th at 4 p.m. President and Vice President candidates are required to collect 100 signatures of currently enrolled students at UW-RF. Students running for Senate seats in the spring election will need to collect 50 signatures. Students may begin to campaign only after the deadline for petitions has passed.

OPPORTUNITIES

There are a variety of positions available for you in your Student Senate. Involvement in Senate is rewarding for you and for the campus. Senators serve as representatives of the UW-RF student body by leading and participating in campus decisions. Senators elected in the spring serve a term of one academic year, beginning April 29th. Get Involved!