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# STUDENT VOICE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS

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## Halada to retire after 33 years at UW-River Falls

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After 33 years of employment at UW-River Falls, Mary Halada, the vice chancellor of administration and finance, will be retiring this fall.

When asked about the reason for retiring, Halada said, with a little flair in her eyes and mischief in her voice, "Because I can!" She laughed, but went on, more serious this time, "my husband and I are both retiring. I've worked here for 33 years. I've had a great career here... but it's time to start a new chapter."

Replacing her will be Lisa Wheeler, the University's current chief information officer for IT Services. Former UWRF Chancellor Don Betz, who was made aware of Halada's decision to retire shortly before he resigned, asked Wheeler to fill the vice chancellor position on an interim basis for one or two years.

"Betz was thinking [UWRF] won't want to go through hiring [a new Chancellor] without some stability in the vice chancellor position," Wheeler said.

Wheeler brings to the temporary role a master's in information and management services as well as her doctorate in educational leadership.

"Lisa has proven herself a very competent leader," Halada said. "She understands the culture and organization. She is very involved in strategic planning and can move this University forward leaps and bounds."

Wheeler said she is excited, but still a little nervous.

"I have a combination of being really excited and being properly in awe," Wheeler said. "I have some generic leadership skills you can apply anywhere, which I will use, but I still have a lot to learn."

To prepare for her new position, Wheeler has had weekly meetings with Halada to acclimate herself with the position and the responsibilities.

"Lisa has been sitting in on a lot of meetings... so she is in the know," Halada said. "We're in a unique position to be able to train her right in [to the position]."

Halada describes the duties of the post as 'varied.'

"The University is separated into two halves underneath the chancellor: the academic side and the non-academic side," Halada said. "The vice chancellor of administration and finance is responsible for the non-academic side."

Halada is training Wheeler to oversee student affairs, campus finances, facilities, IT services and business operations. But Wheeler has no intentions of simply following in Halada's footsteps—she has a goal of streamlining several processes across campus during her interim.

See **Halada** page 3

## Banks Center unveiled



Sally King/Student Voice

**The Banks Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry opened its doors this year. UWRF alumna Joanne Banks helped create the idea for the center and made a generous donation toward it. See page two for extensive coverage.**

## CAFES to determine fate of food science program

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The UW-River Falls food science and technology program is facing a potential elimination this fall semester. Come October, there will be a decision made to either eliminate the program from the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science (CAFES), change the curriculum to be available only as a minor or leave some courses suitable only for the animal science major.

Currently, the program has two faculty members teaching and two academic staff in the meat and dairy plants for more than 30 students. In 1992, the program had five faculty members, but has since lost three due to retirement and advancements. Without the opportunity to hire more faculty members due to budget cuts, this led to the loss of accreditation from the Institute of Food Technology (IFT). To be eligible for IFT approval, the program needs a minimum of four professors with Ph.Ds.

"I have parents of prospective students asking why we are not IFT approved. The program hasn't changed at all," said Bonnie Walters, food science associate professor and advisor of the Food Science Club.

Without IFT approval, students enrolled in the program are no longer eligible to apply for scholarships, which in the past have earned students thousands of dollars, Walters said. Students are also unable to attend regional or national meetings and conventions which are essential for the field.

"IFT is the key into the industry," Mallmann

said. "Anyone in the field knows about IFT. This includes new students looking at our school."

After attending the national convention in New Orleans earlier this year, senior Jared Acker, former food science club president said, "I am still in college and I still get job offers (from recruiters)." Mallmann, Acker and senior Josh Burgan, senior food science club vice president, are the only three UWRF students still invited to IFT meetings because of their membership and prior eligibility.

The three food science seniors accompanied by ten other students have met with CAFES Dean Dale Gallenberg, Department Chair Steven Kelm and Interim Chancellor Connie Foster last spring to voice their opinion of the potential change of their program. In addition to their meetings, the three students have also recruited students to the major in the past.

"As a college we know changes need to be made in the food science and technology program - it is not sustainable in its present format nor is it as strong and effective as it should be," Gallenberg said. "The questions of what we will do with the program and what changes may be made are still being discussed - no decisions have been made yet."

According to Walters and the three food science students, even alumni, have been asking questions to Gallenberg about whether the challenges their major at UWRF is enduring. Acker worked at Advanced Food Products LLC., in Clear Lake, Wis., during the summer with many of UWRF food science alumni.

See **Food Science** page 3

## Former CBE dean Nemecek will make return to classroom

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Barbara Nemecek, the former dean of the College of Business and Economics, stepped down from her position as dean and is currently on sabbatical as she prepares to teach a marketing class for the spring semester.

Nemecek was the founding dean of the CBE, which replaced the School of Business in 2001 and drew faculty from three departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her tenure was noted for the achievement of accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business in April 2007.

AACSB accreditation is described as the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide in an official pamphlet. Only 15 percent of business schools worldwide meet the rigorous standards of AACSB accreditation.

"I think she had the experience, the knowledge and expertise to move us forward to that initial accreditation," Interim Dean Brian Schultz said.

AACSB accreditation involved a candidacy period of six years and the maintenance of high standards, which included what Schultz called a solid base of faculty - or faculty that regularly publishes in journals, make professional presentations and stay up-to-date in their specific disciplines. A self-evaluation report also had to be prepared from 2001-2005 and then reviewed by a three-member team from the AACSB that visited UWRF. "She provided that guidance that we needed along with the determination to build up the faculty, not just in numbers, but in professional qualifications of the faculty," Schultz said.

The search for a new dean begins in the fall.

The Provost Office is working with the CBE to form a search and screen committee that will include faculty, students and community members. Once the committee is formed, they will create an ad for the position that will appear in prominent publications and then they will whittle down the applicants, eventually making a recommendation to the provost.

"Our goal is to have somebody assume the responsibilities on July 1, 2009," Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Terry Brown said. "Hopefully an appointment announcement will be made in the spring." One of the questions that will have to be addressed by the committee is whether to take a business professional or academic as dean.

"Now some schools are going more towards the actual business professional being the dean," Schultz said. "I don't know that we're at that, but some of the bigger schools will go out and hire an executive that's good at running a business as opposed to having a background in academia."

Schultz said he thinks it is more likely that we will do the latter, and take somebody that has been an associate dean at a larger university and has around five years experience in a dean's office. However, the decision is ultimately in the hands of the provost and the currently forming search and screen committee.

See **Nemecek** page 3



VOICE SHORTS

Rodeo Club Hosts 44th Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo

The UW-River Falls Rodeo Club will hold its 44th annual Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo September 19th and 20th at the UWRF Lab Farm 1 Rodeo Arena on Wasson Road. The performances will be held at 7:00p.m. on Friday and 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. Gates open one hour before performance time. Advance tickets are \$5 for students, \$9 for adults, and \$5 for children (ages 7-12) and are being sold at the Agriculture Science Building. Regular tickets are \$7 for students, \$12 for adults, \$7 for children (7-12), and children 6 and under are free.

UWRF to Host Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Orphans

On September 20th from 8 to 10 a.m., the University of Wisconsin- River Falls chapter of Building Tomorrow (BT) will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser at the Applebee's in Hudson to help build a school for orphans infected with HIV/AIDS in Kampala, Uganda. Tickets are \$6 for all-you-can-eat pancakes. Tickets will be sold at the door Sept.20 and in advance at the University Center on Sept.19 from 11 a.m. to 1p.m.

Informational Meeting to be Held for J-Term Egypt Trip

Those interested in traveling to Egypt during January-Term 2009 should attend the informational meeting on September 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. in room B107 at the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. The trip, which takes place from Jan. 6-18, includes visits to Cairo, Memphis, Giza, Luxor, Aswan, and other areas close by as well as a cruise down the Nile River and an air excursion to Abu Simbel. Students will explore landmarks including pyramids, tombs, temples, Sphinx, Aswan High Dam, City of the Dead, Valley of the Kings, and the Citadel. The cost of the trip is about \$4,200, which includes airfare, airport departure taxes, transfers, visas, hotel, taxes, and tips.

Journey House Holds “Amazing Race” with \$100 Prize

The campus ministry house, the Journey House, will have an “Amazing Race” this Saturday, September 20th from 10 a.m. to noon. The race involves teams of two racing around River Falls and UWRF solving riddles and competing in challenges. The winning team gets \$100. It costs \$5 per person to enter the race and the money raised goes to help AIDS orphans in Tanzania.

Voice Shorts compiled by  
Natalie Conrad



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# The Banks Center opens its doors

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The basement of the Davee Library now houses an innovative new center for learning that through teaching and research is intended break through the boundaries between different disciplines at UW-River Falls.

The Banks Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry is named after UWRF alumna, Joanne Banks, who broached the idea and made a generous donation. A state grant covered the rest of the cost.

The Banks Center includes a classroom, a conference room and a director's office.

Depicted in tile on the floor in the hallway of the Banks Center is an abstract, nongender version of Di Vinci's "Vitruvian Man." The hands of the figure point to the classroom and the conference room. The figure is meant to be a constant reminder that all disciplines have their origins in humanity, Interim Provost and Chancellor for Academic Affairs Terry Brown said.

The classroom is based on circular design. A strip of red carpet leads to the center of a compass-like design in the middle of the room. Like a room inside of a room, there are circular walls that "create a feeling of community," Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Science Brad Caskey said.

The right-hand wall in the front can be moved to convert the classroom to fit the needs of the different professors. Behind the left wall is storage space. Whiteboards are on nearly every wall.

"[The Banks Center is] designed to excite students and faculty about teaching and learning," Brown said. "I cannot wait to teach in that space."

A director for the Banks Center should

be selected by spring. Once a director takes the job he or she will promote more multi-disciplinary courses, coordinate the classes and bring speakers, Caskey said.

There is a push to develop more multi-

disciplinary courses for the 2009-10 school year. The conference room is the place where faculty from the different

disciplines can meet and discuss new ways to collaborate and create new courses, Caskey said.

One such course in the talking stages is a class on the year 1968. This tulmo-

the way that some buildings on campus are, so we really are a neutral area where interdisciplinary study can flourish."

Interdisciplinary methods of teaching are one of the hallmarks of Banks' career. Penn State University's College of Medicine offered Banks a position in 1972 position that used literature as a new way to look at medical knowledge.

"Sometimes I think my brain is badly wired," Banks said in the October 2006 issue of "Falcon Features." "It's true. Never in my life have I sort of been comfortable staying in one discipline as universities have traditionally imagined them."

She died of ovarian cancer in May 2007, but her inspirational legacy lives on through the Banks Center.



Photo by Jon Lyksett/Student Voice

**The Banks Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry, located in Davee Library basement 103.**

“[The Banks Center is] designed to excite students and faculty about teaching and learning.”

Terry Brown,  
Interim Provost and  
Chancellor for Academic  
Affairs

disciplines can meet and discuss new ways to collaborate and create new courses, Caskey said.

One such course in the talking stages is a class on the year 1968. This tulmo-

# Out-of-state insurance out of reach

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A recent change in the complex insurance configuration at UW-River Falls has caused difficulties for faculty and staff who sought medical treatment outside the state of Wisconsin.

Part of the problem results from the complicated insurance structure that is currently in place, Faculty Senate chair and chemistry professor David Rainville said. The insurance plan that is used by the University works on a series of three tiers that range from highest to lowest cost. The tiers are made up of three different insurance providers. On the top tier is Humana West which has the highest cost, Anthem is on the second tier and on the third tier is standard insurance.

Until recently, out-of-state treatment options were available on the second and third tiers of the insurance plan, but within the past year, the out-of-state option was only made available as an addition to the third tier. The recent change in the plan has had a detrimental effect because it limits the choice of health insurance available and it costs a lot more money.

When out-of-state care was made available only to the third tier of the plan, a large group of faculty and staff were affected. More people were affected at UWRF than any other institution in the state, Rainville said.

This past year, the issue of out-of-state care was presented to the Wisconsin State Legislature. The issue was passed by the State Assembly, but later failed in the Senate.

Economics professor Jacqueline Brux has been negatively affected by problems with her health insurance. She has had issues for the past three years and dealing with her medical

insurance had been a traumatic experience, Brux said in an email interview.

This past summer Brux was diagnosed with Graves' Disease, which she said is "a serious illness involving a hyper-active thyroid." She was diagnosed with the condition at the beginning of the summer and months passed before she was able to see a doctor.

"I was diagnosed at the beginning of the summer, but because my insurance required me to see an endocrinologist in Wisconsin, I was forced to wait the entire summer until there

“...because my insurance required me to see an endocrinologist in Wisconsin, I was forced to wait the entire summer...”

Jacqueline Brux,  
economics professor

was an opening with a Wisconsin endocrinologist." Brux said. "This is wrong."

Brux also referred to a film called "Sick Around the World," which shows the differences in the health care systems of the United States and other countries such as Taiwan and Great Britain. She said that the film points out that in these other countries the health care systems appear to be more user friendly. The patients in these other coun-

tries can get the medical attention they need without so much trouble and without high costs of health care coverage.

Brux said that the health insurance system in the United States is one of the instances in which the government is not acting in the best interests of the people.

"I feel like every day I listen to someone's story and I end up saying, 'our country doesn't take care of its people.' This is true- it doesn't. Health care is one of the most important examples," she said. "We deserve better."

## 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

September 2

--Nicholas P. Anders reported a portable sound system, video switch, three microphones, and a DVD/video recorder stolen from the Amphitheater.

September 4

--Kari E. Swanson reported her bicycle seat stolen while it was parked in bicycle rack outside Johnson Hall.  
--Janelle L. Lang reported her bicycle seat stolen while it was parked in the bicycle rack outside Johnson Hall.  
--Kaylea R. Hicks, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in McMillan Hall.

September 5

--Tierney A. Bevers, 19, was cited for a seatbelt violation.  
--Nicholas D. Littlefield, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in May Hall.

September 7

--Erik M. Sherman, 22, was cited for loud and unnecessary noise at 119 Charlotte St.

September 9

--Karwee A. Marshall, 22, was cited for operating after suspension.

September 10

--Sarah Freiling reported her student ID and room key stolen from the north side of the basketball court behind Parker Hall.

September 11

--Lisa A. Retzloff reported \$30 stolen from her room in Parker Hall on Sept. 4.  
--Alexander J. Hammer, 18, was cited for failure to stop at a stop sign.  
--Loren E. Rawlings, 24, was cited for speeding.  
--Alexander B. Hovde, 21, was cited for speeding.  
--Jessica N. Galvan, 19, was cited for speeding.

September 12

--Brandon M. DeMotts, 21, was cited for a seatbelt violation.

September 13

--Alexandra A. Jochim reported \$50 stolen from her room in Parker Hall between Sept. 11-13.

September 14

--Samantha J. Seurer, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption in May Hall.



Halada: vice chancellor to spend retirement traveling



Sally King/Student Voice  
**Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance Mary Halada will be retiring this fall after 33 years at UWRF. Halada has served as a vice chancellor since 2004.**

from page 1

“We’ve got lots of things we do that take too much time and frustrate people,” Wheeler said. “We’ve had consultants on board all summer teaching us ‘lean process design.’”

Lean process design streamlines internal processes to eliminate waste and save time.

“A university’s largest resource is people... when we waste their time we’re wasting resources,” Wheeler said.

Wheeler will assume the role of interim vice chancellor as soon as Halada officially retires. Halada will not leave, however, until a new CIO is found to replace Wheeler in IT Services. A search and screen committee has been in place and actively scouting since early summer. The team has found three suitable candidates, all of whom will hopefully interview on campus within the next month, according to Halada.

Although firm plans are in place that will make this tran-

sition run smoothly, there are still those who are sad to see Halada go. Alice Cernohous has been Halada’s assistant since Jan. 2004.

“Mary is a terrific boss,” Cernohous said in an e-mail interview. “It has been a joy to work for someone with her work ethic. Mary has always looked at the ‘big picture’ for the University when making decisions.”

Halada was hired by the University in the summer of 1975 as the assistant to the director of auxiliary services. She came on holding a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Grove City College in Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in management from Metropolitan State University in St. Paul.

When the position of director of auxiliary services was dissolved, Halada stepped up and took on some of the responsibilities of the defunct position. The former Office of Auxiliary Services went through a reorganization, Halada said. During that transitional period, Halada was

asked by the vice chancellor at the time to take on budgetary responsibilities. As the restructuring continued, Halada eventually wound up assuming the role of assistant to the Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance Virgil Nylander.

In Jan. 2004, Nylander retired and Halada rose up as the new vice chancellor. Halada said she will miss the people here at UWRF the most.

According to Cernohous, Halada has made “life-long relationships” with former students and staff.

Although Halada is excited to start a new chapter in her life, she said leaving behind UWRF will be difficult.

“So much of my world has been this campus, it’s hard to imagine I won’t be as closely involved,” said Halada. “I’ll still live in the community... but that day-to-day interaction will be gone.”

Halada said she plans to spend her retirement traveling with her husband.

Nemecek: Schultz named interim dean for 08-09 school year

from page 1

“That is one thing that the provost and the committee will have quite a bit of conversation about, what will be the best fit,” Interim Chancellor Connie Foster said.

According to the timetable set down by the provost, Schultz is interim dean for the entire 2008-09 academic year.

“Brian Schultz is stepping in as interim dean and he is associate dean for about 5 years now, so that’s pretty seamless and he worked a lot with Dean Nemecek,” Foster said.

Schultz said he plans first and foremost to maintain standards for accreditation, but he said he also has plans to work on the curriculum to keep it up-to-date, work with the UWRF Office of University Advancement and reach out to alumni.

“We could always use funds for scholarships,” Schultz said. “We have some very nice scholarships in our college, but not nearly enough for the need that is out there.” Scholarships are harder to come by, Schultz said, because the CBE saw its largest influx of

new freshmen this fall semester at about 200. The high for a semester in previous years was 160 students.

While increased enrollment is a campus-wide trend, Foster said that the CBE has seen a huge growth in students over the last seven years. Schultz attributes the growth in part to the ongoing commitment of the CBE to bring in faculty of the highest standard and the achievement of AACSB accreditation.

While Nemecek has stepped down as dean, she leaves her print as the founding dean of the CBE and as a major contributor to the achievement of the college’s first AACSB accreditation. Furthermore, able administrators, faculty and policies remain in place and the transition to a new dean should be a smooth one.

“There should not be any drop off in the activities of the college and the emphasis of good quality education for our students,” Schultz said. “We have a solid faculty that are well prepared and I think on the same track to provide a good solid education for our majors.”

Food Science: Program on verge of elimination from University

from page 1

The company only hires students that have graduated from UWRF. If food science and technology is eliminated, then all monetary donations from the company will end as well, according to Acker.

However, if the program is changed and courses are only available through animal science, “students will lose the course content with fruit and vegetables,” according to Walters.

“Students are frustrated when they see the value in

food science more so than meat animals,” Walters said. “If animal science moves forward with food science courses, the students will no longer be food scientists, but instead meat processors.”

With the food industry being one of the largest manufacturing industries in the world, and UWRF holding a steady 95 percent career placement for food science graduates, food scientists are wanted. Food science and technology also has the highest median salaries of all CAFES graduates at \$34,000-

36,000, according to CAFES’ 2005/2006 Post-Graduation Report by Career Services.

Food science students are more fortunate than other students in larger schools because of the close contact with fellow majors, Burgan said, and “a good portion of students in the major are in the club.”

“I came here for food science. It’s absolutely one reason I came to this school,” said Burgan. “I realize how valuable this program is. We’re for bettering the program.”

Sodexo brings new dining options, features to campus

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UW-River Falls Dining Services made the switch from long-term food provider Chartwells to Sodexo in late May. The company has brought new and different features to the campus, and canceled some as well.

One of the new features is a Mexican restaurant, which replaced a more fast-food oriented counter called Coyote Jack’s. Another is an Asian restaurant, Mein Bowl. For the first time sushi is now available on campus. Sodexo also brought along its signature counter, World of Wings. Sodexo features continuous dining, and the main hall and remains open every day from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Sodexo Group is based in France. Its subsidiary, Sodexo Inc., is headquartered in Gaithersburg, MD. The company’s Web site claims it is “the leading provider of food and facilities management services in the U.S., Canada and Mexico” with over 120,000 employees in North America, and took in \$7.3 billion in revenue in 2007 alone.

The University started looking for a new provider last spring when survey results suggested the students wanted to see some changes to the service, Director of Dining Services Jerry Waller said. Sodexo was chosen out of four initial companies, two of which went on to submit applications. The company now has a seven-year contract with UWRF, Waller said, and began servicing the school after Chartwells’ contract expired on May 31.

“Right now its a challenge,” Waller said. “They’re learning, we’re learning. I think students like to pick and choose the aspects they

had last year and add them to the ones they had this year, but they’re two different companies.”

Students in the University Center also gave their opinions on the switch.

“[Sodexo’s] got its peaks and it’s got its downsides,” said Emily Thell, a junior pursuing a major in international studies in German. “The continuous dining is good; there’s always food available. The food is slightly better tasting.”

Jacob Mallman, a senior food science major, said Sodexo’s changes were positive.

“Just overall, it seems like Sodexo is getting a fresh start, whereas Chartwells was kind of pushing their limits,” Mallman said.

Residents typically choose a prepaid meal plan. If they decide not to eat in the dining hall, they have the choice of transferring a meal to another approved restaurant in the University Center. This formula has not changed, but the choices have.

“There’s no sub transfer,” Thell said. “There used to be a transfer area where you could get burgers, fries, cold sandwiches ... the transfer options aren’t as good.”

Another concern was that Sodexo is no longer providing trays.

“In the main dining hall you can only take one plate at a time,” said Chris Olson, a junior communications major. “And you can’t have trays. [It’s] to cut down on food waste, I guess, so you don’t take as much at a time.”

However, the service is still quite new and nothing is set in stone.

“I think we’ll see continued changes to accommodate the students,” Waller said. “I’m positive about that aspect.”

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS

Fall 2008

Student Senate ELECTIONS

Polls are open from 8:00 AM Tuesday, September 23 to 4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 24

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Positions Available:

1 At-Large Senator

4 First-Year Students

1 COEPS Representative

1 Non-Traditional

Student Senate Candidates--

First Year: Logan Rutledge

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Events

9/20 AMAZING RACE: pay \$10, win \$100! Teams of 2 compete. Funds go to Tanzanian AIDS orphans. Meet at Journey House at 10 am.

9/25 ARABIC FOOD: \$1 all-you-can-eat! Speakers and music Journey House from 6-8



EDITORIAL

Concerns grow with student population

It’s good to see that UW-River Falls’ goal of going green is shared by the new food service provider, Sodexo. Their focus on using green materials, such as their cups made from corn, and their removal of trays fits well with the University’s goal of sustainability. But, now that one of the University’s goals is finally being realized, it is time to focus on more dire problems facing the campus.

Overcrowding has been an ongoing problem at UWRF. In each of the past two years there has been an influx of about 1,200 incoming freshmen per year. The South Fork Suites were built just three years ago, but the residence halls on campus are jammed and students are forced to deal with overflow each year. Talks have already begun regarding the construction of South Fork II. Yet, even being faced with overcrowding, the University is not doing what is needed to accommodate the number of students it currently has.

Certain classes that utilize the Adobe Software Suite are facing the problem of the University not having enough licenses to cover the number of students enrolled in the class. Students are forced to share computers because the licenses needed for the class are shared across campus and being used by other students outside of class.

The loss of faculty members is another problem facing the campus community. Small class sizes and personal contact with professors are advantages to attending UWRF, yet professors and administrators are moving on or retiring. It seems like a growing number of faculty members have an “Interim” or “Adjunct” before their title.

The problem of decreasing faculty is already being felt by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science. The department is on the verge of having to cut their food science program due to lack of qualified faculty members to teach courses. The food science program also has lost its accreditation due to the decline in faculty members.

It is ridiculous that the University is unable to find replacement professors for one of its flagship programs.

We know that progress has been made with going green and changing food service providers, but it is time to focus on these broader issues facing the campus community.

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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students fuel Brother Jed's fire

It’s that time of year again when our controversial comrade invades the sanctity of our lives. Brother Jed’s “ministry” feeds off of queasy Christians, gays, women and otherwise the entire human race ... it’s not exactly news.

As always, there are the noble men and women who will fight with valiance and futility to defend their beliefs against this incompe-

tent insurgent of faith as if they were Freud defending the Oedipus Complex. That-a-boy: You sure showed him.

I’ll let you in on a little secret. I support Brother Jed’s audacity to come in and preach his hate sermons for two reasons.

First and foremost, extremists like that punctuate their vacuity by merely stating what they believe, personally providing the sole reason not to believe a damn thing they have to say.

Secondly, Brother Jed operates on the same First

Amendment that allows me to believe, say or write whatever I wish. Luckily, it works for you too!

As a matter of fact, you have the power to nullify Brother Jed’s missionary.

And no, you won’t do it by developing the righteous argument that will convince him his piquant believes are a little more than the prepubescent visions of Satan’s retarded cousin.

Instead, avoid him like the plague. That way, his disease won’t spread and we won’t waste time and effort trying to “cure” him.

After all, we can’t take away his right to free speech unless someone physically shuts him up (and I’d be so sad), but who would be offended by his words if it were only him listening?

So please, if you wish to discourage this man from preaching, take a hint from New York taxi cab drivers: flip him the bird, then carry on.

**Jordan Harshman**  
Student

ITC’s appeal resides in multi-cultural opportunity

That bumpy flight over the Atlantic is behind you as you sit on a bus traveling, for us, on the wrong side of the road on your way to London, England. The start of your semester abroad with the International Traveling Classroom has just begun and every sensation in your body is tingling.

As part of the ITC program, the student will be, as the name suggests, traveling from city to city while taking UW-River Falls credited classes. Many of the popular cities to visit in this program are London, Paris and Berlin, but every year has a different schedule. In between cities, students also have the opportunity, or rather necessity, of traveling on their own whether to the next scheduled city or to another desired location.

Information will speak of “an experience of a life time” and how the ITC program can offer students reality to dreams they never thought could come true.

The truth is the ITC is not an experience of a lifetime, because you may never get the chance to travel as much as you actually travel or experience as much as you would like to experience. No, the ITC program is one of a kind because of the scholarly atmosphere that surrounds the stu-



dents during their months abroad. The atmosphere where all students are given the responsibility and trust that they will learn more in a semester than they have in the past years of their lives.

Life is not the same while traveling with thirty other students and one professor. The small connections that link everyone together become something of a small community. There are few secrets and rarely any privacy. The classes are held in whatever rooms become available to hold such an amount of people and, in some instances, you are lucky to get a chair.

There are bound to be cities that are not enjoyable. Experiences and people are not always going to be understanding and/or pleasant. Depending on what side of the continent a student is on, the cleanliness and overall reliability of transportation changes drastically. These are the experiences students will have during their time with the ITC program. Culture is not an issue because no student will spend long enough time being engulfed in a single culture to truly understand it.

The only thing the ITC program can guarantee is that the more you change, the more the world changes around you.

Beer offers more than a buzz for college students

When most college students are dirt poor and cannot afford the fancy organic marinade to cook their non-existent fancy steaks in, a realization after a few months of eating greasy pizza rolls is that all the money mom gave you is spent on drugs and beer. Ironically, cheap beer.

Yes, this realization came to me during my sophomore year of college while cooking the steaks a friend shoplifted for us from the grocery store.

My roommates and I tended to always stand around in a circle drinking Beast and shouting at each other.

At one point, one of my roommates thought it would be awesome to douse his steak in beer. Tada! A surprisingly cheap and tasty marinated dinner was created.

This was only the beginning of the unusual beer uses. Of course, at any time beer was used for something other than drinking it was considered alcohol abuse.

But for some reason non-empty beer bottles were still left in the bushes, the porch, the sidewalk, the backyard and in my tomato and flower garden.

After three days of being pissed off

and accusing them of killing my plants, I noticed the slugs and gnarly monsters that were once eating up my veggies were now inside the beer bottles. They saved my plants! Until the neighbor kids came and stole all my tomatoes to throw at cars.

Once, I attempted to relax in a disgusting party house. I put on some chill tunes, grabbed a book, soaked my feet in warm, soapy water, but didn’t forget the beer.

While absorbed in the book, I reached for the bottle without using my eyes and knocked the bottle of lager over to be poured right into my tub of soothing feet water. I quickly picked up the bottle and licked the side up to the rim to catch the drips. To refill the tub with cleaner water was too much work for chill-out time.

Later, the yeast had made my feet smooth, soft and my calluses were even lessened. Bathe in beer! It’s good for the skin.

A similar thing happened when I was sunbathing in the backyard and some-

body spilled a beer on my hair. After letting the beer and sun soak into my locks and post-shampoo, I had lighter streaks.

There are many other beer uses I have seen besides drinking. Once we even made beersicles on a hot day. Another time, my roommate got a bread maker for Christmas and we made beer bread.

Beer makes people happy. This means it will make your nasty bug and rodent friends happy. It will make your hair and skin happy. It will make your food happy. In turn, it will make your body happy. The environment will love you and beer for being happy and being conservative about your waste.

Next time you’re cleaning up after a party and feel obligated to drink the warm, stale beers left over, don’t! Save it for your next cooked meat dinner or bath time. The Beast won’t taste good anyway.



**Teresa Aviles**

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



## Opportunities abroad tease the financially handicapped

It has begun. This semester will be like so many past. This campus will soon be covered in my foot-prints. My butt will familiarize itself with whichever classroom chair receives it warmly, and my eyes will begin to glaze over.

For me, the start of the semester signals a typical encroaching monotony and seasonal lethargy. Every winter is a game in which I see how long I can quell the inevitable restlessness that sets in with the start of semester. Travel has always been a passion of mine and being shut up in one place for too long is agony. This is made worse here because, not only am I grounded in one place, but I have been repeating the same routine in this same place for the past three years.

My one break from this tedious cycle was the semester I spent abroad. Spring of 2007 was my release. I impetuously decided to fly the coop and participate in the International Traveling Classroom program. I spent the semester prior to my departure planning for my trip and trying not to pee my pants every morning I woke up to tick off another day on the calendar. It was a struggle, but entirely worth it.

The best semester of my college life has been spent away from these brick walls and small town streets and out in the world. I have always had an infatuation for adventure. Being able to experience this passion for a good amount of time was exuberating. I am, at heart, both an academic and a nature lover.

Europe catered to both of these characteristics. My days were spent avidly scampering across every bit of foreign ground I could get under my feet and debating whether setting off the security alarm and being tackled by six burly Englishmen was worth actually having touched the Rosetta Stone. I refrained; a decision I think was best, in the end. I was able to swim in an icy Aegean Sea, wander Venetian canals, climb Swiss alps, form new friendships, ogle famous works of art, butcher the German language and overcome my Dante’s Peak-induced fear of volcano eruptions by successfully walking on one without vomiting all over my classmates. The trip was probably the single most

enlightening experience of my life. As a direct result of this amazing experience, my enthusiasm for travel and adventure has since morphed into a rather fervent obsession. My yearning to explore new places is now constantly burning the back portion of my brain, which is possibly why I am still atrocious at mathematics.

Now that the semester has begun and my brain is preparing to shift into its academic, and likely more dormant, phase, I am being teased by flyers and announcements about study abroad opportunities offered over J-term, spring break and next semester. However titillating I might find this initially, in the end I am beaten back by the logical center in my brain that annoyingly informs me that barely being able to make rent is a bit of a tip off that I am in no financial condition to travel again, regardless of the small amount of aid that I may or may not receive.

I am still determined. If I cannot afford to venture away from the monotony I find in Wisconsin and am forced to brood an entire year in the thirty-year-old scratched plastic of classroom chairs. I will feel out what may be possible once school lets out. I have since spent a very masochistic evening at the meeting for this J-term’s Vietnam trip. I must say, I was akin to having something very delicious dangled in front of me and being forcefully slapped any time I attempted to seize it.

Masochism and brooding aside, I highly recommend that fellow students do indulge in abroad experiences, so long as they do not taunt me with photos and stories whilst I am stuck here, as friends of mine have done before. I have never heard regrets from people that have studied abroad. It is potentially the best thing that will ever happen to you outside of winning the lottery or growing another set of arms. I know that it has had such an enormous impact on me that I am debating whoring myself unto the next flight to Vietnam.

Until then I am to stay here, in blustery Wisconsin, and plaster my walls with photos of places that I will inevitably work up the dollars to visit.



Katie Heimer



Joe Hager

## Past election destroys hope for 2008

Hello readers and welcome to another year on the beautiful UW-River Falls campus. It’s only a couple weeks in, and I can already tell that the presidential election in November will be an important and influential issue in classrooms across campus.

Perhaps if I were more judicious with the production of this column I would find some cleaner way to approach the election in a less overt, partisan way.

But I simply can’t. Even thinking about the modest chance of a McCain/Palin victory gives me night terrors. Chills and sweats. Insomnia. Mumps and measles. All psychosomatic symptoms of November peril at the voting booth.

It’s happened to me before. In 2004, I wasn’t worried at all. I figured John Kerry, dorkbot that he was, would win easily when compared to the forehead-smacking incompetence of George W. Bush.

Surely, I thought, everyone will weigh the particulars of this election carefully in a rational manner and come to the obvious and logical conclusion that Bush is bad.

But in my youthful naiveté, I couldn’t predict the combined effect of a country of single-issue, emotional voters. When properly riled, these people can own any election. That’s the Karl Rove legacy.

This time will be different—it’s

2008 and people will finally see! Everyone will learn the lessons of the 2004 election and live happily ever after!

You see, I like to think these thoughts, but I simply cannot believe in them until November actually gets here.

I should prepare myself for the worst right now so I don’t get face-punched by my own blind optimism later on.

I have several reasons to dislike McCain, and you don’t have to like any of them.

First of all, the dude doesn’t know how to use a computer or the Internet. This is insane. The Internet and all the telecommunication issues that go along with it are of

immense importance in 2008, changing our culture constantly.

Internet and technology literacy are required and expected of high school students, college students and most career professionals.

Should we not expect the same from our president? How is it that anyone is alright with a presidential candidate in 2008 that can’t keep up technologically?

Another silly reason I dislike

McCain is his age. I’m not an ageist prick or anything; I just think he’s past his presidential prime. If he went the full two terms, he’d be eighty by the time he was out! This isn’t terribly old, especially by today’s improving standards. But combine that with the fact that McCain refuses to publicly release his health records and also the fact that the vacuous Sarah Palin is his running mate, and McCain loses his appeal.

John McCain just seems far too crusty and old to really connect with anything that’s important to me. I see Barack Obama, Ron Paul and others using technology and net culture to connect with voters. I feel like a presidential candidate who is

truly in touch will strive to acknowledge the daily experience of most Americans. John McCain with his uncountable homes and his rich heiress wife and his horribly negative campaign and his cultural disconnection seems too far

buried in the stasis of “politics as usual” for me to vote for him. Ever.

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

## Humans evolve, adapting to technology

What went wrong with human evolution? A co-worker of mine recently wore a shirt with this same title, and it really got me thinking. The shirt illustrated the evolution from monkey to man with a man standing tall and holding a spear at the apex of the chain to the downward spiral ending with modern day man hunched over at his computer desk.

Today it is hard to imagine humankind without our technology. One may even pose the question: Is it technology that makes us human?

It is true—some believe that due to technology, evolution has slowed down to a snail’s pace, or even has stopped entirely. Humans, however, are constantly

improving technology and are not only creating technology to fit our needs, but are adapting our own needs to changes in technology.

Just look at your average geek—each new generation of computer hardware or other technophilia results in a change in his or her lifestyle. With every new generation of technology, interfaces becomes more streamlined and simplified. Look at the iPhone. Ten years ago

people were still using the Walkman, and now we have a small piece of technology that can store thousands of files, make calls and connect to the Internet all through a pretty LCD touch screen.

To the arduous observer it may seem that over time humans will outgrow the need for physical interaction with our technology and we will “evolve,” or perhaps “adapt” is a better word, the technology to interface our minds directly with technology. To some this may

seem like a farfetched idea. However, this technology was developed as early as the 1970s and followed by human experimentation in the 1990s. Today we have various companies developing real applications for technology such as the EMOTIV Epoc, a headset which detects conscious thought, expressions and subliminal emotions based on electrical signals from the brain.

It is only a matter of time before our physical realities become uncomfortable and obsolete. A future where people upload the entire network of their neural pathways onto a computer and become sheer data structures, constantly adding and removing information

from our web of non-physical reality, cannot be too far off. Imagine an Earth desolate and without life thanks to all of mankind’s advancements, where the vast majority of what was once humanity is now stored on immense servers loaded with human personalities and histories, all interfacing with each other directly through our new-found consciousness and reality. The remnants of what was once humanity

will maintain the servers the way religious folk today maintain the rites of their gods. Humanity will be an archive of history and information, always exploring and searching for new information.

Of course, this is all assuming the Chinese don’t cure cancer with a gong, or a rampant zombie super virus breaks out, or even that we rain nuclear holocaust from the heavens onto ourselves.



Zach Hauser

## STUDENT VOICES

### How do you make free time during the school year?



Kenji Tomada, senior

“I drive places to save time.”



Emily Reusch, senior

“Figure out what needs to be done first, then go from there.”



Davika Staudacher, sophomore

“Try to schedule things, try to multi-task.”



LeAnn Broker, junior

“Make sure I have everything before I go places, stay organized.”



Jacob Charles, freshman

“Schedule breaks between classes so you don’t have to make more than one trip.”

Student Voices compiled by Sarah Schneider.

## Choosing proper study habits create free time

Yours truly is back for the final installment of his college career. I guarantee and promise to attend no less than 75 percent of my classes and finish with no more than 100 percent of all points possible in those classes.

But that is neither here nor there. What is here and there is how you’re going to get the best possible grades you can get while giving the smallest amount of effort, and the answer is the Efficient Student Doctrine (ESD).

Before reading this please know that I am not an expert in many things, but I am an expert in what I like to call College Coursework Efficiency, and am the founding, and sole member of the Maximizing College Coursework Efficiency Society (MCCES).

Throw out your incorrect and pre-conceived notions of what the establishment would lead you to believe are slackers. Slacking is often incorrectly associated with coursework efficiency, but there is one stark difference.

A college coursework efficiency practitioner will have results at the end of the day. He or she will be on the dean’s list (check) and sustain at least a 3.0 GPA (check) with a minimum GPA of 3.3 in his or her major (check).

I am nothing if not self-congratulatory. And though those standards are not extremely high. They don’t take into account leisure time, but if they did, I would get straight A’s.

Let the ESD commence. The first common misconception to be addressed is spending two hours outside of class studying for every hour you spend in class. What schlub came up with this rule? From this day forth let it be known that the efficient student will spend a maximum of 15 minutes outside of class for every hour spent in class.

The first priority of the efficient student on the first day of class will be to scan the syllabus for dates of importance. For example, the class periods before and of speakers, presentations and exams must be attended.

Class periods immediately after speakers, presentations and exams

must never be attended. For the efficient student’s final grade will never be contingent upon information learned during those class periods and thus he or she has much more important things to do with their time.

That will free up approximately 15 hours a semester. What will you do with all your time!? You could go to church, play flip cup, go to a Barack Obama rally or go to a John McCain rally. It doesn’t matter, it’s your time and you just took it back, congratulations.

You see, the MCCES crosses party lines; it’s a bi-partisan organization that only criticizes those who have their lives headed down the wrong path. The path of the overachieving student is a long and winding road my friends. Do yourselves a favor—get back on the straight and narrow and free up some of that time wasted during unnecessarily long lectures.

Preparation for exams is something that not even the most efficient of students should take lightly. I recommend beginning to study by at least 8 p.m. the night before the exam. If there is an

important sporting event on, or a fascinating documentary on the history channel about the JFK assassination during that evening, you might be screwed because both of those things have been known to distract even the most efficient of students.

At the end of the day, the ESD and the MCCES just represent that American spirit that is buried deep down inside all of us. The ESD can lead anyone to find that something that we’re all looking for.

What is that something? For me it’s my little son Levi, my wife and fantasy football.

What is it for you? I don’t know, but I’ll bet that if you skip enough classes, you’ll find it.



Caleb Stevens



# Falcons outrushed by Johnnies

Justin Magill  
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With 57 rushing attempts for 215 yards, the No. 7-ranked St. John’s University was able to control the game and defeat UW-River Falls 22-6 in the season opener for the Falcons at Collegeville, Minn.

SJU used a balanced rushing attack and held the ball for 37:30 compared to the Falcons 22:30, and was able to do so while averaging 3.8 yards per carry.

SJU’s Jeff Schnobrich led all running backs in yardage and attempts with 76 yards on 26 attempts, but only 2.7 yards a touch. Jacob Reding of the Johnnies was close behind with 71 yards on 12 attempts.

“I’ve never seen them run the ball that much before,” UWRF head coach John O’Grady said. “Usually they’re not that kind of a team.”

Conditions were wet and slippery, which did not allow SJU to use its quarterback and wide receiver play as much, O’Grady said.

SJU scored the first possession of the game, capped off by a Michael Crees to Brett Saladin touchdown pass, one of few passes thrown by the Johnnies, who are known for having a passing attack.

A field goal early in the second quarter by SJU kicker Russell Gliadon from 29 yards made it 10-0, a score that stood until the fourth.

Senior Falcon quarterback Storm Harmon punched in a run from the one yard line on third and goal. The extra point was

failed on a mishandled snap.

SJU put the game out of reach on a Schnobrich touchdown run from four yards and Crees put one in the end zone with his legs, running in a score from the six.

The Falcons managed to put up 86 yards on the ground with 27 rushes. Sophomore running back Matt Pollock led the Falcons with 48 yards on 14 attempts and Harmon had 34 yards on eight attempts and the lone UWRF touchdown from one yard out.

“Offense has a lot of work to do,” O’Grady said. “It’s back to the drawing board.”

Another area of concern O’Grady had was with the pass protection. Some of the younger Falcon offensive lineman missed blocks and Harmon had SJU defenders in his face all afternoon, O’Grady said.

Harmon was 12-22 passing for 117 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions. His main target was senior tight end and second team All-WIAC last year, Ryan Hansen, who had seven receptions for 65 yards. It was Hansen’s 21-yard reception early in the fourth quarter that set up Harmon’s touchdown run.

“Give them [SJU] credit,” O’Grady said. “We never hear about their defense and how good it is. Usually it’s just about their quarterbacks and receivers.”

Falcons punter Eric Stoller was busy with eight punts on the day.

“A lot of pressure was put on our kicking,” O’Grady said. It was hard for the UWRF offense to get in sync with the pressure by SJU, Harmon said.

“We never got into rhythm,” Harmon said. “We had a few three and outs early and we got a little rattled.”

UWRF was able to get two interceptions off Crees and force three fumbles, recovering one.

“We were able to get some turnovers and usually you win games when you have more turnovers,” O’Grady said.

Overall, O’Grady said he was not happy mostly because of the lack of offense.

“Disappointing,” he said. “We never really established anything offensively and it put a lot on our defense.”

Before the game, UWRF Athletic Director Rick Bowen said this season is particularly important for the football team.

“We’ve been near the bottom for a few seasons now with a string of 3-7 seasons,” he said. “We have all Div. III games this year which is even more important and are committed to get football back on track.”

UWRF does not begin WIAC play until Oct. 4 against Stevens Point, also the homecoming game.

When conference play does begin it will be fun to watch it pan out, O’Grady said.

“I think this year in the WIAC will be one of the exciting ones within the last four or five years,” he said. “Everyone’s looking at Whitewater, but I’ve talked to some people down there and I hear they’re inexperienced. Teams better watch out for Eau Claire and La Crosse because it sounds like people are doing some good things at those schools.”

Whitewater is three-time defending conference champions. The Falcons have their home opener this Saturday against Northwestern College (Minn.).

## New assistant coach offers insight to team

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The 2008 Falcon football team kicks off the home opener this Saturday against Northwestern, and newly hired Defensive Coordinator Greg Bower will be on the Ramer Field sidelines for the first time.

Bower was an assistant coach at Northern Illinois University for the past eight seasons where he specialized in coaching tight ends and defensive tackles. Prior to his coaching stint at NIU, Bower spent seven seasons on the staff at his alma mater, Loras College, in Iowa. He was the team’s defensive coordinator from 1996-99. During his tenure, the Duhawks posted five seasons with a .500 record or better.

Although this is his first season with the Falcons, the defensive philosophy that he brings to this year’s team is not that much different than it has been under Head Coach John O’Grady.

“To be successful, you need to do some fundamental things well. We want our defense to be aggressive, to fly to the ball, to tackle well and to execute. I know those things have been stressed before,” Bower said.

When asked what he expects from his defensive players every week, Bower pointed to three main points that have been reinforced since fall camp.

“We preach attitude, effort and knowledge. Having a good work ethic is key, and as coaches we really want to see effort from our players on every play,” Bower said. “The knowledge part comes from taking and accepting criticism, correcting mistakes and learning from it.”

Integrating into a different coaching staff, establishing a rapport with new players and getting to know unfamiliar opponents are

some of the challenges that face a first-year coordinator. Yet Bower said so far the season has brought one major challenge.

“Without getting too complicated, the thing we are trying to do on defense is not typical. Our scheme is a type of hybrid that really hasn’t been tried before, so there is no book on it. Meshing our schemes with our players and trying to put them in the best possible positions to succeed is the challenge of coaching,” he said.

UWRF Offensive Coordinator Andy Kotelnicki said Bower’s experience and energy were points that gave the new defensive coordinator instant credibility with the players and fellow coaches.

“He brings a new perspective to our program,” said Kotelnicki. “You look at where he’s been, what he’s done and how organized everything is, and it’s a good fit. His high level of energy help, too.”

Although the Falcons lost their season opener 22-6 to 7th -ranked St. John’s on the road in Collegeville, Minn, Bower said the staff took many positives away from the game.

“We were very proud of the effort given by our defense. Through three quarters we held them to around 100 yards rushing, and they’re a good team,” Bower said. “We also won the turnover battle by forcing three. We do need to do a better job on 3rd down and get our offense back out on the field.” We can and will get better.”

The Falcons return to action this Saturday as they host Northwestern at Ramer Field. Kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m.



Greg Bower

## Falcon women win first track and field NCAA championship

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Last spring the UW-River Falls women’s track and field team surprised many, including its coach, by winning the Div. III National Championship for the outdoor season.

“Did I expect that we would win? No,” said UWRF track and field coach Martha Brennan. “We knew going in we would do well, maybe a top five finish.”

With 35 points UWRF split the title with Illinois Wesleyan University.

Unfortunately for Brennan, she was unable to attend the schools first national championship in track and field because she gave birth to her fourth child, Bella, the night before.

“It was too bad Martha [Brennan] couldn’t be there,” Becca Jordahl, a freshman and key part of the championship for UWRF, said. “She would have been happy.”

Jordahl won the 5,000-meter run in 16:52.49, which is a school record, and also clinched the split national title.

She finished third in the 10,000-meter run and earned All-American honors in each event. With her performance, Jordahl scored 16 of the 35 points for the Falcons.

Before the 5,000-meter

event, Jordahl, who never participated in track and field until last winter, did not know how important her race was.

“I wasn’t keeping track of the points and didn’t know what was going on since I’m new to the sport,” she said. “I just go and run.”

Jordahl is part of the cross country team for UWRF and was convinced by others to join the team and did so for training. She is also an All-American in cross country.

Shannon Zweifel, a senior last year, scored four points in 400-meter hurdles for the Falcons, with a fifth place finish and a pleasant surprise for Brennan.

“She hadn’t done that all year,” Brennan said. “Didn’t expect that at all.”

Zweifel earned All-American honors with her finish.

Going into the meet, UWRF was not the best, but shined when it needed to the most, Brennan said.

“Every kid performed well that day. We were all on top of our game and we also had a little luck.”

UWRF is the third consecutive WIAC school to win the track and field outdoor national championship. UW-Oshkosh won titles outright in 2007 and 2008 and also won in 2004.

UWRF’s national championship comes in Brennan’s

fourth year with the program. Prior to Brennan, UWRF finished eighth in the WIAC for women’s outdoor track and field.

Before accepting the head coaching position for the Falcons, Brennan coached at Texas A&M and Iowa. She was on the Louisiana State University track and field team and won national championships in 1994 and 1995.

She said her Div. I experience has helped her with recruiting and build a program that was not strong when she got here.

“It has helped because I can tell an athlete that they can come to a Div. III school and get Div. I coaching,” she said. “I like to win. A national championship is great for a program that was on the bottom when I got here.”

The Falcons now have four national titles, one in track and field and three in hockey.

Krista Hasselquist, a senior last year, earned All-American honors in shot put. It was the fourth time she earned those honors.

Vicki Cooper, also a senior last spring, was an All-American in shot put and discus.

UWRF will begin its indoor season Jan. 31, 2009 at the UW-Stout Invitational. The outdoor season begins March 28, 2009 at the Alabama Relays.

## Coach inducted into Hall of Fame

Lindsey Rykal  
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UW-River Falls head football coach John O’Grady was inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame on April 5, 2008.

“Anytime you’re inducted into a hall of fame of anything it’s a great honor and John is well deserving,” said UWRF Athletic Director Rick Bowen. “It’s a great honor for him and the institution.”

The WFCa honors coaches who have made outstanding achievements to the football program in the state of Wisconsin. The nomination for the Hall of Fame must be made by a member of the Association.

“The WFCa is one of the best football associations in the state. It runs one of the largest clinics in the nation in Madison each year -

last year about 3,500 people attended,” O’Grady said.

“I’ve been a member since the beginning of my football career, O’Grady said.”

This is not the first time O’Grady has been nominated into the WFCa Hall of Fame—the first time he turned down his nomination.

“I declined the first time because I felt it wasn’t the culmination of my career yet,” O’Grady said.

O’Grady is a UWRF alumnus and played linebacker for the Falcons from 1972-75. During that time he earned varsity letters and was voted most dedicated player by his teammates in 1975.

O’Grady was team captain in 1975 when the Falcons won their first WIAC title in 18 years.

While attending UWRF he earned an under-

graduate degree in physical education in 1979 and his master’s degree in supervision and instructional leadership from UWRF in 1982.

After graduation, O’Grady became UWRF student-assistant coach of linebackers, secondary and special teams from 1976-80.

From 1981-82 he was a part-time assistant coach for UW-Madison. He had tenure at Kent State University in Ohio from 1983-84 as the offensive coordinator and the special teams coordinator.

O’Grady returned to Madison in 1985 for two more seasons coaching offensive line and special teams and then spent two years at Miami University.

O’Grady returned to his alma mater in 1989 when he was hired as head coach at UWRF.

His accomplishments include coaching the

WIAC Championship team in 1998 and two National Collegiate Athletic Association play-off teams in 1995 and 1996, head coach of five national rushing leading teams and 99 percent graduation rate of football players who have played for four years. O’Grady was also Wisconsin State University Conference George Chryst Memorial Coach of the Year in 1995.

O’Grady has contributed to football in the state of Wisconsin for over 30 years. The 2008 football season will be his 20th as head football coach making him the longest standing coach in the program’s history.

“He has a lot of experience and knows what he’s doing.” Falcon Derek Aukes said. “I’m really excited for the season.”



# Undergraduate conference to exhibit students’ creativity

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The UW-River Falls English department is turning to nature for some inspiration for the second annual Undergraduate Conference for Critical and Creative Engagement, to be held Sept. 26 in the St. Croix River Room of the University Center.

The conference, titled “Nature, Art, Self,” will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature UWRF students reading a diverse array of their own work, including creative writing, poetry and essays.

“The main purpose of the conference is to showcase undergraduates’ scholarly work,” English professor Michelle Parkinson said. “What we’ve done is set it up like a traditional graduate or professional paper conference where students will come, read a paper out loud to an audience and then there will be discussion and questions about it [the student’s work] after.”

The idea for the conference came about last year when the English department felt that the outstanding work of their students was not

getting the attention it deserved outside of the classroom, according to Parkinson and Literary Society President Cindy Meyer.

“We wanted to provide a place for our students to present their work in a setting outside of the classroom that would provide feedback not only from their professors, but from their peers and other writers,” Meyer said. “It has evolved to include people not only from our campus, but from around Minnesota and Wisconsin as well.”

UWRF student Jessica Stiebling will be reading her piece entitled “Learning to be Free: The Importance of Education and Knowledge in Frederick Douglass’ Narrative.” She did not participate in the conference last year, and getting her to do so this year took a bit of encouragement from Dr. Larry Harred, one of her professors.

“When Dr. Harred initially suggested it to me, I immediately dismissed the idea,” Stiebling said. “Then I got mad at myself for dismissing it so quickly simply because of fear and signed up for the conference to punish myself.”

The keynote speaker at this year’s conference is David Lee, poet from Utah.

“We were trying to think of somebody who did something related to nature and thought about issues of self and subjectivity,” Parkinson said. “He’s done all this work on farming and on being outdoors in Utah. He’s got this very interesting biography; he’s been a farmer but is also a scholar and a poet, so he’s this really interesting dynamic person, and we thought that the students here could really connect with them, especially since a lot of them come from rural backgrounds.”

Most preparations for the conference have already been taken care of. Recently, Parkinson and the rest of the English department have been focusing on organizing the papers that have come in and advertising for the event.

Meyer said that the Literary Society is helping to plan the event as well and will be staffing the sessions.

“We are helping and encouraging our students to experience a conference such as this from all angles: presenter, planner, staff and audience,” she said.

Sessions on Sept. 26 run from 9:00-9:50 a.m., 10-10:50 a.m. and 11-11:50 a.m. A lunch break follows from 12:00-1:30 p.m., with the

conference resuming for the final session from 2:00-2:50 p.m., where Lee will give his keynote speech.

“The nice thing is that the different sessions accord with the class schedules, so people can go in between classes,” Parkinson said.

Parkinson said she hopes that the UWRF community takes away a sense of the “really good work that students are doing in the field of literature and creative writing.”

“My hope is that people from all over the campus will come, and that the students will get a really good sense that their campus community is supporting them,” Parkinson said.

Stiebling said she wants the community to “walk away from this conference with a better understanding of different type of literature” and “the different mediums in which people are able to express the concepts of nature, art and self.”

The submission deadline for students to be able to read their work in the conference was last spring, Parkinson said. However, anyone is eligible to submit for next year’s conference, regardless of their major.

# Metallica attempts to compensate for previous album

Erik Wood  
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Almost half a decade after a disastrous release in Metallica’s eighth studio album, “St. Anger,” the Los Angeles thrashers are back with their ninth album, an attempt to regain those fans who failed to remain faithful listeners after what many thought was a huge disappointment. The new album is entitled “Death Magnetic.”

James Hetfield (Lead Vocalist/Rhythm Guitar), on the title of this album, stated, ““Death Magnetic,” at least the title, started out as a tribute to people that have fallen in our business, and a lot of the people that have died, basically

rock and roll martyrs of sorts. And then it kind of grew from there, thinking about death—some people are drawn towards it, and just like a magnet, and other people are afraid of it and push away.”

This is the first Metallica album in which each band member contributed to each song. The band began writing the album in 2004. Hetfield revealed to the music world that the band had actually written 18 songs which were unreleased, but he did comment that they would most likely be reworked in the future. Prior to the record’s completion, many critics felt that without a complete band, they could not achieve their previous stardom. In a documentary, current and ex-members of

the band stated that “St. Anger” will long be remembered for it’s empty-headed aggression and undoing everything Metallica had come to be during their nearly 25 year career.

After regrouping and snatching up former Suicidal Tendencies and Ozzy Osbourne bass player, Robert Trujillo, the band went into a hiatus to begin working on an album similar to their older works.

I came across their live album, “S&M.” This live compilation captured the high points of the band’s twenty-five year career.

With a refresher course behind me, the countdown began to Sept. 10, 2008. That day has come and gone. Since that point, I have become intrigued with the progression and

positive regression of “Death Magnetic’s” style.

The album caught me off guard, as it wasn’t straight up thrash and burn, but more of an equilibrium between aggression and pure musical brilliance. The first track on the album, “That Was Just Your Life,” sent a shivering reminder up my spine - the first couple cords were nearly identical to that of “One.” It progresses into the familiarity of typicality that we know as old school Metallica. Throughout the first two tracks it seemed as if the percussion was a bit off, but that could be attributed to production problems.

From then on, the album slides into a slew of rip-roaring chords and melodies with a plethora of double

bass kicks pounding your cochlea. The song “All Nightmare Long” is my personal favorite thus far. It reminds me of a jumble of old and new. The track starts slow, but it rips off into a rocker’s dream anthem. The album doesn’t really have a weak point. It is more of a melodic power ballad and doesn’t really fit with the fast paced insanity in the rest of the record. I feel Metallica has put themselves back on the map after the disaster known as “St. Anger.” I thought that album buried these rock juggernauts. I wouldn’t say “Death Magnetic” is perfect, but I do believe it was good enough to pull these guys out of their sad sap of a mid-rockers crisis! They have redefined modern day metal.

# Coens deliver another quality film with ‘Burn After Reading’



Ken Weigend

The Coen Brothers can do no wrong. They are the new dynamic duo; AWOL shogun assassins who continually topple filmdom from the inside out with their own brand of manic movie magic. While the rest of Hollywood runs scared, slaves to an anachronistic code of yesterday filmmaking standards, the Coens stand alone.

They have distanced themselves yet again with “Burn After Reading,” a spy spoof that doesn’t so much aim to satirize other movies in the genre, but our own antiquated expectations of what that genre is. And the Coens gleefully dance along that razors edge separating affable spoof from malevolent satire. While satire stabs with malcontented sarcasm and malicious wit, spoof simply exaggerates the nook and cranny follies present in any fiction.

While it can't be said that “Burn After Reading” attempts at any time to slander its sources (the Coens claim inspiration from the Bourne trilogy), it can be inferred that the brothers hope to scold us for ever taking a spy movie with more than a grain of salt. Osborne Cox (John Malkovich) is a belligerent CIA analyst fired for his drinking problem (his retort to his colleague: “You’re a Mormon! Next to you everyone’s got a f\*cking drinking problem!”). Bloated with an undeserved sense of

self-worth, Cox decides to punish his former agency by writing a sharp-tongued memoir, much to the chagrin of his adulterous, estranged wife Katie (Tilda Swinton).

Absurdly self-conscious gym employees Linda Litzke (Frances McDormand), lustful after a series of cosmetic surgeries and Chad (Brad Pitt), a narcissistic caricature of the stereotypical roided-out retard, find a disk containing a small part of Cox’s commentaries lost in a gym locker, forgotten there by Katie’s divorce lawyer. The two quickly see their chance at easy money by ransoming the disk in exchange for a “modest” cash reward.

While the two stumble through their botched black-mail scheme, Linda scorns the petitions of her manager (Richard Jenkins) and gets involved with Harry Pfarrer (George Clooney), a U.S. Treasury-funded womanizer who is having the affair with Mrs. Cox. Sound confusing? Good, it’s meant to. At one point CIA superior (J.K. Simmons) even laments, “Get back to me when this makes sense!”

The Coens weave an intricate web of dark farce. Their narrative rings with the humored force of a Shakespearean comedy, a modernized “Much Ado About Nothing.”

This latest work dictates a cyclical paradigm to the Coens’ filmography. After Oscar-winner “ Fargo,” the pair unleashed the cult-classic caper “The Big Lebowski,” another make-no-sense yet take-no-prisoners send-up of mistaken identity. Now, years later and immediately in the

wake of their Oscar-sweeping spectacle “No Country for Old Men,” the pair slip out “Burn.”

Interestingly enough, “Burn” is the perfect accomplice for “No Country,” only this time the old men are CIA suits. Simmons closes the film by joking “...f\*cked if I knew what we did...” and I think that’s the point. We’re not meant to understand what has just happened, just laugh at the truth and logic to be found in the illogical.



A.J. Hakari

Sometimes you’ll see a director who cleaned up in the movie awards season try in vain to make lightning strike twice the next time around. But such is not the

case with brothers Joel and Ethan Coen, who racked up tons of acclaim for “No Country for Old Men” but who preserve their cinematic street cred by pressing onward in making the same crazy flicks they’ve been whipping up for over 20 years. Such a storied tradition continues with their latest and divinely kooky creation, “Burn After Reading.”

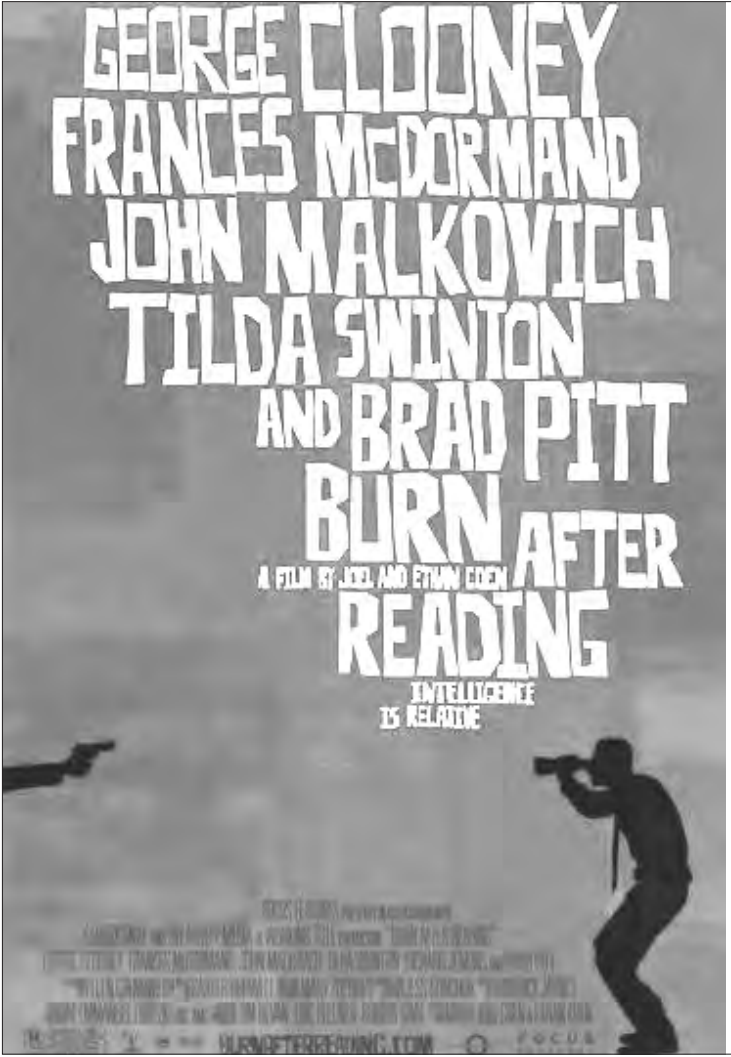
Having been ousted from his cushy position as an intelligence analyst thanks to a drinking problem, Osborne (John Malkovich) plans to get back at his treacherous superiors by writing a tell-all memoir. At the same time, his frigid wife Katie you think you have pinned down, only to show you that they don’t develop how you think they will. In particular, McDormand and Pitt make for a great team, and Pitt gives an especially great performance as a lunkhead who has no clue how over his head he’s in. The only actor who let me down was Swinton, who felt like she was a bit on autopilot. The rather sudden ending even manages to out-abrupt that of “No Country.”

The Coen Brothers have been my favorite filmmakers for years, if only for the fact that I’ve seen all of their films, and I haven’t disliked a single one. Just add “Burn After Reading” to the mantle, a shining example to a kind of energy and creativity that other directors can only hope to imitate in their lifetimes.

After Reading” is all madness and just enough method, a flurry of offbeat personalities swirling about one another. There’s no real point to the film, nor does it wrap things up with a nice lesson. Some viewers will dig this approach, while others will be like the guy I overheard proclaiming it one of the worst movies he’s ever seen. In any case, you can be assured that the Coens will never leave you bored.

Of course, not one moment of the flick would be as hilarious or involving as it is, were it not for the efforts of one hell of a cast. The characters all inhabit certain archetypes you think you have pinned down, only to show you that they don’t develop how you think they will. In particular, McDormand and Pitt make for a great team, and Pitt gives an especially great performance as a lunkhead who has no clue how over his head he’s in. The only actor who let me down was Swinton, who felt like she was a bit on autopilot. The rather sudden ending even manages to out-abrupt that of “No Country.”

The Coen Brothers have been my favorite filmmakers for years, if only for the fact that I’ve seen all of their films, and I haven’t disliked a single one. Just add “Burn After Reading” to the mantle, a shining example to a kind of energy and creativity that other directors can only hope to imitate in their lifetimes.



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.

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

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





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