SYMPHONIC BAND, PAGE 7

**ALVAREZ, PAGE 8** 



# UNIVERSITY OF WIS

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## Ramer Field's restoration raises student fees



The Student Senate voted to increase student fees for the restoration of Ramer Field March 4. Plans began October 2006 and renovations are expected to be finished in 2012. Students will experience a \$4 increase in student fees.

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On March 4, the UW-River Falls Student Senate voted 19-2 in favor of raising student fees for the renovation of Ramer Field.

Ramer Field was built in 1967, and has been largely untouched since then, according the UWRF athletics Web

The project is estimated to cost \$3.5 million and to be finished in 2012. A \$4 raise in student fees during the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years will pay for the bulk of the cost.

The Kansas City Chiefs, who hold their summer training camp at UWRF, "will be asked for a contribution, but they are not part of the pay package," Athletic Director Rick Bowen

the First National Bank of River Falls have also given some money in support of the project. The exact amount is undis-

The David Smith family and

closed, but it is a "substantial grant," Bowen said.

Planning for the renovation started back in October 2006. "It was at the reception for the 2006 hall of fame inductees when Brian Sanders, who was the major gifts officer at the foundation, and I brought a renovation of Ramer Field up in casual conversation to [Chancellor] Don Betz," Bowen said.

The Ramer Field renovation is not without precedent. The University Center was paid for by student fees, as was the Hunt Arena.

"One of the reasons we have such an outstanding hockey program is because we have our own on-campus arena," Bowen said.

Ramer Field is substandard compared to other UW System facilities.

"They have updated their facilities as time has demanded; [Ramer Field] is without question the worst facility in the conference," Bowen said. "All you have to do is take a tour around the campus [of] the people we are competing against and what they have, and it is a very distinct visual that we have the worst."

Specific changes that will be made include improving the

See Ramer, page 3

## Tension, competition mount between local coffee shops

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the rivalries between great owners like Rockefeller and Carnegie, and great products like Apple versus Microsoft. But nothing has prepared River Falls for the battle of the coffee shops.

Hot Spot Coffee House and Billiards, Kinni Coffee and Lounge and Lighthouse Coffee, now occupy three downtown properties in River Falls, and the competition for business is getting fierce.

The Hot Spot opened at 114 S. Main St. under the ownership of Latashia West and Eric Anderson in September 2007. West began with a vision of a place where patrons could come to relax, read a book and surround themselves with the work of local artists and musicians. The idea soon expanded to include a game room with pool tables, dart boards and a jukebox.

The new business seemed to be growing steadily for the rest of the year until co-owner Anderson suddenly ended his partnership with West in

Anderson maintains that his departure from the business venture was due to disagreements concerning the direction of The Hot Spot. He wanted a different atmosphere and a place that served more organic products.

"Going green is the future, especially

at an 'ag' school," he said.

However, rumors quickly began to surface that Anderson's personal relations with some of the employees at The Hot Spot were the real cause behind the split.

Earlier this month, Anderson opened his rival coffee shop, Kinni Coffee and Lounge, just down the street at 122 S. Main St. with co-owner Jason Coverston. Two former female employees of The Hot Spot are now working for him.

West has felt the tension on the block since that opening.

"It's not so personal with those employees [who left]," she said. "It is more uncomfortable with an ex-partner who moved two doors down, uses the same vendors and is going after the same niche."

West believes that Anderson used her five-year business plan as a model for Kinni Coffee, but she is confident that The Hot Spot will not be affected by the competition.

"It is nothing but, and still is, a passion for me. I felt like I could share that with someone, but that was not the end result," she said.

While Kinni Coffee and Hot Spot may share a history, Anderson is trying to set his business apart from the others by applying for a liquor license. This license would allow him to sell

See Coffee Shops, page 3

## New graduate program awaits approval

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A new graduate program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) will soon be

offered at UW-River Falls.

In February, the program passed initial approval by the UWRF Faculty Senate. It is awaiting final approval from the UW System Board of Regents. The Board of Regents will vote on the new program in April.

"The approval process is complicated," TESOL professor, Vladimir Pavlov said. "The program proposal goes to all the universities in the UW System. They take a look at it and evaluate the proposal to see if the program is in the best interest of the state."

There are other universities in the system that offer certificates in TESOL. The certificate courses are meant for practicing teachers who need to be certified to teach students that use English as a second language.

"A MA in TESOL is a higher level of education than a certification," Pavlov said. "A master's degree gives people the chance for promotion and higher salaries."

The UWRF program will offer both a certificate program and a master's program. The teaching certificate will be 12 credits and the master's program will be 36 credits, according to the program's Web site.

"Students can also use [certificate] credits towards their masters in TESOL," Pavlov said.

Graduate classes will be offered in the afternoon and evening so that practicing teachers can still work towards their certificate or master's degree.

"Acting teachers will have the opportunity to take one or two classes after they're done teaching," Pavlov said. UWRF already has an undergraduate program in TESOL, but wants to expand the program.

"There are between 50 and 60 students in the current

See TESOL, page 3

### Event to raise sexual assualt awareness

Sarah Packingham sarah.packingham@uwrf.edu

Communities around the nation put on an event called "Take Back

community is no exception. The event is usually held early in April as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

the Night" and the UW-River Falls

"It also provides a safe place for people who have been sexually assaulted to share their stories," Laura Adrian, diversity and women's initiative committee codirector said in an e-mail.

The campus event will include live music, free food and the annual Clothesline Project.

"The Clothesline Project is an opportunity for women who have experienced violence in their lives to portray their experiences in their own unique way," Adrian said. "These t-shirts will be hung in a clothesline fashion around campus to help raise awareness ..."

There will be four different speakers at the event including one from Turning Point and one from SART about the medical and emotional

sides to sexual assault. The other two speakers will be students speaking about the issues that are pertinent to college students.

The event begins Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Pete's Creek in the University Center.

When the speakers portion of the evening is concluded, there will be a candlelight vigil.

"Students who have been impacted by sexual assault will have an opportunity to share their experiences or experiences of others,"

See Night, page 3

## Biodiesel made from used vegetable oil may soon power campus vehicles

Derrick Knutson

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Biodiesel made from campus food waste may soon be the fuel of choice for UW-River Falls' diesel fuel-powered vehicles.

Students from UWRF's agricultural engineering department have been working on converting oils from campus food waste into a useable fuel source. They are doing this with the aid of a biodiesel processor.

"This [obtaining the processor] was made possible by a grant from the

UWRF foundation," the department chair of agricultural engineering technology, Dean Olson said.

The agricultural engineering students were highly involved in obtaining the biodiesel processor.

"[The students] helped co-author the proposal that we submitted to the foundation and they [the foundation] decided that we should receive the grant to pursue this project," Olson

The University Center and the agricultural engineering department are working together to make this project

"Right now our main goal is to just get raw used vegetable cooking oil from the [University] Center—they have a collection tank there and we're working on ways to pull that fluid out," UWRF senior agricultural engineering student, Sam Marx said. "We've got a couple different pump ideas with filters on them. The next big step is to transport it over to the shop here [in the agricultural science

The biodiesel produced by UWRF agricultural engineering is not quite ready to be used in University owned equipment, according to Olson, but once it is ready, biodiesel could be useful in a variety of ways.

"The biodiesel processor improves engine life because it increases lubrication," UWRF junior agricultural engineering student, Krawczewski, said.

People concerned about emissions from petroleum-based fuels may lean toward the biological alternative.

"Biodiesel is better for the environment," UWRF junior agricultural engineering student, Cole Hernke,

UWRF is not the only place experimenting with biodiesel. On Nov. 30 San Francisco completed a year long project to convert its array of city vehicles to biodiesel, according to a New York Times article by Carolyn Marshall. Biodiesel burns cleaner and studies have shown that it reduces carbon dioxide emissions, according

See Biodiesel, page 3

#### **VOICE SHORTS**

#### UWRF student crashes automobile into home

Christopher Huston, a UWRF student, crashed his car into a River Falls residence early Wednesday morning, shoving two children's beds against a wall and stopping inches from the children's heads. Neither child was injured. Huston was arrested by River Falls police for drinking and driving, as reported by WCCO.

#### **UWRF hosts Nanoscience Technology program**

Last week, students and instructors in the Chippewa Valley Technical College's Nanoscience Technology program attended a workshop on the UW-River Falls campus led by biology professor Tim Lyden. Last week the students explored the new Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center at UWRF and were involved in hands-on activities about stem cell research. All together there were 11 students with several instructors at the workshop, which is one of the many outreach elements of the new University Center.

#### Golden Dragon Acrobats to perform in KFA

This April Fool's Day at 8 p.m. in the Abbott Concert Hall, located in KFA, the 25 Golden Dragon Acrobats from China, athletes, actors and artists trained since childhood, will perform. The acrobatic feats include using not only their bodies but also props such as plates, bikes, umbrellas and jugs. The show costs \$3 for ages 18 and under and \$5 for the general public. The show is free to UWRF students.

#### Blood Drive presents the chance to save a life

The UWRF Blood Drive is happening April 2-3 in the ball-room on the second floor of the University Center between noon and 6 p.m. each day. Appointments can be scheduled

https://www.membersforlife.org/midamerica/mobilesch/bdc\_s c.php.

The sponsor code for this event is 2453. UWRF has been ranked 2nd in the area for total collected blood units during our drives.

#### Sorority rocks out for a national cause

The sorority Sigma Sigma Sigma is hosting the second annual benefit concert Rockin' for Robbie April 3 at 7 p.m. in the entertainment complex of the University Center. The event will raise money for the Robbie Page Memorial which helps support play therapy in hospitals for children so as to make the "hospital experience" an enjoyable one. Tri-Sig has lined up three bands so far: Gazillion, The Finest Hour and a third yet to be announced. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

#### University to host annual International Bazaar

Students are invited to enjoy an evening filled with culture. Visit the University Center Ballroom April 10 from 5-9 p.m. and experience the UWRF International Bazaar. Enjoy many different types of delicious ethnic foods as well as fascinating cultural entertainment and meet with UWRF international students to learn more about their cultures and home countries. Tickets to the bazaar can be bought in 102 Hagestad Hall, Global Connections, or at the door. The cost for students is \$3 and \$5 for the general public.

#### Wisconsin spring elections to be held Tuesday

The Wisconsin spring elections are going to be held Tuesday. Everyone is encouraged to vote and voter registration will be available at the polls. April 1 is the day Wisconsin Spring elections are held this year.

Offices on the ballot include State Supreme Court, School and County Board, and City or Village offices. There is also a referendum on the ballot relating to the Governors veto power. The polling location for some residents of River Falls was incorrect on some of the notices sent out by the city. Rodli Commons is no longer a polling location, most people who received Rodli as a voting location should go to the University Center to Vote. To find polling locations, visit the Web site, www.uwrf.edu/riverfallsvotes.

#### Voice Shorts compiled by Joe Nourse



#### Tune in to WRFW 88.7 FM

News and information programming

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

SOCK & 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.

with Ben Plunkett

### Student Senate debates funding for diversity awards

Jerry Clark
gerald.clark@uwrf.edu

Funding for the upcoming 2008 Diversity Awards
Banquet was widely debated at Tuesday's Student Senate meeting. Senator Matt Dale opened the discussion.

"[Student Senate] really appreciates that you tried to keep costs down this year," Dale said. "I personally feel that this motion has taken it too far with cost-cutting."

Dale was not alone in his concern that the limited attendance was hindering the effect the ceremony would have on the student body at large. He proposed an amendment to the motion to expand the expected attendance as well as the funding allocated.

"We need to bring this to the masses," Dale said.

Diversity Issues and Womens Initiatives Co-Director, Nikki Shonoiki responded.

ited attendance] was because we couldn't get the [University Center] Ballroom," she said. "It would be a big problem to find a new venue ... [we're under] a time crunch right now."

"The whole reason [we lim-

The Banquet will be held in the Falls Room of the University Center. The amendment was later defeated.

Alternatives were proposed. "Is this something that can be done during Unity in the Community?" said Leadership Development and Programming Board Chair Mike Defenbaugh. "If you're looking to get more people [to attend], could you team up?"

However, his alternatives were met with some debate.

"We want a whole ceremony ... we want a performance ... we want people who really care about these things [to be able to attend]," Shonoiki said.

Three other amendments to the motion were subsequently proposed and defeated. These amendments were primarily concerned with increasing attendance and budget concerns.

"[Awardees] want to be recognized. I think Unity [in the Community] is the best place on campus to be recognized, when the whole University is there," Defenbaugh said.

"This is a big deal [for the award winners]," Shonoiki said. "We ... want to have this on the same level as the

Chancellors Award ... put this [award] in the [University's] hands."

#### Other Senate News

- Diversity Issues and
  Womens Initiatives CoDirector, Laura Adrian reported great success with t-shirt
  decorating Monday. She said
  as of meeting time Tuesday,
  28 t-shirts have been decorated for the "Take Back the
  Night" event. The event will
  be held at the University
  Center from 7-9 p.m.
  Wednesday.
- Shared Governance Director, Tyler Halverson reported that the University Curriculum Committee will meet at 3 p.m. March 28 in Kleinpell Fine Arts 140 to evaluate the proposed military science minor courses.
- Student Affairs and Academic Services Director, Jennifer Biss reported that the Student Survey would be posted on eSIS. A notification e-mail will be sent detailing the availability schedule of the survey.
- Senate President, Derek

Brandt, reported that Student Senate primary elections would be held April 8-9. Senator Dan Mahr later added that the candidate forum would be held in the University Center Ballroom April 7.

- A motion was presented intending to increase student awareness of the significant impact, as well as increase student voter turnout at local elections. Student Senate unanimously passed the motion to fund promotion of the elections to be held April
- The final motion of the night lent Student Senate support of the state legislation to disallow the Wisconsin Governor's partial veto powers. The motion passed by a narrow 10-8 margin.

Agendas and minutes for Senate meetings are available at the Senate Web site. Senate meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center. Students are encouraged to attend and participate.

## Fall conference to feature student work

Stepahnie Daniels

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Students will once again have the opportunity to share their creative and academic work at UW-River Falls' second annual undergraduate and academic conference.

The Sept. 26 conference will be divided into hour-long sessions during which students will have the chance to read or show their pieces-either creative or academic-and discuss them with fellow attendees.

Utah's first poet laureate, David Lee, will end the conference with his keynote address. Fifteen books of Lee's poetry, about everything from pigs to nature, have been published.

"I think that the student body will benefit from seeing his unique perspective and seeing his work," president of the literary club Papercuts and student coordinator of the conference, Cynthia Meyer, said in an e-mail interview.

Additionally, art submissions will be displayed in the library gallery for two weeks before and one week after the conference.

"We already have one submission, which is great, from another UW campus," UWRF English professor and coorganizer of the event, Michelle Parkinson, said.

Undergraduates from any university can submit work on any topic; if preparing something specifically for the conference, the recommended topic is art, nature and the self. "The main purpose [of the conference] is to provide a place for students to present written papers," Parkinson said.

Before the first conference, UWRF abounded with poster display opportunities but offered few forums for students to share and discuss their creative and academic writing in a professional environment, Parkinson said.

The English department and other

sponsors decided to make the conference a yearly event to give more students a chance to showcase their work. "Last year's conference was so enjoy-

able for all of us that we really wanted to do it again," Parkinson said.

Senior Brett Kroska, an English major

with a creative writing emphasis, shared his creative non-fiction essay "About Language and Energy" at last year's conference. "The audience was attentive," Kroska

said. "Which made maintaining eye contact throughout the presentation easier than at some of the previous readings he had attended."

"It made me feel a lot more confident at presenting," Kroska said.

Jennifer Brantley, who teaches creative writing classes at UWRF, arranged for acclaimed writer and journalist Masha Hamilton to be the keynote speaker for the 2007 conference and convinced her to speak at other events around campus.

"The students went to the events informed and ready to engage in meaningful discussions," Brantley said. Hamilton attended all of the readings and offered her critiques and compliments to the students.

"That kind of professionalism, that kind of connection at UW-River Falls is amazing," Brantley said. Some participants also left the event

with a newfound international connection when they contributed books to Hamilton's Kenyan book drive. After doing research for her novel "The Camel Bookmobile," Hamilton was so intrigued by the idea of delivering books to poor villages on the backs of camels that she collected over 2,500 books for the camelpowered book delivery system, according to a March 2008 "Family Circle" profile of Hamilton.

A group of faculty members and students are making final preparations for the 2008 conference.

Student members of Papercuts, one group sponsoring the conference, are giving their input on setup issues and events related to the conference, which they will also likely be staffing.

"I'd say the bulk of the work is actual-

ly done," Parkinson said.
Aside from such small tasks as ordering food and designing the program, the biggest job still facing event organizers is collecting student submissions.

Students who wish to participate in the conference have until April 30, 2008 to send an e-mail project summary, no more than 300 words, to

michelle.parkinson@uwrf.edu. E-mails should be sent with "Nature, Art, Self" in the subject line and include a listing of the student's major, university affiliation and the e-mail address of a faculty member who knows about their work.

#### 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 8

-Nicole M. Strey was cited \$172 for shoplifting.

#### March 9

-Rachel A Mathias was cited \$109 for loud and unnecessary

 -Scott G. Ramberg was cited \$109 for urination and defecation in public.

#### March 11 -Frank W.

-Frank W. Arnold was cited for a probation hold.
-Margeaux H Makey was cited \$172 for disorderly conduct and \$235 revisiting or obstructing an officer.

#### March 11

-Adolphe L. Richardson III was cited \$249 for underage consumption.

### March 15 -Lucas M.

-Lucas M. Hoch was cited \$109 for urination and defecation in public.

#### -Kevin J. Raska was cited for criminal trespass to dwelling.

March 26
-Jeffrey J. Olson was cited \$249 for underage consumption.

## Need a job for next fall?

Apply now for a job at the *Student Voice*. Applications are available for all positions. Pick up an application are available outside 304 North Hall or www.uwrfvoice.com.

## Coffee Shops: Businesses attempt to set themselves apart

from page 1

beer in his establishment. However, if the license is granted, it would not include hard liquor. Instead, he plans to sell micro-beers like Rush River, a locally-brewed beer.

Lighthouse Coffee, located at 208 N. Main St., is also planning menu changes to compete with the other two coffee shops downtown. The owner, Abigail Testa, has also applied for a liquor license that would allow Lighthouse to sell wine to its patrons, but also not as a full bar.

On March 7, Lighthouse Coffee acquired the rights to Elm Street Deli in order to expand their food selection. Testa is hoping that the soups and sandwiches will bring more people to Lighthouse and provide a new lunchtime option. They will also deliver food and drinks to places in town and on campus for patrons who may not want to walk to the far north end of Main Street. Testa is not concerned that she will lose any customers that come into the shop to her delivery service.

"We don't get the traffic because we're not as visible," she said. "But once a person experiences it, they'll do the extra block and a half."

West has no plans to apply for liquor licenses or change the menu at The Hot Spot. Julie Fischer, an employee there, doesn't think selling liquor would be a successful way to beat the competition.

"Once they get it, they [Kinni Coffee and Lighthouse] will have to sell so much food and have a different crowd, and we'll still have our regulars," she said.

Their customers also agreed that they preferred an alcohol-free coffee shop.

"I see a coffee shop as an alternative to the

bar, a place to get away from that scene," student Stacy Dekkers said.

"I guess it's kinda nice if you have a friend that wants beer and a friend who wants coffee," student Laura Shipman said.

Anderson, West and Testa may disagree on the best way to run a coffee shop, but they all agree that the competition between them helps them provide a better product to their customers.

"Coffee shops close to each other create coffee addicts," Testa said. "[They] pursue more of their addiction and more interest in the product."

Lighthouse Coffee, The Hot Spot and Kinni Coffee hope to be able to tell just how well their business plans are affecting customers' cravings this spring when the snow melts and downtown Main Street sees much more pedestrian traffic.

## Ramer: Compus facility will receive improvements, remodeling

from page 1

aesthetics around the field, replacing the lights, adding a new press box and replacing the grass with artificial turf

Currently, Ramer Field is used by only the Falcon football team, River Falls High School football and Falcon track and field.

After the renovation, it could be used by women's soccer, intramurals, club teams and community along with University events.

"One of the selling points to the student body was the opening up of the field to be able to use [it] as an intramural field [because of the turf]," Bowen said.

the turf]," Bowen said.

The renovation is not a quick fix for the football team, but it will improve

the athletic department.

"We're better than what we have," Bowen said. "Great facilities will not guarantee that you will get the best players - bad facilities will guarantee that you won't."

## **Biodiesel:** Engineering department takes part in development of reusable fuel source

from page 1

to the article.

Biodiesel may have its advantages, but it has some disadvantages as well.

"A disadvantage to biodiesel itself is that there is not as much energy content as fossil fuels, so it has reduced efficiency and you're going to get less miles per gallon," Marx said. "Another disadvantage is that under 40 degrees it starts to gel up if it's not blended [with petroleum-based fuel.]"

Cars using biodiesel have been affected by its lack of efficiency in cold weather. Cardiologist Jonathan Sackner-Bernstein drives a diesel powered Volkswagen Jetta that he chose to gas up with biodiesel. His gas line subsequently froze up in cold New York temperatures and caused the engine to stall, according to a Feb. 18, 2007, New York Times article by Juli S. Charkes. The biodiesel that he was using to fuel his car con-

sisted largely of animal fat, and when the fuel is exposed to cold temperatures, it congeals.

Currently, UWRF is not at an economically profitable stage with biodiesel.

"Right now we're just starting and it's a learning experience, so it's not real cost effective for us," a UWRF senior agricultural engineering student, Derek Husmoen, said.

Once the biodiesel produced by UWRF becomes more refined it could prove to be economical. If all goes according to plan, UWRF plans to use the fuel in the campus lawnmowers and the farm equipment on the lab farms, according to Olson.

Research on biodiesel has paid dividends in the form of learning experiences for UWRF students

"It's good to have projects like this," a UWRF senior agricultural engineering student, Ben Heintz, said. "I've been here for four years and I've never done anything like this."

### **TESOL:** Program undergoes proposal process

from page 1

undergraduate program," English department Chair, Laura Zlogar said. "We get lots of students who double major in a foreign language and TESOL."

The program will offer unique opportunities for students. UWRF has an agreement with two South Korean universities that will give students the opportunity to take classes and teach overseas.

The first, Pusan University, has a TESOL graduate program and will allow up to 12 class credits to transfer between universities.

"We have a memorandum with them," Pavlov said. "They have a graduate program for foreign studies and we accept their credits towards our MA in TESOL."

Pusan University and UWRF will also send students between the two schools.

"They can take graduate classes at Pusan and teach in the public schools," Zlogar said. "Then they can come back and the credits they took there will apply to the degree here."

The second South Korean university that UWRF has agreement with is Tamna University. The two universities will offer a joint graduate certificate program in TESOL. The certificate that the student receives will be a joint certificate and be

signed by officials at both Tamna University and UWRF.

"One of our undergraduates who is graduating in May wants to go to Tamna University to teach," Zlogar said.

As part of the agreement, a professor from UWRF will teach a semester at Tamna University.

Other internships will be available that will allow students to teach English in several other countries as well.

"International experience and classroom instruction would be very good for our students," Pavlov said.

The program is awaiting approval by the Board of Regents before being fully advertised to prospective students. It will be advertised both locally and overseas.

"We believe we have about 13-14 students who are interested already," Pavlov said. "And more than half of those are from overseas."

There is a lot of support for the program,

and Pavlov says that he is optimistic that the program will be approved. "It's been approved by a number of

boards already," Pavlov said. "[The board of regents] have no reason to disapprove." If the program is approved, they will accept at least 10 students to the graduate program, Zlogar said. The program is

expected to be offered next fall.

# Night: Event to feature speakers, music, project, food

from page 1

Adrian said.

The Diversity and Women's Initiatives Committee from Student Senate worked to plan this event. The committee is made up of four members and meets weekly.

And those who planned the event did a lot of working getting donations, planning musicians and promoting the event.

Adrian said the event is put on with informing students as their number one priority.

"Students do not realize the frequency and severity of sexual assault and I want students to know that it is important for students who have not been impacted by sexual assault to show their support in ending sexual violence," Adrian said. "The more support we get, the better chance we have of solving the issue."



## CLASSIFIEDS

Student Voice Business Office 410 S. Third Street, 304 North Hall River Falls, WI 54022

Phone: (715) 425-3118 advertising@uwrfvoice.com
To learn more about classified or display ad rates,
contact the business office at (715) 425-3118. You can
also view them online at www.uwrfvoice.com

Employment

#### HAVE A HEART INC.

We currently have positions open in our weekend respite program and our homecare division working with children with disabilities.

If you are reliable and hard-working, please contact Amber for more information. (715) 425-7754

#### Student Voice

The Student Voice is currently accepting applications for the fall 2008 semester.

Editor and assistant editor applications are due April 18. All other positions are open and applications will be due at a later date.

#### Earn \$4,000 to \$5,000 SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS at UWRF Facilities Management

Facilities Management has a number of summer positions on our grounds, housekeeping, paint and repair/maintenance crews. These are full-time jobs from May 19 through August 29. Part-time summer school students will also be considered for some positions. A \$100 bonus will be paid to all student workers who work through Aug. 29 on a full-time basis.

Earn from \$4,000 to \$5,000 this summer.

Starting salary is \$7.50/hr. In addition, those wishing to stay on campus will have dorm rooms available.

Applications are available at the main office (room 102) of the Maintenance and Central Stores building (behind McMillan) between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays, or at our Website: www.uwrf.edu/facilities-management/students

**EDITORIAL** 

## **Promoters to blame** for inactive students

When starting school at UW-River Falls we were told about the University's fantastic education department and that the school had a number of top notch accredited programs.

Although our educational programs are exceptional, the University has more than just classes to offer. Sometimes students don't realize that.

Go out and learn about this University. Tag along on a campus tour or just do some exploring on your own. You would learn about the University, and it's not like you have to worry about getting lost. It would be a great way to spend part of an all too typical "boring River Falls weekend."

Take for example the basement in Karges Center. There is a pool, dance studio, aerobics room and even racquetball courts. Unless you have a class that uses those facilities, odds are you don't even know they exist. Those types of facilities are there for your benefit, but most students don't even know it.

There are also many services offered to UWRF students. They range from the academic Student Services who can tell you anything and everything you need to know about looking for and starting your career after college to being able to rent a digital camera for free from the University Center information desk. Did you know that you can also borrow a gorilla suit from there, too? Or what about being able to check out professional video recording equipment from TV Services in Kleinpell Fine Arts?

But while students have always been able to go in search of entertainment, perhaps the biggest problem is a lack of advertising. A majority of events on this campus don't get advertised very well. For example, there's a Spring Formal coming up and we've hardly heard anything about it.

Students may have to complete a scavenger hunt to look for fliers or any type of event advertising, there really is always something going on, and we believe that most students here want to have something to do.

Commercial advertisers know the trick to selling their product: put their message in front of the audience as frequently as possible. Students shouldn't have to spend time to search out what makes this campus great. It should be provided to them on a daily basis—on the way to class, meals and their dorms—anywhere students have to be all the time.

The more we learn about this campus and enjoy it the more we would be able to take pride in this university. Perhaps campus wouldn't become a ghost town on the weekends if everyone actually knew

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

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

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NEWSPAPER

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The Student Voice is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Thursdays during the reg-

ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Better college life, vote for Shonoiki

April 1 marks Wisconsin's Spring Elections. Nikki Shonoiki, a student here at UWRF, is running for County Supervisor in Districts 8 and 9 (which includes the campus and all of the residence halls).

She has dedicated her college life to standing up for others and working to make all of our lives better as a member of the Diversity Awareness Committee, Black Student Union and Student Senate.

I, for one, think that it is a great idea to have a student representing our district on the county level where she can help make several decisions that affect our everyday lives in River Falls.

If you agree with me you should vote for her on April 1 downstairs in the University Center. If you have lived in the dorms for ten days before the day of the election and are a US citizen you are qualified

#### **Thomas Friant** student

#### **Pro-Life Wisconsin** ad sparks irritation

Can we get a break (make that a "spring break") from uncontrolled, irresponsible, immature behavior that increases the risks of unwanted pregnancies and abortions?

In a media-salacious example of the national debate. Pro-Life Wisconsin's (PLW) Spring Break campus advertising campaign Emergency Contraception (EC-Plan B) seems Bacchanalian in its misinformation as the sexual misbehaviors it opposes.

The campaign arguably

could increase unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

Pro-Life Wisconsin's campus newspaper ads state: "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!"

Good points —everyone agrees that responsible sexual choices are safer, healthier, more respectful and less likely to result in life-changing negative consequences.

But the PLW ad goes on to state that "emergency contraception is a powerful, high dose of steroids that tricks a woman's body into thinking it is pregnant" and can cause "chemical abortions and deadly blood clots."

PLW crammed as many misleading and unsupported claims into one short statement as it possibly could, but the main and most clearly refutable points are often heard and too often echoed across the country: "chemical abortions" and "blood clots."

The latest World Health Organization information is explicit that EC works by preventing ovulation and fertilization.

There is no evidence that EC prevents implantation, and there is substantial evidence that Plan B's rate of not preventing implantation of a fertilized egg fully explains the pregnancies that occur after the pills have been taken.

In other words, the primary argument that opponents of EC make (we should not risk the destruction of a single fertilized egg) is scientifically, theoretically and statistically head-of-a-pin microscopic.

Weighed against the larger risks of an unwanted, untimely or risky pregnancy or perhaps an abortion at a later stage of a real pregnancy, the microscopic objection should vanish completely. Since, unlike many forms of

hormonal birth control, Plan B does not contain estrogen, PLW's warning about "blood clots" seems to be based on their own beliefs and little

Again, weighing the risks of a real pregnancy against the theoretical, this argument should also disappear com-

What will not disappear, and what is impossible to ignore in this debate about possibilities, is the question of why an organization opposed to abortions would discourage women at risk of unwanted pregnancy from acting to prevent those pregnancies?

Why is an organization repulsed at the idea of risking a single fertilized egg acting in a way that puts women (including those who will subsequently abort an unwanted pregnancy) at a greater risk of pregnancy?

To a rational person seeking reduce abortions, an unproven possibility of the presence of a fertilized egg and a theoretical possibility of preventing a potential implantation on the uterine wall is simply not morally or ethically equivalent to an unwanted pregnancy.

The imbalance is dramatically and clearly shown when the woman at risk is likely to have an abortion if she becomes

Spring break is a good time for anti-abortion advocates and supporters of accurate safe-sex education alike to call for sexual responsibility and restraint.

Perhaps we can agree to exercise responsibility and restraint in our advertising

Opponents of abortion, like Pro-Life Wisconsin, could demonstrate that they will not risk increasing the number of

abortions to quench an insatiable desire for public atten-

> Lon Newman, **Family Planning Health** Services, Inc. **Executive Director**

### Justice represents public interest

I encourage everyone to look at Justice Butler for the Wisconsin Supreme Court this Tuesday, April 1, 2008. Justice Butler has a history

of upholding the law in the state of Wisconsin. He represents what is in the

best interests of the public, not special interests. Corporate interests should not dominate the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I encourage everyone to vote

for Justice Butler so that our public interests can continue to be upheld.

Student

#### Student encourages election support

I had the opportunity to interview Justice Butler on the radio show "Wisconsin and World Issues" on WRFW.

In the interview, Justice Butler exemplified the qualities, knowledge and legal background that will make a superb Supreme Court Justice.

The interview can be heard at uwrf.edu/wrfw/news.htm by clicking on Wisconsin and World Issues and the Justice Butler interview.

I support and encourage all Wisconsin residents to support Justice Louis Butler in the April 1 election to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

> **Ben Plunkett** Student

## Super-delegates may make the final decision

America is a nation built on demo-cratic principles. Every citizen has a vote and right to cast that vote. Regardless of political affiliations,

almost every political party in the United States believes in that basic principle.

The Democrats believed that only individuals with a lot of influence would know what is in the best interest of the party. As a failsafe, the Democrats insti-

tuted super-delegates: high ranking members of the party who will cast important votes for candidates. In Wisconsin, Governor Doyle, Senators Feingold and Kohl and the heads of the Wisconsin Democratic Party all hold one of these super-delegate votes. The Democratic Party has told its vot-

ers that their vote is desired, but not

important. I doubt when the mighty heads of the party got together to initiate this plan did they think it would ever matter. Joe

Senator Hilary Clinton Eggers and Senator Barack Obama are locked in a stalemate for nomination.

Currently, Obama holds the lead in the delegate

count by a slim margin. However, Clinton holds the majority of super-delegates. This means there is a potential for Obama to have a majority of delegates and still lose the nomination to Clinton.

Who is the real loser in this equation? The obvious answer is Senator Obama. His charisma and charm have gotten him far in this political season. More importantly, the lesser losers are the voters.

Despite casting their votes for a candidate of their choice, voters will be left disenfranchised. Many of Obama's most fervent supporters are young, college age students, many of whom are voting for the first time in this election.

The Democrats, which has based themselves as the party of the people, needs to listen to the people. Telling voters their vote was nice but not necessary will not only create a weaker candidate but create a weaker party in the future.

Joe is a political science and international studies major who was involved with several campus activities.

## Easter holiday misplaced within modern American culture

'm saying it so it's official: Easter is the lamest holiday of the Lyear. Though an important and worthy occasion to celebrate for its messianic properties, Easter as an American, commercialized holiday is generally sucky and lacking in originality.

It's like an awkward combination of Halloween and Christmas: for the kids, a thrilling morning filled with greed and impatience, the mystical resurrection of a well-known bearded messiah, and pant-loads of candy, however unsavory (I'm looking at you, Marshmallow Peeps). But ultimately, the American holiday industry has failed in its sacred duty to transform the Easter celebration into the massive spending extravaganza it deserves to be.

We've invented this half-hearted, lazy Easter Bunny mascot that struggles to invent its own traditions. This magical woodland critter breaks into our homes, steals Santa's stocking stuffer ideas and puts the same damn candy (but now pastel-special!) in a wicker basket filled with green clumps of cellophane armpit hair.

Come up with something original! The Easter Bunny's only attempt at this has resulted in the invention of the black jelly bean—truly a blight upon the holiday. Furthermore, the rest of the jelly beans are nearly as gross, especially after tumbling around a dusty old basket of neon Oompa Loompa pubes. I'm sorry, but that stuff just does not look like grass to me.

With Christmas, kids receive a veritable cornucopia of demographic information on their holiday hero Santa. We know

Joe

Hager

The impoverished,

ignorant, blatantly

racist, grammatically

incorrect,

homophobic, obese

people were

constantly in my

face with their

**Burger King and** 

sleazy pick-up lines.

where he lives, his approximate height and weight, his general appearance, his favorite outfit, his preferred method of gift delivery as well as his romantic entanglements (Mrs. Clause is still workin' it).

Meanwhile, the Easter Bunny is a reclusive figure shrouded in mystery—an anthropomorphic freak of nature that children are supposed

What does he even look like? Some imagine him as an oddly generous, regularly-sized rab-

bit that simply possesses magical powers. Others imagine the Easter Bunny as a man-sized, doll-like hare that can be cuddled and conversed with, however creepy that image may be to sane adults. And how does he delivery so many goodies to children across the world? Santa owns a sweet bottomless bag that fixes this problem, but it's doubtful the Easter Bunny has a similar

With so much confusion about the holiday of Easter, how are children supposed to grow up to be well-adjusted, free-spending American consumers? Thus far, capitalism has failed to fully whore out this holiday.

With a struggling economy and a recession right around the corner, it's more important now than ever before that we extract from consumers the maximum amount of money per holiday.

This means amping up the Easter Bunny's charm; make him the Brad Pitt of holiday mascots. Make him irresistibly cute, seemingly real, consistently characterized and WAY more generous. We absolutely need the Easter Bunny to be the most generous character ever. So what if an HDTV won't fit in an Easter basket? You consumers should still buy a few for your kids, right?

If American industry and its broad following of greedy consumers can change Easter into a time to spend money, perhaps this vague and routinely disappointing holiday can finally reinvent itself as the glorious spending orgy it needs to be. So next Easter, you can all expect my wish list. Please, feel free to spend no more than \$500, because that sounds fair, right?

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

## Greyhound reflects reality of America

When America's people cannot afford flights and are a step above vagabonds, Greyhound bus is at your service. For those who have never taken a Greyhound bus, this is your warning.

A last-minute ticket to Boulder, Colorado cost me only \$110 compared to the \$250 for a flight. The ride took me 22.5 hours to get to Denver and the value of the ride was far from being worth the \$110.

My spring break consisted of five amazing days in Boulder and two days on a crowded, dysfunctional bus.

Every time I have taken a trip on this bus system, unusual incidents have occurred, which I soon realized were not so unusual, since these incidents continued. For instance, my bus from Des Moines to Omaha was overbooked.

Apparently there is no regulation against this and it happens frequently

in this service. The driver gave me an ultimatum: stand for two hours or don't go to Omaha.

Fortunately, I convinced some fellow riders to take shifts for sitting and standing time.

On my way home to Minneapolis, my bus was delayed two and a half hours because of a flat tire in the middle of Nowhere,

South Dakota. This led to several upset paying customers missing transfer buses and so forth.

The staff members in Sioux Falls were less than sympathetic. Instead of apologies or compensations, we

were bombarded with verbally aggressive behavior from rude employees.

The Greyhound bus service was not what I had expected. The business proved to be unreliable, disreputable and truly disconcerting. Even the seats were uncomfortable for attempts at slumber on overnight rides.

Teresa

Aviles

With all prejudices aside, the people of the packed buses were anything but intelligent conversation, which is what I sought out for my

several-hours-long company.

The impoverished, ignorant, blatantly racist, grammatically incorrect, homophobic, obese people were constantly in my face with their Burger King and sleazy pick-up lines.

It left an empty feeling inside me to realize that these are "normal Americans." These people and their lifestyles are America.

To be in such a negative environ-

ment for hours was difficult for me; I cannot imagine actually living a life of hostility and unhealthy relationships.

Sometimes I felt like a mediator

for the strangers who verbally attacked each other.Don't these people know that we are civilized and do not treat one another with such disrespect?

One large man kicked a gay kid out of his seat so he could sit down. The kid was petrified and instantly stood up without a clue of

how to react to the derogatory names he was being called and the horrendous treatment he had just endured.

I felt compelled to butt in, which I believe was for the best. He later bought me dinner.

Mothers left their children unattended to cause a ruckus on the giant moving vehicle. I soon learned their names and shared my treats with them.

Thanks to these people, I felt fortunate to have stepped into their lives for only hours to affect them in any way. And they, me.

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

## **Old Disney World magic** flakes off like fairy dust

Frolicking around sunny Orlando, Fla. over spring break brought back childhood memories of going to Disney World and having my picture taken with Snow White and Goofy.

Those were the days when Disney World wasn't just an amusement park cheese fest, but a place where it seemed that all your dreams would

come true. Disney's motto "Where dreams come true," proves that they know just how to market themselves to kids.

I didn't actually go to Disney World during this last

trip; it really doesn't mean much to me anymore. It's just an overpriced, fakey cartoon park.

It's easy to look at this national landmark with disgust as you get older, to forget the good times spent there and how much it meant to you when you were little. It is a place that represents a stage of innocence and wonder in our lives, a time when meeting our favorite Disney characters was the most important obligation and an ice cream cone could cure all of our problems.

It only took a day in Orlando for me to realize that it is a tourist trap that can only truly be enjoyed by young children. Looking back at previous trips as a child, it had seemed like such a magical place; now that I'm older and have to pay for the amusement parks myself, it seems like a Mecca of pricey amusement parks swarming with tourists.

Orlando, itself, is just like Disney

World in the way

that it is amazing

nature. No ocean.

when you're naive and don't have to foot the bill, but Natalie once the magic Conrad wears off, it is revealed as an unreasonably expensive wasteland. No

No scenic trails. No natural beauty. Just miles of overpopulated tourist destinations.

As much as Disney World has lost its charm for me, I don't condemn it. For children, it really is a place "where dreams come true." And if kids can go there and feel that happy, at least for a couple hours, then that's all right with me. Just don't expect me to go there again anytime soon.

who eniovs running, reading, plaving lacrosse. intramurals, and of course, writing. She also DJs for WRFW on Tuesday from 6-8 p.m

Natalie is a freshman with sophomore standing

### STUDENT. voices

### "Do you think all vehicles should be insured?"

#### Michelle Koepke, senior

"I think it's a good idea, especially in a weak economy, because it's easier for people to make smaller monthly payments than to buy a whole new car."



### Kyle Brager,

"Yes they should, even though all of the services can get confusing."

#### **Allison West,** junior

"I think car insurance is definitely a must. It's easier to pay a deductable on an accident than it is to pay the entire amount."



#### Joe Maslow, junior

"Liability should be mandatory for everybody, so if you run into somebody your insurance pays for your mistake.'

#### Peter Wetzel, sophomore

"I agree with the law that you should have liability insurance."



## Auto insurance confirms safety, reliability

Every automobile has its own history in a similar way that every individual has his or her own history. A responsible automobile's owner should treat and handle it well to prolong mechanical life and should hope that everyone else would do the same.

My first car was a slightly used 2001 Chrysler Sebring and my life savings went into purchasing it. At first I hated the burgundy car; it looked like an old person's vehicle...but I definitely prided the car on its quick acceleration.

The first day I had it I spent in a ditch after fish-tailing down a gravel road. The Sebring's plastic grill was bent out of shape and the front license plate was ripped off and left behind, so I needed new ones.

And since the first adventure with my new car wasn't so lucky, I settled on some plates that then advertised the car as "J1NXED."

Three months later I broke up with my boyfriend by driving up to his house and putting a note on his car telling him I was finished with him.

He apparently didn't like that I had made up my mind and he desperately wanted to talk to me. So he hopped into his car and drove like a mad man through the back roads in an angry fit looking for me.

Once he found me attempting to drive past him, he pulled his e-brake and swung his car perpendicular to mine, blocking the road

What the brilliant soul didn't realize was that he (1) blocked the road (2) on a bridge (3) in front of my 55-mph traveling vehicle. I had no time to stop and nowhere to go (guardrails blocked my escape rout); our cars collided.

J1NXED was a mere \$2,000 away from being totaled and my idiotic ex didn't have any car insurance to cover the lack of his intelligence. So, my auto insurance company sued him.

Through the years I grew to love my car more and more. I could always depend on her to take me where I wanted to go including a spontaneous post spring break trip to North Carolina my freshman year. The adventures I had behind that wheel were unforgettable.

Two days before last Christmas was the final time I was able to drive my car. The roads were bad and I was driving slower than your grandmother who can't see over the steering wheel—15 miles per

A pick-up truck entered my lane at a speed too fast for typical winter Wisconsin blizzard conditions.

The drunken fool behind his wheel gave me a head-on-collision to add to my list of "stupid accidents I didn't cause." But it was the last accident I would ever be in with J1NXED; she was totaled, gone.

On Christmas Eve I was stranded without a car. I was sad-why should I be punished for something I didn't cause? Luckily, my auto insurance was there for me again.

My crumpled car bore a toothless grin, bent frame and a smashed windshield while leaking a mix of fluids. But it was covered under the kind of insurance that takes care of irresponsible individuals that don't think auto insurance is impor-

My auto insurance paid for what my 2001 Chrysler Sebring was worth, including the new tire that was put on it in August and the \$400 worth of maintenance that was done in November. If I hadn't had auto insurance, all that money would have been stolen from my pocket and I would be a much poorer

college student than I already am.

Insurance is something that I depend on. It's easier to budget for x amount of dollars a year than lose and pay over \$23,700 as a result of one accident.

Six minutes on the phone with my auto insurance representative told me what the cost of auto insurance derives from. Mainly, it's the year and make of the automobile.

> individual car's VIN# tells auto insurance companies what kind of bells

Abby

and whistles are Maliszewski equipped in the vehicle. You'll pay more for a large-rimmed two-door with dual exhaust, a sun roof and leather interior

A quick look at each

than a four door with cloth seats. Cars with more safety features insure at lower rates while sportier models drive us the

A person's credit score also goes into play with the amount of insurance he or she will have to pay. And of course, an individual's driving record counts; accidents, DWIs and operating while suspended require larger bills while minor speeding and seatbelt tickets may only cost you a night out.

Although I would love to be zipping around in a sporty car with all the toys included, I'll gladly deal with my little four-cylinder engine with plastic rims to save some cash. And just in case someone else rams into me for whatever reason, I'll be safe in my fully-airbagloaded car with my fully-loaded auto insurance.

Abby is a marketing communications major and journalism minor. She enjoys long drives on the streets and getting caught in the rain. Recently, she's taken a liking to driving down Grand Avenue and dining in restaurants lining Lake Street.

Student Voices compiled by Ben Brewster.

## Senior pitcher overcomes injury, returns to mound



Sarah Schneider/Student Voice

Senior Ashley Bertrand has rebounded from a traumatic face injury to lead her team in strike outs.

Alayne Hockman

Senior softball starting pitcher Ashley Bertrand has earned several honors throughout her college career. She has also made an extraordinary comeback since being hit in the face by a line drive

Bertrand's injury caused nine fractures to her face. She was unsure whether or not she would play the game her senior year. After a conversation with her father in which he told her the decision was hers to make, Bertrand had much to think about.

Summer softball came and went, and Bertrand was still hesitant about returning to the game. She finally decided that she just couldn't give it up, so she went back to the field in the fall 2007 season.

first," Bertrand said. "We usually practice batting in cages and now I just practice with a screen in front of me."

"[Playing again] was really scary at

Despite her hesitation, Bertrand had rebounded since her accident, doing very

vell this season

"I'm 7-1 right now," she said. "Last year at the end of the season I set the record for strikeouts. After eight games, I already have 88 strikeouts."

In addition to her strikeout record, Bertrand has only given up one home run so far this season.

The Falcon softball team as a whole has been doing exceptionally well this season, with a current record of 13-1. Their one loss was to Mont Claire, whose team is nationally ranked.

Bertrand looks to the upcoming WIAC conference May 2-3.

"Considering all the talent on the team, I think we can do really well," Bertrand said. "We've only lost one game and really care about the season. If we continue working hard, I think we can do really well."

In her college career, Bertrand was named an All-American in 2007 and an All-Regional player in 2006. She has also been named the WIAC Pitcher of the Week multiple times. She has received the Inspirational/Spirit Award from her team

two years in a row.

In addition to her success as a softball player, Bertrand applies herself academically as an accounting major and math business minor. The softball team has a goal of maintaining a GPA of 3.25 or higher. The idea that the players are students first and athletes second is important to the team as a whole. Bertrand has made the Dean's List twice.

Bertrand has always had a passion for pitching. She began playing at the age of 11 and began pitching at 12.

"We control the tempo of the game," Bertrand said of the role of pitchers. "I can set the momentum of the game; if I'm pitching well, it will help the team to play well."

The team will continue their season at the Augustana tournament March 29-30, against Augustana and Millikin.

#### Bertrand's Resume

All-American in 2007 All-Regional Player in 2006 WIAC Pitcher of the Week multiple times Inspirational Spirit Award

## Falcon women's softball team on fire in Florida

Kimberly Kuhens kimberly.kuhens@uwrf.edu

While people in the Midwest were shoveling snow over spring break, the UW-River Falls softball team was racking up the W's at the Rebel Spring Games in Kissimmee, Fla. The Falcons opened their trip with a 9-5 loss to Montclair State, but then stepped it up and won the next seven consecutive games.

The 2-0, 10 inning shutout victory over Rowan University was a highlight for the Falcons at the games. UWRF scored two runs on four hits with only one error while Rowan University was unable to record any runs but managed three hits and made one error. Emily Howlett's double in the top of the tenth gave UWRF the 1-0 lead as Mindy Rudiger, who was placed on second due to the international tiebreaker rule, scored the first run of the game. Howlett later scored UWRF's second run on a Rowan error. Ashley Bertrand went the distance in this game as she pitched a complete game and only allowed three hits. With the win, the righthander from St. Paul, Minn. improved to 5-1 on the season.

The Falcons are currently ranked No. 14 in the country among Division III schools and own a season record of 13-1. Jessica Lundgren leads the team with her batting average of .550 and there are three players behind her who are hitting .400 or better this season. Howlett has already amassed 27 RBIs on the year and Keri Feller is close behind with 22.

"When we are at the top of our game we can compete with any team," Head Coach Jody Gabriel said. "The WIAC is a very tough conference right now; we had four teams with more than 30 wins last year and three teams made it

to post season play. The teams out there that will challenge us the most this season will likely be our own conference opponents."

Gabriel also said that the 2008 Falcons set a team goal of 35 wins this season and hope to make it to post season competition. Having three returning All-Conference players, plus 15 other equally talented players, this goal could easily become a reality.

The Falcons will host UW-Superior April 9 as well as eighth-ranked UW-Eau Claire April 23 at the UWRF softball diamond.

## Intramurals spring into action

Joe Engelhardt joseph.engelhardt@uwrf.edu

Now that students are back on campus after spring break it's time for intramurals to make a play. For this spring there are only two sports available for students to participate in.

There are men's, women's and co-ed softball leagues as well as men's and co-ed dodgeball leagues

According to Kurran Sagan, the recreational leadership coordinator, dodgeball is still a new league, having only been created a couple of years ago.

Both of these leagues start up at the end of March and cost \$10 to play. This cost refers to the whole team.

For teams to get involved in the leagues they must have a captain go to the captain's meeting Thursday, March 27 in the University Center.

Not as many people are interested in spring intramurals as in the fall.

"In the fall, we had around 2,900 participants and in the spring, we anticipate to have around 2,500 participants," Sagan said.

"Usually about 35 percent of those are returning from the previous semester."

The dropoff has to do with the limited number of leagues offered during the spring as compared to the fall.

"In the fall we have basketball, volleyball and

broomball, there is more for students to participate in," Sagan said.

Typically, there are only one or two leagues playing at a time to make sure that students can participate in as many sports as they choose. Sagan also said that scheduling is a concern.

"We want to make sure we offer some outdoor activities, such as softball, so it just makes sense to space out the activities," Sagan said.

For those students who don't wish to join a league, there are one and two day tournaments available in April and May. These tournaments include floor hockey, badminton, volleyball and softball.

Some of these tournaments are free of charge for all students. The two tournaments that cost \$10 are finals fest softball and floor hockey. The cost is due to the number of members participating as well as the length of the events.

The events are held in four areas around campus.

"We have events in Knowles, Karges, Hunt Arena and the intramural fields," Sagan said. The \$10 charge for intramurals is changing next year.

"We are looking into raising our prices next year to \$20 to cover labor cost," Sagan said. "But even at \$20, UWRF will still have one of the lowest prices for intramural sports in the UW-System."

The softball and dodgeball leagues begin their games March 31.

## Twists, turns shake up b-ball world as 'March Madness' sprints onward

With two rounds in the books and the first games of the Sweet Sixteen looming later on today, the NCAA tournament has been expectedly unexpected with its predictably unpredictable twists and turns.

March 20 was relatively calm with only one "minor" upset when super freshman Michael Beasley and his eleven-seeded Kansas State Wildcats surprised the six-seed USC Trojans. March 21 was defined by the more typical craziness that makes the madness this time of year particularly exciting.

Twelfth seeded Villanova dropped Clemson, and twelfth seeded Western Kentucky stunned Drake with a buzzer-beating three point shot. The 13 seeds of Siena and San Diego also stunned its opponents, Vanderbilt and Connecticut respectively. More shocking is the fact that all of these improbable upsets took place in the Tampa, Fla. regional, one after another, all day long. When the smoke cleared six of the sixteen lower seeds in action last Friday advanced to the weekend.

The weekend was not short on drama either as seven-seed West Virginia sent the second-seeded Duke Blue Devils packing and the tenth-seeded Davidson came back from a 17-

point deficit to defeat the second-seeded Georgetown Hoyas behind sophomore Stephen Curry's 30-point performance.

The result of all this madness is thousands upon thousands of angry bracket managers with busted brackets and a group of "Cinderella" teams matched up against the elite division I basketball programs on the national stage March 27 and March 28.

Western Kentucky matches up against oneseed UCLA at 8:40 Thursday, and Friday Davidson matches up against Wisconsin at 6:10 and Villanova takes on Kansas at 8:40.

These match ups create the potential for classic David versus Goliath glory. Davidson, Villanova and Western Kentucky all have the potential to be a 2008 version of 2006 George Mason, but also the possibility of a 2006 Wichita State. George Mason upset teams all the way to the final four in 2006 whereas Wichita State made a miraculous Sweet Sixteen run before losing to George Mason.

Whether the upsets continue or if powerhouses like Wisconsin, Kansas, and UCLA prevail, there has already been plenty of madness to go around.

Information compiled by Caleb Stevens

## Despite losing Santana, Twins season looks bright

In 2001, the Minnesota Twins came off another losing season. The Twins were an afterthought in not only the baseball world, but their own state.

The Twins averaged about 9,000 fans a game and showed little promise of improving. The Twins' marketing staff had to do something to get fans to the games, so they launched a marketing campaign called "Get To Know 'Em." The campaign focused on learning who was on this team and who these guys were off the field.

In 2008, the Twins marketing genius may want to dust off that campaign. The Twins lost pitcher Johan Santana and outfielder Torii Hunter, which may cause issues among fans.

However, where there are negatives with the 2008 Twins, there are plenty of positives. The Twins pitching rotation has a very high ceiling. Scott Baker has

stepped up as the leader of the pitching staff so far in spring training and Kevin Slowey has also pitched very well.

Aside from the pitchers that will make the rotation, the Twins will have good options in the minor leagues if a pitcher fails to perform.

The Twins will also have Francisco Liriano, who was lights out in 2006 until he was sidelined by Tommy John surgery.

Chris

Schad

The Twins sent Matt Garza and Jason Bartlett to the Tampa Bay Rays for Delmon Young. Young was

> . labeled as a malcontent during his time in Tampa, but he's also been labeled as a young Frank Robinson.

Young should improve the Twins offense and provide a strong middle of the order. Another positive

is the addition of centerfielder Carlos Gomez. Gomez could probably outrace Dale Earnhardt Jr's car at Daytona ... on foot.

Gomez is expected to add speed to the top of the order, which will hopefully make the pitcher concentrate on first rather than the plate.
This would mean more fastballs
thrown to Joe Mauer, Justin
Morneau, Michael Cuddyer and
Young

The lineup also includes a rebuilt infield with Mike Lamb, Adam Everett and Brendan Harris. The Twins also brought in Craig Monroe to add more power to the designated hitter position.

However, the biggest ray of hope for the Twins has been the newfound willingness to keep this core of players together. Over the winter they signed Cuddyer and Morneau. On Monday, they signed Joe Nathan to a four year, \$47 million extension.

Since the end of the season, the Twins have thrown out \$153 million to their players, which is a lot com-

pared to their frugal past.

While some fans whine about how the Twins didn't make an effort to keep Santana and Hunter, it's noted that the total would have been more if they had not turned down lucrative offers from the Twins.

The Twins may not be a top team this season, but with the change of heart by the Pohlad family, the Twins have a bright future ahead of them when they move into the new ballpark in 2010.

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.

The *Student Voice* is now accepting applications for all positions for fall 2008.

## Award-winning Symphonic Band performs around the world

Teresa Aviles teresa.aviles@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls Symphonic Band stands out internationally and in the music world. The 40-member band won an award for an outstanding performance at the annual National Band Association (NBA) conference in January.

Associate professor of music Kristin Tjornehoj's former director, Fred Nylin, served as the guest conductor for the award-winning performance. Andrew Parks, horn instructor at UWRF, served as the guest soloist for a work composed by John Zdechlik. band also performed "Quetzalcoatl," which was composed by music professor J. Michael Roy. "My favorite would probably be Mr.

Roy's pieces. We played his 'Northern Lights March' and premiered his piece, 'Quetzalcoatl,'" third-year band student Eleanor Peterson said. "Both pieces are very fun yet challenging to play, and it is neat to actually play a professional piece composed by our own profes-

Tjornehoj, the director, recently won her own award. The Citation of Excellence is a special honor presented to music directors who work with special ensembles. The award was presented to her at the NBA for leading the symphony ensemble. She also received another Citation of Excellence for working with the Minnesota Music Educators Association's All-State Orchestra in February.

The band has toured to New York

City, Madison, Iceland and France to perform.

trip in May 2006. The in late May through early June, and the band will be traveling to Prague," Peterson said. "It was originally for the band, but Tjornehoj opened up the opportunity to members of the community."

"In New York, we played in two veterans' homes and at St.

street from Ground Zero. Those performances were very moving," Peterson said.

The band was also asked to perform in Madison in October 2006 to repre-"I participated in the New York City sent the University at the Wisconsin

next tour is happening "I participated in the New Educators York City trip in May 2006. The next tour is happening in late May through early June and the band will be traveling NBA conto Prague." vention in

Eleanor Peterson, UWRF band student Music Association convention. In addition, the band was asked to perform at the

Wisconsin Rapids in January. "With like

tours

Paul's Chapel, which is down the New York City and Prague, we perform, but we are also able to explore the city. Dr. Tjornehoj sets up many tours of famous places, such as

Lincoln Center and Radio City Music Hall, which are both heavily related to music," Peterson said. "We always have a great time, no matter how far away from home we travel."

Future performances in the William Abbott Concert Hall located in Kleinpell Fine Arts include the Annual Commissioned Composer concert April 10, featuring work from Marc Mellits. The last concert of the year is April 28 and will include the "Quetzalcoatl" performance.

"As far as our long-term goals, we are starting up a new chapter of NBA at our school, being led by Tjornehoj and student Jeremy Semler. We are also looking for more new members to come and share their talents," Peterson said.

### Eccentric, bizarre lyrics central to Be Your Own Pet's sophomore album, Get Awkward

Matt

Loosbrock

For a brief moment, Be Your Own Pet's deepest song, "Creepy Crawl," resembles Charlotte Perkins' famous short story, "The Yellow Wallpaper." Desperation, loneliness and insecurity are abundant as Jemina Pearl, BYOP's provocative front woman,

sings, "It's the same four walls that have always been / Just sitting in my room that I haven't lived in / And I feel so completely changed / But everything around me is exactly

The song seeps into the skin, with hair standing erect, making one wonder if Be Your Own Pet has tossed aside their teenage angst in favor of psychological trauma and feminist psyches.

Nah. "Drug runs and beer busts it's all I know / I don't want to grow up and have to let go / I feel the pressure change my ways / All I see is more dark days," Pearl shouts on "Super Soaked" while a sharp-bladed guitar and bass jab frantically to rushed drum beats. If anything, on their sophomore album, Get Awkward, Be Your Own Pet is realizing their

youth is quickly fading, causing panic and insecurity that screams through each track on the disc.

This is especially present when the band covers change in relationships ("Twisted Nerve") and quiet sexual tension ("Heart Throb"). On "Bitches Leave," drum beats drop like a ticking time bomb as Pearl shouts jeal-

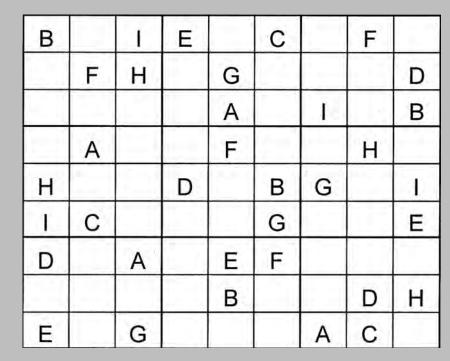
ously, "Things are pretty in new Detroit, so go ahead and get to the point / There's nothing up my sleeve / Take a hit, bitches leave."

The album seems to be at a crossroads between a sense of no responsibility versus BYOP's own self-realization. Perhaps it's on "The Beast Within," the album's closing song, where they allude to the direction they're traveling. "I've got no time left to learn / I only got time to burn / I'll take your stuff and puke it up / Can't you tell I don't give a fuck?" Pearl snarls, blood soaking into her gums.

I'll take that as a "no."

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

## Letterdoku

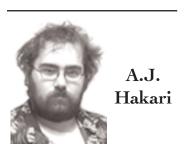


Difficulty: Easy

Submitted

Rules for Letterdoku: Fill all of the empty squares so that the letters A to I appear once in each row, column and  $3 \times 3$  box. Solution for Letterdoku appears at www.uwrfvoice.com.

## New comedy 'Drillbit Taylor' one of Wilson's worst



Tudd Apatow's recent suc-J cess in the realm of comedy is no secret. "Talladega Nights," "Superbad," "Knocked Up"—it certainly seems that whatever the man touches turns into comic gold. But his ascent up the ladder of success hasn't been without its missteps, the latest of which is "Drillbit Taylor." This is a film that feels curiously sanitized, playing way too safe to be associated with a guy who's not afraid to get a little bawdy with his projects.

It's the first day of high school for gangly Wade (Nate Hartley), husky Ryan (Troy Gentile) and uber-nerd Emmit (David Dorfman). But they've no sooner stepped indoors than they've become the targets of resident bully Filkins (Alex Frost). The trio suffers humiliation after humiliation at the upperclassman's hands, to the point that they decide enough is enough and hire someone to defend them. After a stream of potential candidates turn out to be too pricey, out from the group emerges the right guy for the job: Drillbit Taylor (Owen Wilson), a former Army Ranger turned deadbeat bum who patrols the highway for spare change and dumpster dives on a daily basis. Initially taking the job to milk the kids for all their worth, Drillbit's mind changes once he witnesses Filkins' torments firsthand, and he becomes determined to teach the kids to stand up for themselves once

"Drillbit Taylor" certainly seemed promising to start, what with "Superbad" scribe Seth Rogen sharing writing duties and the plenty likable Wilson headlining. But rather than tread the path of

"Superbad" and actually create characters you can identify with out of stock roles, "Drillbit Taylor" over simplifies things to a fault. The kids are hollow stereotypes more than anything (the loud fat kid, the shy skinny kid, the "McLovin" type that outgeeks them all), and Filkins' attacks on them are so brutal, you're almost forced to sympathize with them on princi-

ple alone. In general, "Drillbit Taylor" just doesn't offer much up in the way of laughs. A dull running gag is that Drillbit is more of a good-natured slacker (so, yeah, perfect part for Owen Wilson) than a takecharge warrior, so his advice to the kids who hire him involves randomly traipsing through the woods rather than teaching them to really defend themselves. I guess the ways in which the kids are tormented (shoved into lockers, made to urinate on each other, etc.) are meant to be seen in a comedic light, but once again, these moments are depicted in such a way that one views the teens more as pathetic than as lovable losers. As for Wilson, he plays Drillbit to the best of his abilities, and as well as the rather bland script allows him

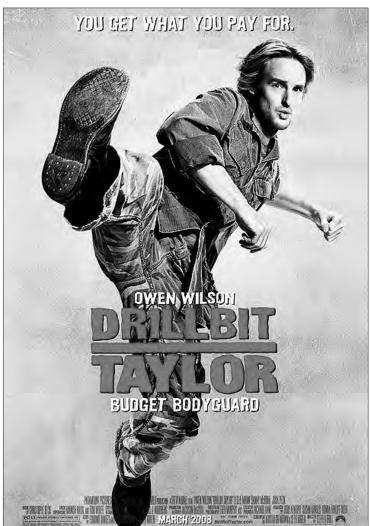
All in all, "Drillbit Taylor" is far from a bad flick. But much like the recent "Charlie Bartlett," it seems content just

to do.

to be entertaining enough so as not to make the time spent watching it a total bustwhich, in a weird way, is almost worse than just flat-out being bad.

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

Tritics often try to relate ✓ their opinions through some sort of poetic dialogue. Even when the film is sub par, most try to sound stylish and elegant even while slamming a film. When it comes to "Drillbit Taylor," however, there is no flowery way to put it—this film sucked!



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.

★★☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Owen Wilson, who has on occasion delivered halfway decent comedy, deteriorates back into his paralytic "You, Me & Dupree" slump with "Drillbit Taylor." The only true humor here is that the movie, titled after its "main" character, has Wilson taking a substantially useless backseat to the actual story: a blahblah high school something something big bad bully little yarn spun by spineless freshmen you will spend the bulk of the film hating for not having had their balls drop yet.

Wade, Ryan and Emmit are eager to start high school and adopt the lifestyle of partying, popularity and upper classmen babes. But the school bully, a teenage Hannibal Lecter of sorts, singles them out immediately and tortures them into becoming the laughing stock of the school. The three friends do what any sane person would do: hire an exarmy mercenary-for-hire turned bum to be their personal bodyguard. Enter Taylor, a weasel only too happy to scam the kids out of their money while planning to eventually rob their houses before making a mad dash for the Canadian border.

It is clear from the beginning that this painting of high school life will be no Rockwell. No, it's closer to a Dali or Picasso, minus that stuff like symbolism and beauty. The script, co-penned by Seth Rogen, is content catering to every cliche there is, before further exploding them into absurdity. It would seem that Rogen never finished his high school career and is under the impression



that his time served in "Freaks & Geeks" is an accurate reflection of reality.

But the similarities to past Apatow productions (they produced the film) don't end there: Wade, Ryan and Emmit are smudged carbon copies of Evan, Seth and Fogell, the "Superbad" misfits, speaking watered-down interpretations of the same jokes. Drillbit becomes a recruiting film for Apatow, aimed at prepubescents not yet understanding the concepts of good humor or fine film.

As much as middle schoolers breast-fed on Sandler will rejoice at the idiocy masquerading as comedy, adults will find insult in that same idiocy on display in every adult-wannabe onscreen. Oblivious parents, ignorant school faculty and slutty teachers fill out a troupe of undeniably fake coal-shovelers that gouge out contrivances to steam along this sputtering story.

I just can't bring myself to root for a bum-turned-thief who gets a convenient shot of conscience at the climax, as if he bought it from the local corner store.

There are a few scenes that will provide a chuckle or two, but these scenes can't even be called diamonds in the rough. They are merely—as Drillbit would say himself—polished turds in a shit sandwich.

film studies minor. He has aspirations to write film reviews as a career. His favorite

## Inspired by alumnus, Alvarez reaches out to Kiambiu

Nicole Aune nicole.aune@uwrf.edu

Linda Alvarez, multicultural services advisor at UW-River Falls, brought hope to a Kiambiu slum outside of Nairobi in Kenya, Africa last summer after being inspired by the words of UWRF alumnus Sigurd Hansen.



Linda Alvarez

"Sigurd Hansen encouraged this question in me 'what can I do that would be unique?' I thought about my connection with orphans and I found myself down here and it was really amazing," Alvarez said.

Alvarez was orphaned as a young child after her parents died in a car accident in the late

The slum of Kiambiu has an area of about 7.5 square miles and a population of about 100,000 people.

Alvarez teamed up with the Leo Community Development Network (LECDEN) to bring food and supplies to

the community of orphaned children. "You realize that you are in a very special position being a U.S. citizen," Alvarez said. "You live with affluence that is rarely seen anywhere else in the world, even if you're poor here."

There are many orphans in nations such as Kenya due to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS. According to the 2007 world population data sheet, compiled by the population reference bureau (PRB), the population of Kenyans between the ages of 15 and 49 with HIV/AIDS in 2005/2006 is 6.1 percent, which is down from 15 percent in years prior.

The estimated number of orphaned children in 2005 due to their parents dying of AIDS was between 890,000 and 1.3 million, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Alvarez saw the need to help the orphans in this distressed

"You realize that you are in a very special position being a U.S. citizen. You live with affluence that is rarely seen anywhere else in the world, even if you're poor there."

Linda Alvarez, multicultural services advisor

#### Connecting with the kids

Alvarez brought five suitcases of books, clothing, shoes, and hygiene products with her, and that still wasn't enough. She had to go out and buy bundles of secondhand clothing so that everyone would have enough.

"[We were able to give] each child two changes of clothing and a pair of shoes and socks," Alvarez said.

She was also able to give each child at least one book.

"The littlest thing you do for these children is huge," Alvarez said. "When we went down, we also brought bags for each child

and in the bags was a plate, a cup, a spoon, pencil, paper, an activity book, stuffed animal, a ball, a little car, soap and a washcloth."

#### Education

Alvarez recently got word that 15 children from the Kiambiu slum have gone missing. Children are often abducted and made part of the child slave trade, sex trade and trafficking.

The abductions generally occur when children travel alone or when children are left alone all day.

"[If the older children are able to have] uniforms and shoes and socks, [it] would really prevent the kids from being stolen and that's what I'm really afraid of now," Alvarez said. "There's no such thing as an Amber Alert [in Nairobi]."

A school uniform costs 1,300 shillings, which equates to \$20. On average, a family in Kiambiu makes 150-300 shillings a month.

The children that are able to go to school are in a small classroom, generally with about 100 students to every one teacher, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. There are few books, workbooks and pencils that the students all have to share. The teachers receive no formal training and are without proper teaching materials.

"They're lucky if they have a pencil," Alvarez said. "These folks may earn something like 300 shillings a month and a pencil costs 10-30 shillings; that is how precious pencils are."

Education is essential for developing nations.

"If you can get a kid at least semi literate, especially the girls, you reduce the pregnancy rate and you increase the ability for children to resist temptation," Alvarez said. "Education itself is life changing and gives people an incredible kind of hope."

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The children of Kiambiu, Kenya, wait to receive bags containing food, clothing, personal hygeine products and toys from the Leo Community Development Network (LECDEN) and UWRF multicultural services advisor Linda Alvarez.

#### A hand up, not a hand out

Alvarez said she has truly been touched by her experience in Kiambiu and wishes she could go back this summer, but will not be able to due to the cost of the trip.

"It's so amazing. One gets the sense that these are your neighbors," Alvarez said, "There's not that much that is different. It's like the neighbor down your block."

Alvarez had a similar experience when she worked with AIDS affected children and families in Chicago.

"You look into the face of one of the mothers and you see yourself. You look into the face of one of the babies and you see your babies," Alvarez said. "How is it that any of us feel so distanced from each other when [we are all so alike]."

Alvarez wants people to understand that the people of

Kiambiu are hard workers. "They don't want a hand out, they want a hand up," Alvarez said. "A hand out you can never count on, but a hand up with your own industriousness, you can really move forward."

#### The future

Alvarez continues to work on getting donations for the people of Kiambiu. She says she hopes that she and other organizations will be able to raise enough money to build an orphanage, a preschool daycare center and is also accepting donations for the Kiambiu community.

"We're asking for contributions of school supplies, shoes, socks, books, pencils, hygiene products including soap, shampoo, eating utensils, washcloths and used clothing," Alvarez

Contributions may be dropped off in Alvarez's office in the basement of the Chalmer Davee Library, room 107.

Alvarez thanks all who have contributed to the project.

# Sign-Up 2008-09 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







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).

### **PHASETWO:**

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



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