



SOFTBALL, PAGE 6

Six seniors serve team with leadership, guidance

MALISZEWSKI, PAGE 5

Columnist makes distinctions between practicality, fashion

MOVIE REVIEW, PAGE 7

Reviewers disagree on Harold and Kumar's sequel



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STUDENT VOICE

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Ben Brewster/Student Voice

The HLC review team discusses campus issues in the University Center April 21. The team visited UWRF for three days while observing the positives and negatives regarding the University.

## University will receive 10-year reaccreditation

Phillip Bock  
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UW-River Falls will receive a 10-year reaccreditation to the Higher Learning Commission following a positive review by a seven-member review team that visited campus April 21-23.

The Higher Learning Commission is the only accrediting body that reviews an entire campus. Accreditation by the HLC is required in order for a campus to receive federal funding for student financial aid and grants for research.

"If you lose your accreditation it affects your reputation, and you can't get financial aid," UWRF Chancellor Don Betz said.

Following their three-day visit, the HLC review team recommended that UWRF receive the full 10 years of continuing accreditation, the maximum that the commission allows.

"This is as encouraging and confirming of a report that I could hope for," Betz said.

The team also included no focused visits in its review. A focused visit occurs when the HLC sees a particular problem

area at a university and sends a team to address that issue.

"A lot of universities are getting follow ups that are focused on a specific area," Gorden Hedahl, captain of the university's self-study process, said. "But we have no focused visits or follow ups for 10 years."

The team did cite two concerns that they want addressed before the next accreditation in 10 years. One focuses on academic teaching staff, their salaries, terms of employments and other condi-

See HLC, page 3

## KFA ventilation replacement causes class, office relocation

Lindsey Rykal  
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Summer classes that were supposed to be held in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building will be relocated due to work being done in the building to replace the ventilation system. Offices in KFA will be moved to the former Textbook Services location in the Chalmer Davee Library.

"Absolutely no business will be conducted in KFA over the summer other than the ventilation work," Mary Corey, College of Arts and Sciences project coordinator said.

The work being done this summer will be to replace the ventilation system that is wearing out and performing poorly in many areas in the building.

"The work is to be done over the next two summers," Tim Thum, facilities management and campus representative for the construction project said.

"This summer work will be done on the second and third floors. The work next summer (2009) will include the basement and the first floors."

Professors who will be having class over the summer will move their offices to the old Textbook Services area and the others are asked to pack up their offices to be stored away while the construction is taking place. The chairs', program assistants' and the deans' offices located in KFA will move to the temporary office space in the library. A few professors who will teach classes over the summer will have "computer stations" there as well, but a lot of them will be working from their home, Corey said.

Professors are asked to be packed and ready to move by the last final exam, May 16. The contractor will begin work May 21.

Modern Language Professor Peter Johansson says he has known about the move since last year and has been preparing since December.

"I have been giving away books during my classes as rewards and purging files," Johansson said.

Affected departments include art, english, geography and mapping sciences, modern language, music, political science and sociology/ anthropology/ criminal justice.

Classes originally located in KFA will be moved to Centennial Science Hall, Chalmer Davee Library, North Hall, South Hall and the Wyman Education Building.

## Talent breaks out at UWRF



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

Xeng Yang, a breakdance member of the crew "Kolaboration," demonstrates his technique during UWRF's breakdancing competition April 30. The event, Break Out 2008-The Streets, was held in the University Center's Falcons Nest. It was sponsored by the UWRF Breakdance Club and SEAC. The winning crew, "Kolaboration," was awarded \$300.

## Hiring rates for adjunct professors increase rapidly

Caleb Stevens  
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Full-time and part-time instructional academic staff positions have increased nationwide to account for 65 percent of faculty positions. The number of Instructional Academic Staff (IAS) employed by UWRF has increased from 20 to 154 in the last "10 to 15" years according to the UWRF Academic Staff Council.

IAS, or adjunct professors, are non-tenured track professors who may teach anywhere from one class to a full teaching workload. Studies conducted over the past few years prove the growing sentiment among administrators and faculty that adjunct professor hires are increasing rapidly.

"Oh yes," psychology professor Travis Tubre said. "It's a trend not just here but nationwide."

The increasing number of IAS is a complex issue stemming from the need to accommodate for the increasing enrollment across college campuses nationwide. As the percent of IAS has grown nationwide to 65 percent, 14 percent of full-time tenured track positions disappeared during that same time, according to a University of Michigan study.

"The number one reason is that full-time staff lines are stagnant and the number of students is growing," Associate Dean of CAS Brad Caskey said. "That's the only reason, really."

The hiring of IAS allows administration to meet the growing demand for professors by potentially hiring part time professors with specialized expertise at a lower price.

"It's a wonderful dynamic

See IAS, page 3

## UWRF falls behind other state universities' security

Katrina Styx  
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Out of the 13 four-year universities in the UW-System, only one campus is protected by anything less than certified police officers. That campus is UW-River Falls.

"That's really shocking, especially considering how close we are to the Twin Cities," senior Jessica Schaffer said.

UW-Green Bay, UW-Parkside, UW-Platteville and UW-Superior all have smaller student bodies as UWRF, yet they all have police explicitly associated with their campuses. UW-Parkside, with a student body of roughly 5,000, employs nine police officers, and UW-Platteville has six police officers for its 6,000-student campus. UWRF, however, only has Public Safety, which is staffed by five full-time and four part-time safety officers.

The differences between police and Public Safety have to do with

the extent of authority an officer has. Police officers have the power to detain, authority to enforce all state statutes and force traffic if that is something the University needs, Public Safety director Dick Trende said.

Even though they are not certified police officers, Public Safety officers "do have the authority to enforce Wisconsin administrative code and other state statutes," according to the Public Safety Web site.

Campus officers can issue limited citations, including underage drinking, vandalism and disorderly conduct among others, Trende said.

"Other than protecting somebody or protecting themselves, they really don't have authority to detain," Trende said.

Public Safety can tell violators to stop, but they are unable to do anything more, such as stopping and identifying them.

See Public Safety, page 3

### Campus Media Day

Date: May 6  
Time: all afternoon  
Location: UC Mall

#### Student Voice

Pie a staff member 12-4 p.m.  
Paper airplane contest

#### Prologue

Public readings  
Free magazines

#### WRFW

Live remote broadcast

#### Focus

Episode showings

"Anchorman" at 8 p.m. in UC theater



VOICE SHORTS

Career coach to speak in KFA

At 11 a.m. May 5, Sarah Bersch, a life-enhancement coach, will be presenting a leadership seminar. Bersch will speak about working with your skills and passions to find an important career. This event will take place in room 129 of the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. The event is free.

Donation drive collects supplies for Kenya

There will be a donation drive held until the end of the semester for orphaned children from Kiambu, Kenya. Clothing, school supplies, dishware, children’s books and toys can be dropped off in the office of Linda Alvarez. Her office is located in room 107 of the Chalmer Davee Library. Monetary donations are welcome and will help fund schools, bathrooms and daycare. For information about Kiambiu, visit [www.kiambiu.com](http://www.kiambiu.com). For further drop off information contact Alvarez at [linda.m.alvarez@uwrf.edu](mailto:linda.m.alvarez@uwrf.edu).

PAX hosts plant sale at University Center

Pi Alpha Xi will be hosting a plant sale in the University Center Mall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 7-9. The plants and flowers will make a perfect gift for the upcoming Mother’s Day celebration. Bedding plants and premade containers will be available.

Finals fest tickets still available

Country artist Craig Morgan is performing at the annual Finals Fest event that takes place 8 p.m. May 10. Tickets are still available for the concert and can be purchased at the Information Desk in the University Center. The cost is \$5 for UWRF students and staff and \$15 for the general public. The concert will be located in the Knowles Arena.

International group looking for members

The UWRF Association for International Development is inviting all faculty, staff and faculty who are interested in the field of international development, with a focus on Africa, Asia, Latin America and parts of Eastern Europe, to join the Association. The Association was formed about six years ago, has annual workshops and collaborate on areas of mutual interest. Contact [jacqueline.m.brux@uwrf.edu](mailto:jacqueline.m.brux@uwrf.edu) for more information.

Voice Shorts compiled by  
Joe Nourse

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Housing	Employment
<p><b>For rent:</b> 5BR, 3BA, All appliances, including washer dryer, 2 car garage 3 blocks from UWRF 1 block off main street 715-760-2189</p>	<p><b>Wanted:</b> summer nanny for two children, 10 and 13 in our Stillwater home. Desire candidate majoring in education who could tutor our 4th grader and coordinate fun physical activities. Reliable transportation required. Kay 651-434-2998.</p>

**Employment**

**Campus IT**  
Now accepting applications for information technology positions for fall semester.  
For information and instructions visit:  
<http://www.uwrf.edu/itsjobs/>  
Application deadline is 4p.m. April 30. Questions: Contact Sara Solland at 3733 or [sara.m.solland@uwrf.edu](mailto:sara.m.solland@uwrf.edu).

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**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 monopolizes meeting with awards

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Awards were given out during Tuesday's Student Senate meeting, with the Hard Worker Award going to Legislative Affairs Chair Craig Witte. He was given the award for his "hard stance on wide issues as committee member," Ben Plunkett said as he presented the award.

Several other awards were given out after the meeting. The Senator of the Year Award was presented to Rodney Hillskotter and the Director of the Year Award was presented to Finance Director Jason Meier for their outstanding contributions to Student Senate.

"We had a really, really good year,"

Senate President Derek Brandt said.

Other Senate News

•The Senate addressed an ethics complaint regarding the vice-presidential race. Students had complained that there were flaws in the electronic voting process that prevented them from voting. Due to the large margin of victory, the senate ruled that no action would be taken. They directed the fall elections committee to look into the possible issues with the voting problems.

•The Wisconsin Open Meeting Law, which requires senate meetings be posted in public places, was also brought up dur-

ing the meeting. A motion was carried to make minutes and agendas for Senate meetings available at the Information Desk of the University Center.

•Development and Programming Board Chair Mike Defenbaugh noted that Student Entertainment and Arts Committee Chair Anna Hunter is asking for 70 volunteers to help with finals fest. Students interested in volunteering should contact Hunter.

Agendas and minutes for Senate meetings are available at the Senate Web site. The final Senate meeting of the year will be held May 6 at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.

Honor societies feature more than just academics

Tyler Liedman  
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As they sit patiently during commencement, waiting for their name to be read, some UWRF students will be sporting more than just a cap and gown. All those cords, pins and insignias are not just for decoration. They signify an achievement, an official academic honor that a student can be proud of.

Many of the cords will be worn by members of UWRF's nine academic Honor Societies: Alpha Kappa Delta, Gamma Theta Upsilon, Sigma Beta Delta, Phi Alpha Theta, Sigma Tau Delta, Pi Sigma Alpha Sigma Pi Sigma, Psi Chi and Phi Kappa Phi.

Phi Kappa Phi, the granddaddy of them all, was founded in 1897. It boasts itself as the oldest and largest honor society in the United States, with over 100,000 "active" (due-paying) members and a repertoire that includes Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Chapter 247 began in River Falls in 1988, and is currently run by Library Director Valerie Malzacher and Mary-Alice Muraski of ITS. Every spring, they invite 75 of the top juniors and seniors, regardless of major to join the selective society.

What makes Phi Kappa Phi special, according to Malzacher, is that it honors academic achievement in all disciplines.

"Students from any field of study can be invited," she said, "so it's really only the very best and most deserving students that make it in."

One of those students, senior Ann Deml, was presented with a 2008 Phi Kappa Phi award of Excellence. She is one of 40 students nationwide to receive the honor.

Faculty members who are have achieved scholarly distinction can also be inducted, Malzacher said. More than 50 current faculty members are also members of Phi Kappa Phi, including Chancellor Don Betz and Gordon Heddal, former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"It looks great on resumes, vitas and graduate school applications," said Abbey Malom, co-president of the UWRF chapter of the psychology honor society, Psi Chi.

Psychology professors encouraged her and other students from freshman year to shoot for membership in the society, Malom said. As she prepares to graduate in the next few weeks, she said she was happy to have been so involved during her time at UWRF.

"It has lead me to build meaningful relationships with the student body and the psychology faculty," Malom said. "It's about bringing the psychology department and psychology student body together."

The society meets every other week in Centennial Science Hall. In addition to speakers and discussion, Psi Chi works with its partner organization, the Psychology Society, to sponsor annual community events like bake sales, fundraisers, and clothing drives, according to department chair Michael Reich.

"We try to promote social things, and not just academic achievement," he said.

"Everybody likes a pat on the back, but it's more than that," said Physics Chair Earl Blodgett, faculty advisor to Sigma Pi Sigma, the national physics honor society. "What's great is you have this new network of people who have shared your interest in physics or whatever it is."

"It's a lifetime honor," said Bridget Onan, the new co-president of SPS, "whether you actually end up doing something in Physics or not."

Like Psi Chi, Sigma Pi Sigma works closely with Society of Physics Students (SPS), an organization that has no academic requirements for membership, to sponsor outreach activities, including a travelling science show that performs at elementary schools.

Although Sigma Pi Sigma is the more prestigious distinction, SPS is the main extra-curricular focus of the physics department because of its all-inclusive nature.

"If someone doesn't have the grades or hasn't put in the time to be part of Sigma Pi Sigma, they can still be members of SPS and attend the same meetings and do the same things," Blodgett, a Sigma Pi Sigma member since 1977, said. "River Falls is not that snobbish of a place. We're not going to exclude people like that."

Wetland shortcut does more harm than good

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Behind South Fork Suites is a patch of wetlands covering approximately 27,500 square feet. The wetlands are divided by a beaten path of trampled grasses and mud. That path connects South Fork Suites to the rest of campus and is often considered a shortcut by students living in the suites. The University refuses to pave the path, claiming it would cost around \$10,000

The path runs through a wetlands area, Manny Kenney building and grounds supervisor said. However, the primary reason for leaving the path unpaved is the high cost, Kenney said.

If the Student Life Committee approves the South Fork Suites addition, new paths and a quicker access to campus would come along with the new building. The addition would span the tennis courts, Kenney said. He also said he urges students to avoid using the footpath and stick to the paved sidewalks.

Wetlands play an important role in the environment. They can improve water quality, reduce floods, influence groundwater recharge and discharge, maintain stream flow during dry periods and provide aesthetics and recreation, said Donavon Taylor, professor of soil science.

"There is considerable interest in protecting existing wet-

lands in the United States due to their important functions in the environment," Taylor said.

He said he believes the campus should put up a sign to stop students from using this path and destroying the wetlands in this area.

The new South Fork Suites addition will not damage the current wetlands in that area, Kenney said.

The actual time saved is minimal compared to taking the paved sidewalk around the basketball courts, even though the path appears to be a more direct route. When asked if they thought the path was a significant shortcut, eight out of ten students living in South Fork Suites said they thought it was.

The emphasis has been on keeping students away from the roads and on the sidewalks Kenney said. The current path links directly with the road system snaking from behind the basketball courts near South Fork around the south side of the University Center.

The area around the path is a mud hole in the late winter and spring, which causes a mess inside South Fork. Dried mud and grasses are tracked all over the stairways inside the building, making more work for the janitorial staff. In the past two months, the path has become two to three feet wider. To avoid the mud, students have been walking on the edges of the path damaging more of the wetland.

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.	
<b>April 21</b>	<b>April 28</b>
--Kyle W. Kubitz, 20, was cited \$172 for underage consumption	--A Gary Fischer bike valued at \$400 was stolen from the bike rack behind the Agricultural Science building.
--John L. Richardson, 20, was cited \$172 for underage consumption.	
--Aaron E, Fitzpatrick was cited for the theft of a UWRF parking permit. The permit was valued at \$106.	
<b>April 23</b>	
--Milton W. Luka III, 22, was cited \$109 for loud and unnecessary noise.	
--Jordan Jay Baker Schultz, 19, was cited for a probation hold.	
<b>April 25</b>	
--\$50 worth of grade and grass seed were damaged by a vehicle near K-Lot.	
--\$150 worth of damage was done to a tree near the south end of Johnson Hall.	
<b>April 26</b>	
--An iPod valued at \$300 was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in O-Lot.	
	<b>Public Safety and Parking Note</b>
	Public Safety and Parking will be enforcing all student permit spaces through finals week, ending at 4:30 p.m. May 16. All employee permit spaces and posted spaces are always enforced 12 months a year.
	Loading Zones near academic buildings will be strongly enforced. If you need access via one of these loading zones and do not have a permit, you must contact the Parking Office at ext. 3333. All posted spaces, fire lanes and time limitations will also be strongly enforced. Special accommodations will be made in lots O, T, G, P and E for move-out parking from May 14-16. Designated spaces in these lots will be marked with "20 minute move-out parking" signs. Parking in non-designated spaces within these lots will result in a citation. Additionally, accommodations for textbook drop off will be made in J lot meters (the circle of meters between Ag. Science and Hagestad Hall) from May 4-16. Designated spaces in this lot will be marked with "20 minute textbook drop off" signs. If parking is unavailable, you must wait for a designated space or find legal parking in an alternate location.



# HLC: Team evaluates strengths, weaknesses that reflect UWRF

from page 1

tions. The other is the institutionalization of assessment, according to an email from the Chancellor. Associate Dean Brad Caskey said that both concerns were already beginning to be addressed before the team arrived.

“We have a committee structured for next year to address [teaching academic staff],” Caskey said.

The team cited eight strengths during their visit: the high quality of the UWRF self-study, the student-centered nature of the institution, the widely accepted and effected strategic plan, the “motivated, dedicated and highly competent faculty, staff and administration;” the campus dedication to serving the St. Croix Valley, the institution’s focus on sustainability and the University’s commitment to shared governance, according to an e-mail from the Chancellor.

“The reason why I’m so pleased by this is because it’s an inordinarily long list,” Betz said. “Having two concerns and eight strengths is very unusual.”

Betz said that the HLC team members made special note of the attendance rates during the open meetings.

“It was an amazing demonstration of a good dialogue,”

Betz said. “They found a lot of genuineness and a lot of energy.”

The HLC team also cited four weaknesses in their review. Weaknesses are issues noted by the team that they understand are not under the direct control of the University.

“[We] did not create these circumstances, but [we are] living with them and working with them,” Betz said.

The weaknesses include deferred maintenance, salary considerations, instructional space considerations, and economic challenges into the foreseeable future, according to an e-mail from the Chancellor.

Caskey said that the report will be read by the UW-System Regents and legislators who will look at the weaknesses of the university.

“This document is a reflection of us,” Caskey said.

There will be a campus reception at the University Center on May 13 to celebrate the accomplishment.

“If we would have had the chance to write our own summary, we couldn’t have written it any more positive,” Caskey said. “Every person should be proud of this place and what they do.”

# IAS: Increase in student enrollment results in higher professor demand

from page 1

duo if it works right,” Chancellor Don Betz said. “It’s a nice balance but it can become an imbalance. You hire more people part-time because it costs you less money.”

But while administration is able to meet the growing demand for professors by hiring part time for less money, departmental faculty bear the burden of advising more students. IAS do not advise students and are not allowed to sit on department committees.

“Professors would like to

have more tenured colleagues,” Tubre said. “It’s tricky for IAS—they don’t have the protection tenured professors do. It undermines the value of being a professor.”

Tenured professors have the security to tackle issues IAS may not ,because they cannot be fired over a complaint. Tubre said he had heard a story about an

IAS at a different university being fired after a student complained about a comment t h a t professor had m a d e during a sex education class.

The bottom line issue deals with the desired number of IAS a campus should have, their role in specific departments and the benefits adjunct professors should

receive from the university. “I was shocked when I heard that universities should try to have less than 60 percent of its faculty be IAS,” Caskey said. “In my opinion a good figure would be somewhere between 10-20 percent.”

Betz sees the issue of adjunct professors in a different light. “It’s not a yes or no, right or wrong type issue,” Betz said. “The real issue is how has higher education responded to financial issues; how do we continue to enrich the mix for learning.”

Don Betz,  
UWRF Chancellor

# Public Safety: Incidents raise alarm, require police attention

from page 1

For any situations that go beyond their authority, officers contact the River Falls Police Department.

The RFPD has a policy in place for handling campus-related issues, according to River Falls Police Chief Roger Leque.

But that may not be enough. “We try to be as effective as we can, but there certainly are limitations,” Trende said.

At this stage, there are some officers who are licensed, but who only work part time. All of the officers have at least an associate degree, and some have a bachelor’s degree, according to Trende.

Officers are constantly going through updated training, as well, Trende said. The most recent training exercises had to do with pepper spray and bomb threats.

Yet the limitations are becoming problematic, since campus safety has become a national concern.

“In light of recent events, campuses across the country are re-thinking campus security,” Leque said.

Within the last year on the UWRF campus there have been multiple incidents to raise alarm at the lack of security. Multiple bomb scares and attempts at rape beg the question of where are the police when they are needed.

Jessica Johnson, a senior biology major, said she felt that Public Safety could be better.

“I think Public Safety isn’t always around when they’re needed,” she said.

Junior Matt Cartier, however, did not express much concern about the lack of certified police officers on campus.

“I feel safe,” he said. “It’s a pretty small town, and I think everyone pretty much takes care of each

other.”

Johnson has not experienced or witnessed any violent crime on campus. The strangest thing she encountered, she said, was a man dressed in a banana suit pulling a wagon. The man handed her some

fruit snacks left over from a campus event, but otherwise left her alone.

But Johnson said she would still feel more confident in campus security if officers were fully certified.

“In some cases they’d be able to do more instead of being just a figurehead, which is kind of what I see them as now,” she said.

Leque said that he “would be in support of Public Safety having a separate police presence.”

Trende also has recommended to administrators that UWRF employ a full staff of police officers.

“[Being police officers] gives them a lot more latitude as far as being able to protect people,” he said.

Trende also said that retention of officers would be positively affected if campus administrators decide to turn Public Safety into a police presence, mostly because of increased salaries that would allow officers to live off their wages.

That pay increase is what stands in the way of turning Public Safety into a police force.

The University is in the process of assessing the status of campus security, Trende said.

As a licensed police officer, he was one step towards making Public Safety a more capable security presence.

“[Administrators] have been extremely supportive,” Trende said.

For the UWRF campus, at least six police officers would be necessary to provide 24-hour security, along with part-time supporting staff, Trende said.

“It’s something that would be gradual -it wouldn’t be something spontaneous.”

“We can try to be as effective as we can, but there are certainly limitations.”

Richard Trende,  
director of Public Safety

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Employment

**Campus IT**  
Now accepting applications for information technology positions for fall semester.  
For information and instructions visit:  
<http://www.uwrf.edu/itsjobs/>  
Application deadline is 4p.m. April 30. Questions: Contact Sara Solland at 3733 or [sara.m.solland@uwrf.edu](mailto:sara.m.solland@uwrf.edu).



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**THE NEW UPTOWN**



EDITORIAL

Effort to stay awake leads to exhaustion

Earlier this semester, one of our Student Voice staff members said up late to study. She tried everything in her power to keep herself awake so that she could prepare for an early-morning exam the next day. She chewed energy gum, drank two sodas, a cup of coffee and bought a depth charge at the Kinni Lounge, which is equivalent to one cup of coffee and 3.5 shots of espresso.

That night, when she got into bed, she was unable to sleep. She put so much effort into keep herself awake that, once she finally tried to get some rest, she couldn't. She figured that she got roughly half an hour of sleep. The other hours were spent in bed being paranoid about the things going on around her.

The next day, following her exam, she realized that she had psyched herself up and that she hadn't really needed to study that much.

This young student is not one who normally consumes caffeine, so the reaction she experienced to the substance is understandable.

A lot of evidence supports the idea that staying up and cramming doesn't make that much of a difference anyway. If you don't know it the night before, you're not going to retain much information if you try to study while keeping yourself artificially awake.

With finals week less than two weeks away, it's important for students to use safe and productive study habits to do their best work.

It is possible to overdose on caffeine, like our Voice staffer. So don't use caffeine to get that quick fix you may want.

Caffeine isn't just an innocent additive that helps us keep our eyes open. It's a dangerous drug that can have serious side effects on your body. Some people experience headaches, nausea, shakes and more. Most caffeine/energy drinks also cause some sort of "crash."

Students are resorting to other drugs to stay awake, too. Adderall, a prescription medicine for ADD and ADHD, is becoming widely used by college students to stay awake and keep focus while studying.

Besides being illegal to use for anything besides what is prescribed for, it is dangerous to take medicine that you don't actually need.

Try not to worry about everything so much. Worrying is stressful and exhausting. Students today spend too much time worrying about problems instead of actually handling them.

Take time this finals week to plan out your schedule so you don't have to cram; figure out what is a priority and also take time to relax.

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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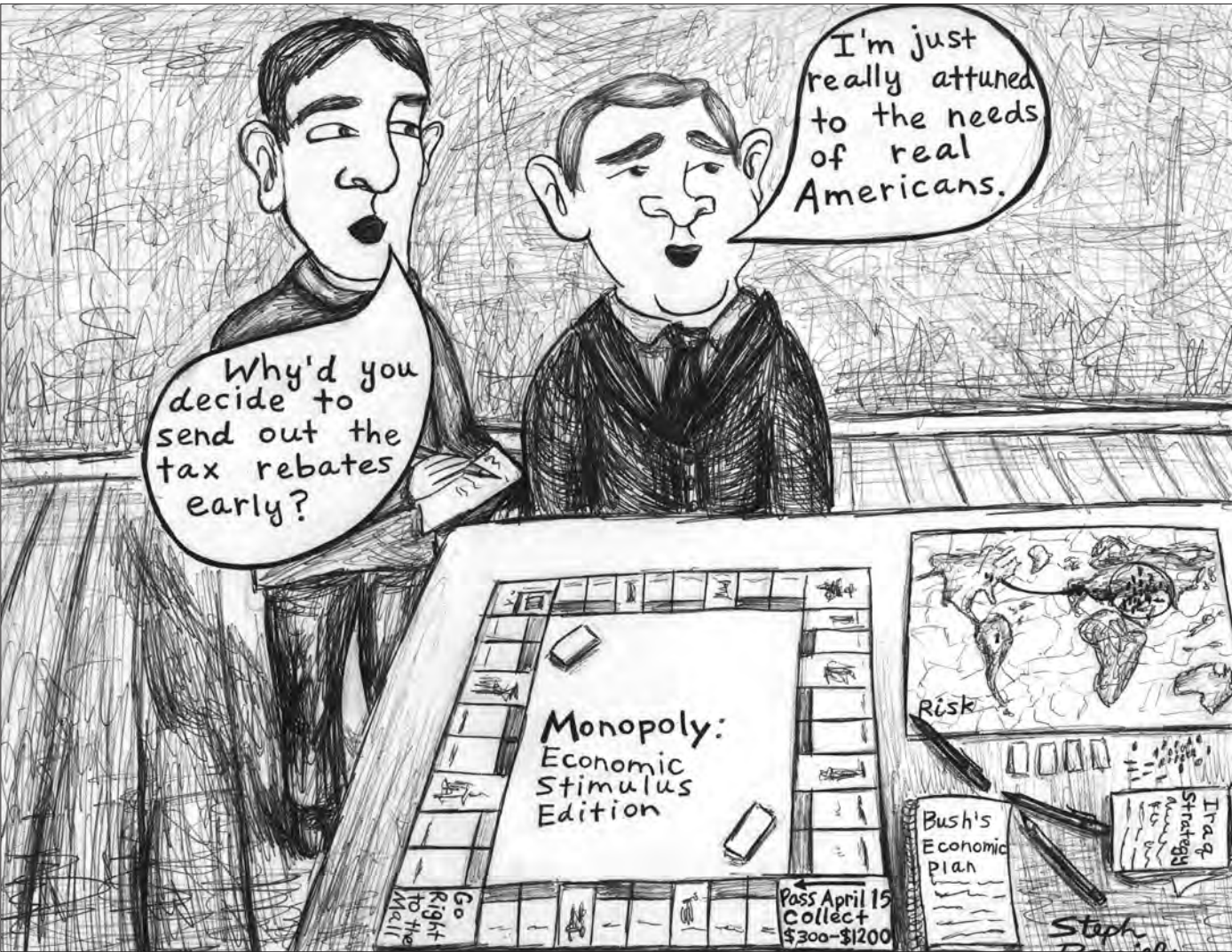
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mideast remains plagued by America

The war in Iraq is undoubtedly "more than signs" and "chants." On April 8, 2008, over sixty community members attended a march and over one-hundred attended a rally to protest this illegal occupation by actions, not just words.

These people are brave enough to voice and defend their beliefs in full-view of the community in which they live, thus making them more than "propagandist pawns."

The idea that our government is "secular" highlights an acceptance of propaganda consider that our current President has repeatedly emphasized his belief that "god" has chosen him for the presidency.

He has opposed things such as stem-cell research and abortion on the basis of his religious beliefs.

The Kurds may have asked for our help, but that doesn't change the fact that a majority of Iraqi people attribute the problems plaguing Iraq to the American occupation and, coincidentally, want us to leave, making our continuing presence there less about justice and more about oil and regional domination.

The U.S. embassy in Iraq has cost us one billion dollars and contains anti-air missiles, independent electrical and water systems, and is about 104 acres of land.

It seems as though our government plans to be there for quite some time if they are investing such funds into this bas (oops, I mean "embassy").

In actuality, the U.S. presence in Iraq will only perpetuate further unrest, i.e. the Mahdi Army's attacks on American troops.

Furthermore, the Middle-East will never be a place of stability and peace if Americans continue to permit our government to deny Arabic, Palestinian, Kurdish, Turkish, and Persian peoples to the right of self-determination that it so majestically proclaims as an inviolable right, but then smashes with illegal wars of occupation such as this one and the one in Vietnam.

Let us begin by respecting the wishes of the Iraqi people by leaving their country. Democracy does not and cannot exist when a people are occupied by a foreign military.

Alex Halverson, Student

Demand for troops' homecoming lasts

War is much more than just slogans. This is why at the event Rally in the River Valley, which I was involved in organizing, we had veterans and activists speak about the issues and their personal experiences.

Those in attendance also read the names of the American soldiers from Wisconsin that have been killed in both conflicts so far.

A February 2006 Zogby poll showed that 72 percent of U.S. troops in Iraq thought the U.S. should exit the country within a year from that date, and more than one in four thought troops should leave immediately.

We now find ourselves more than two years down the road and there has not been a full withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

Socialist Alternative and the River Falls Anti-War Coalition say, "SUPPORT THE TROOPS! BRING THEM HOME NOW!" And we mean it!

Nick Shillingford, Student

Misconception generates reply

In last week's letter to the editor by Muriel Montgomery titled "Iraq war is more than signs, chants," Montgomery gives her opinion on a previous letter to the editor addressing the war in Iraq.

The reason we are writing is not because of Montgomery's opinion on the war, but because of her misconception of Islam. She stated that "Islamic law allows and encourages jihad (and the oppression, rape and circumcision of women)."

The problem we have with her statements is that they are false. This statement had nothing to do with her argument and we have taken it offensively.

In Islam, the word "jihad" literally means to struggle. The current mass media has dubbed the word to mean holy war, which is not its only true meaning.

According to Islamic text, there are two forms if jihad or struggle.

The small jihad, Jihad-al-Asghar, refers to the rules and regulations related to war times such as mandating the Muslims should not kill innocent beings.

The bigger (greater) jihad, or Jihad-Al-Akbar, refers to the

constant struggle of humans to do well in this world (and fight against sin).

When Montgomery also mentioned that Islam allows the raping, oppressing and circumcising of women, she was also misleading the readers.

Nowhere in the Quran, the holy book of Muslims, does it allow such violent actions towards women. In particular, female mutilation is a pre-Islamic and pre-Christianity practice found mainly in Africa.

Those who still practice mutilation of women do so because of cultural tradition, not due to Islam.

We'd like to end this letter with a story of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him), who once gave advice to a Muslim who did not know which parent he should side with.

The Prophet (PBUH) said: first, your mother; second, your mother; third, your mother, and last: your father.

This story is a great example of how important women are in Islam.

If woman are not as important as men, the Prophet (PBUH) would not have given mothers such a high priority over the father.

Alifa Momin, Qurina Khan, Sanaa Jaman, Bhavita Patel, Aaron Bergman, Hassan Ali, Yissell Asencio, Students

Student Senate explains position

Over the last couple weeks, the UW-River Falls Student Senate has been very busy with the issue of the Leadership Development and Programming Board annual budget.

As the article in last week's publication pointed out, April 8 was, in fact, the first time that an LDPB budget had ever been denied. But let's look closer at the facts.

To simply state our main point, contrary to LDPB Chair Mike Defenbaugh and Rebecca Peine's statements in the article, the failing of the budget was far from unethical, personal or the result of a biased senate.

Let us address the accusation that the Student Senate was biased.

We assume the major intent of this statement was a shot at Greek Senator, Ben Casper, who had organized the Greek opposition to the budget proposal.

If a senator whose job is to represent the Greeks is doing exactly that, how is that a biased?

It is also important to point out that Student Senate had issues with the budget before that fateful Senate meeting.

For example, the Finance Committee brought up a number of issues (Greek funding, oversight, single event funding vs. annual budgets, etc) for the first time at its meeting the Friday before.

Defenbaugh and former chair Mike Pearson didn't seem to have a problem fielding our questions then. Defenbaugh knows this whole thing was in no way personal, and it never was.

It has always been about the budget: what's in it, what's not in it, and why. It was never a personal attack on anyone.

We would also like to point out that it is the Student Senate's job to ask questions before ultimately approving (or gasp, even not approving) the LDPB budget.

That is how the Shared Governance process works on this campus. Shame on Student Senate for doing its job and not simply acting as a rubber stamp.

It seems as though this defeated budget did more than set a precedent, it also seems to hurt some feelings.

While it is unfortunate that feelings were hurt and some took it personally, it still does not justify the use of words such as "biased" and "unethical" to describe the hard-working student senators simply trying to do their jobs.

The budgeting processes here at UWRF is something the Student Senate will be making a top priority next year, and we will be working hard to avoid a case like this from repeating itself.

It is clear, the key is going to be improving communication. Most importantly, members of LDPB and Student Senate need to know their roles and responsibilities within the Shared Governance process, and must work in a constructive and respectful manner throughout this process.

The students of this campus expect nothing less and they should get nothing less.

Tyler Halverson, Student Senate Shared Governance Director Jason Meier, Student Senate Finance Director Matt Dale, Student Senator and Finance Committee Member



# Practicalities fade into fashionable accessories

Ahh yes, it’s getting to be that time. The time where girls will allow glasses to eat their faces and pull on shorts that should really be called cheeks.

Manicures and pedicures are at the top of lists and classes fall between tanning sessions. Most girls will actually have to shave their legs more than once a week. Some guys will work harder on their six packs and some will work harder on drinking them.

There’s this urgency for summer—an urgency that is an art to protect oneself or to sell oneself and it’s done through the fine lines of practicality, accessories and status symbols.

Let’s take the baseball cap for example. The baseball cap was designed for baseball players to keep the sun out of their eyes. It was also an easy way to identify a team.

Today, the baseball cap has many more reasons for being such a powerful accessory.

Aside from the obvious stated above, baseball caps are used to keep long hair out of faces, advertise company logos, protect bald men from the sun, show rank in various armed forces, cover unwashed hair, allow poker players to think they’re sly, amp up luck through the rally cap and let hung-over students sleep in class.

A lot of guys now will be thinking about those big ol’ fashionable sunglasses girls wear.

Sunglasses were created to do basically the same thing baseball caps do: keep that dang ultraviolet radiation from sensitive eyes. But, much like baseball caps, sunglasses have many other uses.

They keep drivers from hitting pedestrians when heading west on cloudless evenings, prevent cancers and diseases from form-

ing and keep lack of eye contact a secret.

Big sunglasses (the kind that eat faces off of females) come with these benefits and then some: they hide dark under-eye circles, allow celebrities to hide their identity and act as dual-purpose safety and sunglasses.

Other accessories define status, like rings. The quality of gem on a ring can indicate how much money one has or what kind of relationship status an individual is involved in.

Automobiles can be purchased for practical purposes or to function as status symbols. And of course, there are some automobiles can do both.

Some fashions I don’t quite understand, like holes in jeans. I definitely like the look of them, but I wonder why people will pay \$200 plus for a pair of holey jeans.

My sister had a pair of old jeans that she took a cheese grater to and made her own status symbol for the price of elbow grease.

I remember one time when I visited my grandmother in a pair of holey jeans and she asked me if I wanted them patched.

But what about personal items that are practical

and do good? If society values straight teeth, why aren’t braces popular?

Glasses were once looked at as geeky, but now people with 20/20 vision will purchase frames with plastic lenses because they like the look. In the next ten years will there be pseudo-retainers?

Think about it: if people want to give off the impression that they’ve got money and are striving to become better, I think pseudo retainers would be a hit. Or is that what grills are for?

Abby attributes the highly accurate Wikipedia for empowering her with baseball cap and sunglass knowledge. Without Wikipedia, college students would be lost.



Abby Maliszewski

# STUDENT Voices

“What summer fashion are you not looking forward to?”

**Matt Mitchell, sophomore**

“Crocs, because I think that they look stupid. I don’t care how comfortable they are.”

**Abel Johnson, sophomore**

“Shorts, because I don’t feel as comfortable in them as I do wearing pants.”

**Andrea Richards, freshman**

“I’m not looking forward to girls wearing mini-skirts; I don’t like seeing girls’ butts.”

**Blake Karas, junior**

“Plaid shorts, because they are ridiculous and bug-eye sunglasses because they make one’s head look really small.”

**Ashley Mamer, junior**

“Bermuda shorts, because they are no longer a fad.”

Student Voices compiled by Sally King.

# Society fails to recognize upward mobility

Tax time has passed and, like many Americans, I’ve spent the past two months thinking about the best way to invest, save and spend my money. I’ve also spent some time thinking about the way some Americans are paid for what they do, and the absurdity of how much money some make and how little others earn.

I don’t think of myself as a socialist. I believe in a free-market economy, up to a point. Build a better mousetrap and you deserve to make a good living doing so, but make a billion dollars a year working as the CEO of the Better Mousetrap Company and something is very wrong, especially if many of the employees of the BMC are barely scraping by (i.e. feeding their families, providing reasonable health insurance and saving for the future).

Our society rewards its leaders, CEOs, chairpersons and bosses with pretty substantial financial offerings. If any one particular leader has performed in such a way as to deserve a large reward, so be it. However, have you noticed how many of these so-called “leaders” are earning exorbitant salaries and don’t deserve it?

A company loses a few billion dol-

lars and they give the head guy or gal a hefty raise and a few million in stock options. Another company files for bankruptcy protection and they offer the CEO a golden parachute that will keep his or her feet off the ground for life. Am I missing something here?

It seems to me that in a nation that is seeing its currency falling against the rest of the world, and the world recession being used every time the word economy comes up, the market would be mak-

**Build a better mousetrap and you deserve to make a good living doing so, but make a billion dollars a year working as the CEO of the Better Mousetrap Company and something is very wrong.**

ing some adjustments to start bringing things back down to earth.

I have a problem with people making more money than they could possibly need or spend in a lifetime. As Bud Fox asked Gordon Gekko in “Wall Street,” “how many yachts can you water ski behind?”

A company paying any employee (and that is what these financial whiz kids are) more than a few million a year is not really thinking about the big picture, and certainly not concerned with the customer. A \$400 million a year salary is so out of the realm of sanity it staggers the



Faculty column

Bill Henderson

that they have made a huge difference in how a company performs deserves to be rewarded.

Restructure the company administration, get the budget under control, bring in a solid fiscal year profit, get a couple of hundred

grand reward! Help create a high demand new product, come up with a fantastic marketing campaign and get two weeks in the south of France!

Those sound very reasonable to me, but there are some who would read that and laugh their heads off as they sip their Cristal and munch on their beluga caviar. It is to these spoiled, nose in the air, pampered and completely out of touch people that I say “Take a look at the big picture, clown!”

Start saving now, students; it doesn’t look like it’s going to get much better anytime soon!

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.

# Center looks to relocate, services uncertain

Want sex? Want safe sex? Want safe sex locally, yet discreetly? The Pierce County Reproductive Health Services provides contraception, testing, education and other services for a reduced price or free.

If somehow you missed Stephanie Daniels’ informative article last week in the *Voice* about the Ingram Center, located on Lewis Street behind Subway, the city of River Falls is planning on tearing down the historical building to build a parking lot and a government center.

As a female college student, I depend on the services that the Pierce County Reproductive Health Services offer as well as FISH, another business within the Ingram Center that sells used clothing at cheaper prices than you have ever seen.

Last week I paid \$1 for three shirts—some damn cool shirts at that. In addition to the clothes, they threw in two picture frames for free. FISH has been in business for 31 years and is run by cute little old ladies. If this plan by the City Council goes through, then FISH will end. It will end just like that and the nice ladies will no longer have a meaningful volunteer job, nor will I be able to purchase cheap clothes with my measly college student paychecks.

The Ingram Center also houses businesses such as the Senior Center and the Park and Recreation Center. This building is a major community center, and provides services for everyone.

Although Reproductive Health Services says they are looking for a new location on account of the plan of destruction for the Ingram Center, their current location is the most ideal for their type of services. The vacancies along down-

town Main Street are too exposed for people who want their health services discreet.

Unfortunately, Daniels’ received the sub-headline “Students in need of reproductive services will look for new options” which is disconcerting. The Health Services will not be shut down; their building will be demolished.

Of course, there are other options, like the River Falls Medical Clinic, located farther away from campus than downtown. Although they do offer some similar services, Pierce County Reproductive Health Services has more for contraceptives and has an all-female staff that is welcoming, educated and friendly. The River Falls Clinic has nurses and doctors that are not specialized in reproductive health.

Both clinics offer the Family Planning Waiver Program, in which most college females are eligible to participate. If you are young and don’t make enough money to support an oops-baby, then you are most likely eligible.

When I first moved to River Falls, I found this program at the River Falls Medical Clinic, but they wanted me to go to the courthouse for paperwork just so I could get free birth control. I found this to be absolutely absurd since I didn’t want to drive to Ellsworth to wait in line for questions and signatures. Fortunately I found Pierce County Reproductive Health Services, and the help I received there made me a strong advocate for what they do, what they believe in and their free condoms.

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



Teresa Aviles

# Video game medium pushes TV’s boundaries

By the time you read these words, I will be a different person. I seriously won’t be surprised if—by the time this column reaches press—the majority of my existence depends solely on the digitally-fabricated cityscape “Liberty City” of Grand Theft Auto IV.

This soon-to-be-megahit video game, which is being released simultaneously on the Xbox 360 and the Playstation 3, will undoubtedly render most of the gaming community “sick” on Tuesday, April 29, its glorious release date.

Back in September, Bungie Studios’ hotly-anticipated shooter Halo 3 broke the all-time sales record for any entertainment release, ever. Generating profits of over \$170 million in its first 24 hours, Halo 3 went on to surpass the record-setting opening profits of the latest Harry Potter book and the megahyped sequel Spider-Man 3.

And now, on the brink of April 29, industry analysts are predicting that GTA IV may sell more than 9 million copies at launch, far outselling even Halo 3. These numbers speak volumes about the state of media and entertainment in this modern American culture.

Gone are the days of spending time watching set broadcast programming

and crappy sitcoms. The idea that video games are only for young people is also quickly disappearing. Sure, violent, complex games like GTA IV and Halo 3 will obviously appeal to the younger crowd going into the future, but the medium of video games is loaded with the potential to eventually entertain every age.

If you still see the \$37 billion video game industry as an entertainment realm meant only for pim-

ply teens and basement-dwelling WarCraft nerds, think again. The medium will eventually redefine mass entertainment; rightfully so.

Video games are unlike any other form of entertainment: many contain vast and detailed landscapes ready to be explored. Other games rely on the interest of casual fans and reward them with addictive, easy game play like the puzzle masterpiece “Peggle” (a game so addicting you might as well inject it intravenously).

Guitar Hero and Nintendo Wii have proven to draw in older fans, and game play appeals to the older generations will only increase as the industry

broadens.

No matter what you’re interested in, the video game industry is likely hard at work fulfilling that interest. There are military-type shooters, European racing sims, vast civilization-building strategy games, space exploration sims, Sherlockian mystery/adventure games, story-driven epic roleplaying games and a million others.

Many push the boundaries of complex thought—games like the brain-squeezing Half-Life spin-off “Portal,” prove that video games aren’t always mindless and sloth-inducing. (It’s true Mom and Dad! Video games make your brain more smart!)

Nine million copies of GTA IV will fly off store shelves on Tuesday. If the industry keeps chugging along at this fantastic clip, drawing in new fans left and right, perhaps I can wait in line with my grandparents next time for future installments of GTA.

Well, perhaps they still won’t extract the same sense of maniacal glee from the act of blowing through a police roadblock with a tank and rocket launcher, or gunning down a gang of drug-dealing juicers with an AK-47 and a Molotov cocktail.

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



Joe Hager



# Six softball seniors add leadership, vitality to team

Derrick Knutson  
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The UW-River Falls women’s softball team is led by a group of six seniors that have been providing leadership to younger players and bringing dynamic play on the field.

“The seniors on the team have provided a lot of leadership,” interim head coach Jody Gabriel said. “They set the tone for the level of play, they help get things going everyday, they don’t need a lot of direction, they have high expectations and they’re good role models.”

Emily Howlett, Brittany Rathbun, Amanda Peters, Ashley James, Ashley Bertrand and Keri Feller are this year’s seniors. Two years ago, there were no seniors on the team, according to the 2006 Falcon softball roster.

Rathbun, one of the team’s pitchers, has taken to her leadership role on the team.

“I’ve really enjoyed providing leadership to the younger players—they are a great group of girls,” Rathbun said. “I remember being a freshman—it’s a tough adjustment with the whole college thing in general. There were a couple of the seniors that really made me feel welcome and helped me to enjoy it. I told myself that I wanted to be that person when I am a senior. Now it’s my turn.”

Peters, the team’s first baseman, has also taken time to mentor the younger players.

“I spend time with especially the freshmen and I share with them my personal experiences playing,” Peters said. “College athletics are so much more competitive than in high school, so it is a big transition.”

With the WIAC women’s softball tournament coming up May 2-3 at Steven’s Point, the Falcon seniors will be called upon to bring their A-game along with the rest of the team.

“A good portion of our team knows what conference tournament is all about because we have played in it,” Rathbun said. “We know what to expect, and just practicing hard every day and learning from every game is what we need to do in order to be prepared.”

Last year the team was 30-10 heading into the tournament and



Kenny Yoo/Student Voice

**Top (Left-Right) Emily Howlett, Ashley James and Brittany Rathbun. Bottom (Left-Right) Amanda Peters, Keri Feller and Ashley Bertrand. The seniors provide leadership for the Falcons. The team will play in the WIAC tournament May 2-3.**

ended up finishing the season at 32-12 after the conference tournament, Gabriel said. The team has a chance to match last season’s regular record and improve their overall record.

“If we win out we’ll be 30-[10]. We lost two games due to weather,” Gabriel said.

The team started out the season on a hot streak, winning 21 of their first 22 games, according to the WIAC women’s softball Web site, but they have been in a bit of a slump in recent weeks with two shutout losses to UW- Whitewater April 21, and two more losses to UW-Eau Claire April 23.

“[The season] has been a rollercoaster of emotions,” Rathbun said. “We began with a lot of success, which was expected with the amount of talent that we have on this team. Lately things haven’t gone our way, but if I know our team, I know that we will pull it together in time for the conference tournament.”

Peters echoed Rathbun’s sentiment about preparing for the tournament. “We are taking all the conference games we have played and using them as learning experiences so that when we do go to the tournament, we are ready for each and every team,” Peters said.

# Men’s lacrosse finishes in third place at conference

Alayne Hockman  
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The UW-River Falls men’s lacrosse team took home a third place trophy from the Great Lakes Lacrosse League (GLLL) conference tournament April 26-27.

The team won their match-up against Lake Forest 7-5 to continue into the next round. In the semifinals, the Falcons lost to the Wisconsin Badgers 7-3.

The Badgers have only lost one game in the past six years, when they lost to UW-Platteville in last year’s championship game. The Badgers took first place in the conference tournament this year.

The Falcon team had secured their position in the championship bracket for the conference tournament with their wins against UW-La Crosse and UW-Stout April 19. In the GLLL, the team with the highest percentage of wins is awarded the Division Championship.

The wins made the Falcons’ division record 6-1 and their overall record 8-2-1. The team had a yearly record of 12-4-1, as it plays both in the fall and the spring.

Leading up to the GLLL Conference Tournament, the Falcons had some ideas about what to expect.

**“I just felt it was our year to make history for River Falls.”**

Blake Ashley,  
men’s lacrosse president

“Going into the conference tournament, we knew it was going to be a hard competition, but the players on our team have great talent,” team president Blake Ashley said. “I just felt it was our year to make history for River Falls.”

The men’s lacrosse team’s exceptional season has made UWRF history. The Falcons also had some goals and aspirations going into the conference tournament.

“Our goal was, of course, to win the championship and stay in the tournament as long as possible while competing at maximum performance,” Ashley said.

The team is a fairly young one, only having been founded four years ago by Ashley. He already sees great success for the Falcon men’s lacrosse team, and predicts only bigger and better things for its future.

“Currently I see strong leadership, I see dedication and I see strength, which I believe will propel the team to a championship within the next few years,” Ashley said.

Ashley has already been receiving e-mails from high school lacrosse players in the area looking to continue their lacrosse experience into college. A number of those students have expressed great interest in attending UWRF because of the lacrosse program Ashley pioneered.

Ashley is the only graduating senior from the men’s lacrosse team this year, so he offers a perspective on what lies ahead for the team. The lacrosse program at UWRF and the sport of lacrosse itself have gained popularity and prominence in recent years.

Ashley acknowledges the implications the

growing popularity of lacrosse has and he said that next year’s team will be just as strong as this year’s, if not stronger. The incoming freshman can only add to the team’s talent and successes.

The men’s lacrosse team has been awarded three plaques and one trophy since its inception in 2004. The plaques are from the Chicago Machine Invitational and the recent Western Division Championship. The third place finish at the GLLL Conference Tournament awarded the team a plaque and a trophy, but because the UWRF men’s lacrosse program is recognized as a club and not yet as a varsity sport, the awards are not currently displayed on campus.

Ashley said he talked to Chancellor Don Betz about that situation. Betz said that the University would try to find a place to display the awards.

“Even though we’re a club sport, we recognize it as varsity within us,” Ashley said. “I think the team has grown and matured and we’ll compete at the varsity level someday.”

# Brewers fans need to lay off the beer

What many of you don’t know is that I work in the retail department at Miller Park, home of the Milwaukee Brewers. I sell

Nothing bothers me more than a drunk spectator coming up to my stand and demanding a deal for stuff.

For example, I had someone complain that the cheap, two-dollar pen didn’t work. Instead of accepting a replacement, he kept asking me for a free mini-bat in exchange for “his trouble.”

Quite frankly, the only trouble he had was stumbling back to my stand to argue with me.

At this point, customer service goes out the window. Not only am I agitated with the person, I am also agitated with the beer vendors for selling more beer to these already intoxicated fans. Needless to say, he exchanged the pen and



Jenny Sippola

\$4 for the bat, but not without making smoke come out of my ears.

Why do fans insist on displaying their public drunkenness? For one thing, it is unattractive. Not only are you acting like a complete idiot, but you smell like stale beer and vomit. Secondly, it’s disrespectful to other fans and stadium workers like ushers and police officers who have to deal with you.

It makes me wonder how many of those fans are driving home drunk and driving the same roads as families with children.

I’m pleading with you: don’t be that “drunk as a skunk” fan who causes headaches before the handover comes. It’s really unflattering, not to mention not worth the \$6 per beer.

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

# Kansas City Chiefs return to River Falls

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This summer will mark the 18th year the Kansas City Chiefs call River Falls home. Starting July 24, the Chiefs will be using Ramer Field, the UWRF practice fields, dorms and lecture halls to run their summer camp. They will stay in town until August 15.

“I think it’s a tremendous thing for the city, the region and UW-River Falls,” Athletic Director Rick Bowen said. “They come here because we’ve got great fields and great weather ... it’s not too humid.”

Larry Testa’s role is to act as a liaison between the University and the Chiefs as the camp coordinator.

“This is their 18th camp here, they must like it,” Testa said. “I think it’s a win for everybody.”

Measures have already been taken to prepare for the Chiefs arrival. The grounds person has already arrived to start working on the practice and Ramer Fields, Testa said.

“I’ve coordinated the rental of the lifts (they use to tape practices), I’ve contacted the person who’ll deliver the ice,” Testa said.

In the near future, plans will be made for menus and various activities planned like a family day type activity. Testa said the Chiefs may potentially be scheduling a scrimmage with the Minnesota Vikings.

Come pie the *Student Voice* staff in the face  
May 6, 12-4 p.m. in the  
University Center Mall

## Former Falcon drafted to NFL

A former UW-River Falls Falcon has been drafted into the NFL. Owen Schmitt, who played football with the Falcons in 2003, was a fifth round draft pick for the Seattle Seahawks Sunday. Schmitt rushed for 1,063 yards in his one season with the Falcons, leading him to being selected to the first All-WIAC team. After his season with UWRF, Schmitt transferred to West Virginia University where he was backfield starter for the Mountaineers. In his three seasons at WVU, the team had a record of 33-5 and was ranked No. 5 in the 2005 season-ending AP poll, No. 6 in 2007 and No. 10 in 2006. As fullback, Schmitt rushed for 1,003 yards and scored 13 touchdowns. He scored two times and caught 32 passes for 288 yards. Media reports predict that Schmitt has the best chances of making the NFL team as a special teams player because he played on punt and kick off return and coverage teams at WVU.

Information compiled by Alayne Hockman

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# FYE office plans further development over summer

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The First-Year Experience (FYE) office will receive state funding for the first time this summer and may develop its academic and residential focus with new staff members and a freshman seminar course this fall, director Sarah Egerstrom said.

In its appeal for funding in the spring of 2006, FYE announced intentions to make UW-River Falls an “institution of excellence.”

It estimated an ongoing annual cost of \$325,000. Egerstrom said the program funding was approved last October for \$315,000.

“We’re still making decisions on the staffing structure,” Egerstrom said. “We’ll have a faculty coordinator that will work with academic-related initiatives. So that will be an important change.”

She said that FYE might

bring in another program coordinator as well.

Other possibilities for changes include new student seminars and more organized assistance in the residence halls.

**“We have a large population of first-generation college students. So for those students, I think there’s some additional challenges.”**

Sarah Egerstrom, First Year Experience director

However, none of these plans are set in stone. These new developments will be considered in July, when FYE’s fund-

ing is officially put into effect.

FYE was launched by co-directors Egerstrom and Miriam Huffman 18 months ago as a pilot project. Huffman also worked with the Diversity Awareness and Student Senate Committees before leaving the University last year.

Egerstrom currently has four students working as interns, including Amanda Kane, Shelby Rubbelke, Kaitlin Webb, and Jeremy McNamara. The program is also supported by about 90 other employees and volunteers.

FYE’s stated goals are to ease new students’ adjustment to college life through Weeks of Welcome (WOW) and improve UWRP’s retention rate.

Sophomore retention rates

for 2007-2008 rose to about 75 percent, up five points from the previous year. This was seen as encouraging news for FYE and the University in general.

UWRP also admitted 1,287 new students this year, about three quarters of whom participated in WOW, Egerstrom and McNamara said.

WOW has only been run by FYE for two years, but precedes it by “at least 10 or 15 years, or even longer than that,” Egerstrom said. Previous versions of WOW had been known as Orientation or Road Crew.

WOW events are typically scheduled through most of the fall semester, with an abbreviated one-day program for spring arrivals. The events include Move-In Day, Family

Day and a variety of recreational group activities such as parties and homecoming celebrations.

There is also Academic Day, which allows new students to

**“It’s just been an amazing experience. I strongly encourage any first-year student that might be struggling to contact us, and we can help you out with whatever you need.”**

Jeremy McNamara, First Year Experience student intern

meet their advisors, teachers and other students in their major.

Egerstrom said freshmen often experience difficulty with “anything from academics to personal issues to money management to time management. We have a large population of first-generation college students. So for those students, I think there’s some additional challenges.”

As FYE moves beyond its beginnings as a pilot project, the intent of its work remains the same, as do the rewards.

“It’s just been an amazing experience,” McNamara said. “Just to see how everybody grows and how we can make a difference in our students’ lives through activities here on campus. I strongly encourage any first-year student that might be struggling to contact us, and we can help you out with whatever you need.”

# Poetic lyrics take center stage on Destroyer’s latest album

Sometimes, what’s left unsaid is more powerful than stumbling on words. Daniel Bejar, Destroyer’s singer and frontman, understands this better than anyone.

“A woman by another name is not a woman / I’ll tell you what I mean by that / Maybe not in seconds flat / Maybe not today,” he sings in “Blue Flower / Blue Flame,” a low-key, acoustic tune evasive in both subtext and craft. But rarely will a song captivate without trying. “Trouble in Dreams,” Destroyer’s latest, makes for a fantastic voyage.

Maybe it’s the poetic lyrics each track shares. “See the sun crawling over the sky / Keep an eye on the turf and the sea and the

sand / Don’t you know every night is a stand-off with the fucking horizon,” are the opening words of “River,” showing beauty and brevity in unison. In the same manner, the music follows suit, as “My Favorite Year” holds to the tradition of Sonic Youth as it quietly creeps until you’re brought face to face with a hauntingly beautiful demon.

Bejar, also a member of the power-pop house known as The New Pornographers, is not out to craft songs. “Trouble in Dreams” is a prime example of music with soul. Unlike his other band, there’s no emphasis on hooks, riffs, or catchy kick drums. The instruments performed her—pentatonic pianos and piercing

electric guitars - shoot like fireworks and explode into gorgeous decibels.

In the tradition of glam-pop made famous in the early 70s by Bowie, what’s being said

**In the tradition of glam-pop made famous in the early 70s by Bowie, what’s being said takes a back seat to how it’s said. For Destroyer, they create wonders.**

takes a back seat to how it’s said. For Destroyer, they create wonders. “The State” jams like dirty country blues, only puked up and appropriately matching the song’s message of oppression and a “blue broken drum playing

dead.” “Foam Hands” prods Bejar to speak over an organ and Nicolas Braggs’ tender guitar melodies about losing love and faith without the melodrama, but honestly and genuinely, even as he whistles the song to its conclusion.

The epic “Shooting Rockets (From the Desk of Night’s Ape)” is a masterpiece - and possibly one of the few songs that overcomes the adversity of its own title. “Caution - hot ashes / The girls says to her first kiss,” Bejar sings, while an operatic piano lines sweeps underneath, and with a quiet strength driving through the next eight minutes, there is little to do but surrender as sweet meditative sounds and pure bliss burn your very core.

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

# ‘Harold and Kumar’ sequel presents wry view of US culture

A.J. Hakari

Whoever thought that an all-night hunt for burgers would have turned into a wry commentary on American culture? Such was the case with “Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle,” an unassuming stoner comedy with a surprising amount of smarts embedded in the script.

After generating all sorts of laughs with raunchy gags and jabs at ethnic stereotypes, the flick’s sequel, the equally self-explanatory “Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay,” has arrived to up the ante. It does just that, but what it also does is surpass its predecessor, not just in sheer hilarity, but also in the intelligence it manages to sneak into the party.

“Guantanamo Bay” kicks off mere minutes after the ending of “White Castle,” with Harold (John Cho) and Kumar (Kal Penn) on their way to Amsterdam. But an unfortunate misunderstanding with a bong on the flight ends with the guys being branded terrorists and shipped off to, where else, prison in Cuba’s Guantanamo Bay.

Luckily, they manage to escape not long after their arrival, setting off a massive manhunt headed by an over zealous Homeland Security official (Rob Corddry). As Harold and Kumar make their way to Texas to get in touch with the one guy who could clear their names, the road trip they endure is just as insane

as their first one, replete with stylish rednecks, a Klan meeting and, of course, yet another run-in with the sex-crazed Neil Patrick Harris (as “himself”).

If “White Castle” aimed just to show that the frat boy comedy didn’t belong exclusively to white guys, then it’s fair to say that “Guantanamo Bay” is a little more grandiose in terms of scope. When you think about it, “Guantanamo Bay” is an extremely skillful film to be able to humorously tackle such touchy topics and still leave the audience in stitches.

Maybe it’s because the filmmakers aren’t trying to make something that’s going to change the world, but merely to look at life in post-Sept. 11 America through the eyes of a couple innocent pot-heads. Of course, for those who may be made uneasy by the idea of a politically savvy, mainstream comedy,

from Guantanamo Bay” won’t change the face of comedy as we know it. Looking back so far at what 2008 has given us, we should feel doubly grateful that a flick has arrived that’s not only really funny, but really smart to boot.

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

In 2004, Harold and Kumar went to White Castle. The result was an explosion of slider-obsessed reefer madness. It’s unclear whether Harold and Kumar went to White Castle because of the craze, or if the craze started because Harold and Kumar went to White Castle. Either way, they’ve returned, called out of hazy retirement for

another tour of cannabis, coughed on by pubescents across America who identify smoking weed not with euphoria but with rebellion against “the man.”

This time fleeing from the joint, cult heroes “Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay.” I just hope these onscreen antics don’t lead to a growing popularity of late-night visits to Gitmo....

Picking up where the first ended, and promising enough bongs, boobs and boners for everyone, Harold and Kumar board a plane bound for Amsterdam so Harold (John Cho) can find his dream girl. On the plane, Kumar (Kal Penn) has his “smokeless” bong mistaken for a bomb, and the duo gets shipped off to Guantanamo Bay. They escape (duh) and make their way to Texas, where the fiancé of Kumar’s old flame (whom he still loves) can help them get out of trouble. You can already tell exactly where the plot is going, and where it will end up.

Balding agent Ron Fox (Rob Corddry) plays the Ahab, relentlessly pursuing the two “terrorists” across country, personifying every negative stereotype there is about the blinded ignorance of Homeland Security.

The first Harold and Kumar used absurd grotesqueries to mask the sleight-of-hand political and cultural statements it made. A scene of a black man in jail holding a book, which is accused of being a gun, comes to mind. It was these subterfuges mocking societal problems that separated “White Castle” from many of the other stoner joints rolled out recently.

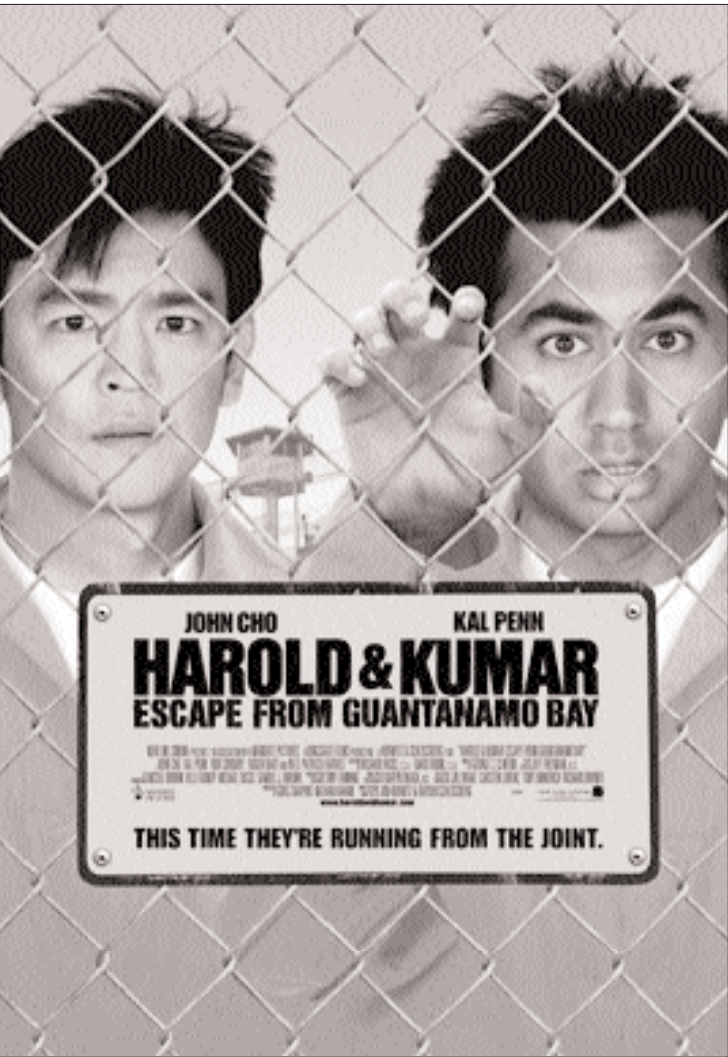
Ken Weigend

Writers Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg return to pen “Guantanamo Bay,” but this time they make no secret of the intended aim of the film: crude and insulting sociopolitical commentary molded in a vat of ethnic racism.

The pair, who also direct the film, frame each scene against one of two agendas: over-the-top racial slurs involving trite and bigoted stereotypes (circa forcing confessions from Jews by dumping pennies in front of them, or pouring grape soda out for the same effect on black men) or preach about the growing problems in American government (the climactic encounter with a stoned Bush ends in W not only cussing his dad out, but sermonizing about how people don’t need to trust their government to love their country).

It’s not that political satire, even that which is stained by bong water, is a bad thing; at times the intended effect of forcing perverse platitudes into the open for scrutiny is rendered. But more often than not, “Guantanamo Bay” just comes off as nescient. Unintelligent and tasteless, it loses its punch, devolving into crude insurrection for mutiny’s sake. One minority remarks in the film, “This is insulting!” Yes, it is. The only saving grace is the presence of Neil Patrick Harris, back again to ask, “What would NPH do?”

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.





# Student uses study abroad experience to help others

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Whatever it is that students want out of their college experience, they have the ability to get it somehow, someway and somewhere.

UW-River Falls student Christine Selby strove for a challenge: to find a travel abroad experience that was affordable, to become fluent in a foreign language and to serve others while at the same time serving herself academically.

Selby spent her fall 2007 semester abroad in Bolivia. She is the only UWRF student to utilize the new relationship between UWRF and Universidad Academica Campesina - Carmen Pampa (UAC-CP) in rural Bolivia.

Independently, Selby created her trip with independent study and an internship to meet academic requirements for her Speech Communications major. She also organized her living situation in which she lived in a dormitory at UAC-CP. Unlike other independent travel abroad programs offered at UWRF, Selby had the opportunity to teach English, work in a library and referee basketball for boys and girls teams. She was also able to play on an intramural team at the Bolivian university.

"I taught five English classes at the local high school. My students ranged from 13 to 20 years old. I showed up and the guy who had been teaching did not speak any English, so they were like, 'Hey, want to teach high school English?' So I started two days later," Selby said.

With little teaching experience and few supplies, Selby made the most out of her new responsibility."I created my own entire curriculum and brought my own chalk to class. There were no books or resources, so it was a great opportunity for me to be creative and become engaged in the learning process," Selby said.

In addition to teaching her five high school classes, she also tutored English to college students at UAC-CP.

## A relationship is established

Pat Hanson, a lecturer for communication studies and theater arts, has been the coordinator of what she calls "Project Bolivia."

"A shirt-tail relative of mine co-founded the university in Bolivia ... I told him then that I was now teaching at UWRF, which is renowned for some of the very majors offered at the university [in Bolivia] and that they should partner with us," Hanson said in an e-mail interview. "He agreed and said that the next time his co-founder, Sister Damon Nolan, was in town he would bring her to campus."

Damon did come to UWRF and she noted the areas of the greatest need for the students at UAC-CP: teaching of English as a second language, teacher training, teaching of artificial insemination (of the agriculture program) and ecotourism.

"I knew their need was great and our ability to give equally great," Hanson said. "This is [also] a great opportunity for our students to engage in service learning, learn or improve their Spanish and see one of the most beautiful parts of the world."

Selby first heard of Project Bolivia in a Spanish class as a vague announcement about a ceremony.

"A couple of days later I was in the University Center and I see the Bolivian flag and a group of people gathered around. I figured it must be what she had been talking about," Selby said. "I went over and watched them sign the consortium agreement and we gave them a goat and they gave us a charango."

The charango, a small South American string instrument, is now on display in front of Chancellor Don Betz's office.

## An experience

To pay for this trip abroad and her time in Bolivia, Selby

received a \$1,000 grant from the College of Arts and Sciences. She also had regular scholarships that applied to her tuition.

"The rest of my expenses came out of my pocket. But stuff is cheap at 70 cents for a meal. So it was a great deal over all," Selby said.

With monetary issues and academia aside, the rest of her time was spent building relationships and learning about the culture and people.

"I have awesome friendships that I am so glad for and they challenge me in ways that my friends in the states just can't do," she said. "One specific highlight was getting to dance in a huge anniversary festival of the City of Coroico for a dance competition."

Selby had the chance to see poverty first-hand in South America. UAC-CP is the only school in the Yunga area of the Andes Mountains serving the Aymara and Quechua indigenous groups.

"The biggest frustration though was just realizing the opportunity gap between me and my new friends. It makes you think a lot when you realize your plane ticket could cover one student's tuition, food, and housing for about two years," Selby said. "The fact that these students are getting a college education is incredible."

Selby has mentioned that "we are so privileged here and the need is so great here." Education has a direct link to the lives of UAC-CP students.

"Education is the Bolivian students' ticket out of poverty. They are so grateful for everything they receive," Hanson said.

The relationship between UWRF and UAC-CP is not a set program, and there was no formal exchange.

"That is kind of the beauty of it because it will only attract students with initiative who are looking for a unique experience like this. You won't find it on a list of travel abroad programs," Selby said. "With that said, students should only do this if they are very serious about learning a lot and being



Submitted Photo

**During her time in Bolivia, UW-River Falls student Christine Selby learned some of the games and customs of the Bolivians. Here, they play Macho Churro, a game usually played at festivals where the players jump on one another until they fall down.**

challenged. If that's what you want and you're willing to be humbled and put in the sweat, you should definitely do it."

Brent Greene, Global Connections director, urges students to study abroad, especially to non-traditional regions instead of western Europe.

"It's an absolute pinnacle, a study abroad experience.... [Students] take it to the next level. It's a lifelong thirst, lust for the Earth and travel. It is hard to explain what it does to your soul," Greene said.

## The future of Project Bolivia

Selby recently submitted the Faculty Foundation Grant, which she created over her

spring break. If it is accepted, then a Bolivian student will be coming to UWRF to study.

"This is the big part of the exchange. We are looking for student organizations and individuals who want to commit to being proactive about supporting UAC-CP and their students," Selby said.

Part of the program plan is to have the active support of at least 10 student organizations by next year. As of now there is only one student organization.

"If we do not get this grant we are not giving up. We will fundraise, write more grants-whatever we need to do to get this student here," Selby said. "For anybody who wants to be involved, there is great opportunity to learn about Bolivia and poverty."

Any kind of exchange, whether it is a student or a faculty member, will "enhance collaboration, deepen relations and create a human link," Greene said.

All 625 students that study at UAC-CP will return to their villages to educate, farm, nurse and lead eco-tours.

"They will be giving back for the rest of their lives," Hanson said.

When the teaching spreads from UWRF throughout Bolivia the knowledge expands within the citizens. "She could have changed an entire country by her experience," Greene said.

# TESOL, study abroad programs improve students' confidence, help University create a respectable international reputation

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UW-River Falls Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and some English students have a rare opportunity to take their education to a higher level.

The TESOL abroad program differs from standard study abroad programs in that students who participate in the TESOL program are actually teaching their foreign peers rather than simply learning with them.

Participants help the natives develop their conversational English to a point where they are confident in their ability to speak to English-native speakers.

"[The classes] help pull their English out and allow them to use it in a way that they're comfortable," Laura Harsdorf, a UWRF student who participated in last summer's program in Taiwan, said.

This summer is the second year UWRF has offered international TESOL opportunities. Assistant Professors of English Robyne Tiedeman and Vladimir Pavlov will lead students to Shih Hsin University in Taipei, Taiwan and to Artek International Children's Center in the Crimea, Ukraine, respectively, English department Chair Laura Zlogar said in an e-mail interview.

"The experience of teaching international students is invaluable," Zlogar said.

"It's real teaching," Tiedeman said. "On [the students'] resumes, this real experience they've had will help them find a job."

Harsdorf considered the experience as a chance to utilize the knowledge she is being taught in her classes at UWRF.

"College is like an incubator," she said. "When you're in college you're in the light and heat. You're feeding off all the infor-

mation. When you get out you're supposed to be able to use that."

Harsdorf also said that she was able to bring more discussion to her classes when she returned from her summer abroad.

Tiedeman also considered the experience to be invaluable. "[Our students] got real practical experience in a serious way," he said.

The TESOL exchange program is still being run on a year-by-year basis, Tiedeman said, "but we hope it becomes a regular tradition."

Not every UWRF student is able to participate in the programs.

"Since both of these programs require that students teach English-in formal and informal settings-they are only open to students with course work and training in English language and TESOL courses," Zlogar said.

The experience made an impact on both UWRF exchange students as well as the natives.

"At the end, I felt that all seven of [our students] felt they were teachers," Tiedeman said. "It clearly improved their techniques ... and their confidence."

While this particular international experience is not available to many UWRF students, there are other opportunities to study and gain global experience.

According to the most recent Global Connections Office list of international agreements, there are 13 institutions with which UWRF has a relationship described as either active or signed. There are even more that are unsigned, in progress or pending. Some agreements have been renewed since the document's November 2007 date, Global Connections Office Manager Connie Simpson said.

Even so, the University is in much better shape than it had been.

"Until Chancellor Betz got here, no one knew where all of these were," Simpson said.

She said that the various agreements had previously been kept by the individual colleges that initiated the relationships.

Generally these agreements are developed because of a connection an individual staff or faculty member or administrator has with an international body, Brown said.

The number of potential international opportunities affects everyone on campus, whether they participate in study abroad programs or not. The foreign universities UWRF sends students to often send students of their own to study here, Simpson said, and those who stay on this campus their whole college career get to meet international peers on their home ground.

"These international connections are vital to the University because they are facilitating UWRF's ability to take our students and faculty into the world and also bring the world to UWRF," Chancellor Don Betz said in an e-mail interview.

International agreements are a part of the University's strategic plan for 2007-2012. In this plan, UWRF aims "to provide opportunities for a greater number of students and faculty to pursue international travel/study abroad-student participation rate of 20% within four years, 50% within eight years," according to Initiative 3.1 of the plan.

"People haven't heard of us at UWRF," Simpson said. "[International programs] help us make a name for ourselves."

Terry Brown, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, stressed the importance of keeping a global perspective in education.

"The world is not the same place as it was," she said. "If we aren't preparing our students to go out ... with a global understanding of the world, ... we are not preparing them to succeed."

## International study opportunities at UW-River Falls

- |            |         |                |                |             |         |
|------------|---------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------|
| •Australia | •Egypt  | •Israel/Jordan | •Mexico        | •Nicaragua/ | •Taiwan |
| •Belize    | •France | •Italy         | •Mexico/Canada | Costa Rica  | •Turkey |
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Contact the Global Connections Office or visit their Web site at [www.uwrf.edu/globalconnections](http://www.uwrf.edu/globalconnections) for more information.