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Tentative plans set for Ramer Field renovations

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Annual career fair brings potential employers to campus Oct. 15

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Kansas City Chiefs stimulate River Falls' economy



STUDENT VOICE

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Public Safety to become police force

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UW-River Falls Public Safety has begun the transition to change into a certified police force. With the transition, Public Safety will be changing its name to University Police and Parking. Former chancellor Don Betz made the decision to switch to a police force after reviewing a UW System study and a State of Wisconsin Governor's study that looked at safety across campuses and recommended all universities have licensed police officers on staff.

"Both of those reports strongly recommend that every campus have a police force," Mary Halada, vice chancellor of administration and finance, said. "We really have to be prepared."

The trained officers will have more power than the current public safety officers. "The police officer has the ability to stop or detain or take action if there is something occurring, a security officer does not," Director of Public Safety Dick Trende said. "They can take action and stop the crime for occurring."

The other big difference is that police officers are allowed to carry firearms. Officers go through extensive

and ongoing safety training, Trende said.

"This is very much in-line with both the Governor's study and the UW System study," Halada said. "But we want the campus to be safe."

Currently Public Safety employs five full time officers to provide 24-hour coverage to the campus. Two of those are limited term employees (LTEs) that were hired while the transition to a Police Force was being worked out.

"Our primary goal is to secure the safety of the student community and the university community as a whole," Trende said.

Once the initial switch has been made there will be two police officers supplemented by three public safety officers to provide the same 24-hour coverage that Public Safety currently offers.

"There will be some negotiations and changes as we recognize what our needs are in a situation to where a police officer works and where a security officer works," Trende said. "It will be a work in progress."

The first phase of the transition is set to begin this week with the University posting two vacancies for certified police officers. Interviews for potential candidates will take place the week of the Oct. 27 with new officers being hired



UW-River Falls Public Safety Officers Dick Trende and Lesa Woitas pose next to the new UWRF police force vehicle. Two certified police officers will be hired by November in the transition from public safety to police force.

by mid November.

The government has regulations in place that state how many training sessions must be completed by police officers each year to maintain their certification. The training covers issues such as firearm use and safety issues Halada said.

"It's Dick's philosophy that we not only do that, but do more than that," She said,

such seniority and were high enough on the pay scale that the police officer will not cost us more than the retiring security people."

There will be some equipment cost with the purchase of items, such as firearms, radios and bulletproof vests, but it is not expected to be no more than \$6,000, with some of the funds hopefully being covered by grants, Halada

Sally King/Student Voice

Festivities mark successful Homecoming week

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Cooler temperatures and changing fall colors signaled the 2008 Homecoming festivities at UW-River Falls. This year's theme, Fiesta de la Noche ("Party of the Night"), gave way to a variety of Latin-themed events as well as the traditional activities that have defined UWRF Homecoming for years.

Traditions and Homecoming Committee Chair Amanda Krier said that the Homecoming Committee decided on the theme after it was suggested by a student who is a Spanish minor.

"I brought it up to the

Committee and we all decided that phrase would work for Homecoming, since it means 'party of the night,'" she said.

As chair of the Committee, Krier oversaw many of the events and delegated certain tasks to other Committee members during the events that she was unable to attend. She served as the main contact person throughout the week, but is quick to note that the week's events could not have happened without her staff of dedicated Committee members who have been planning this year's homecoming events since last spring.

"As soon as the Winter Carnival is over in the spring

semester, we start on Homecoming," she said. "The Committee's goal is to have everything planned before school ends so there is not much to do when the new school year starts."

"As soon as the Winter Carnival is over in the spring semester, we start on Homecoming."

Amanda Krier, homecoming committee chair

The week kicked off Monday at 9 a.m. with the posting of the first clue for the

Medallion Hunt. During the afternoon hours, students had the chance to put their mechanical bull riding skills to the test, and were treated to snow cones, popcorn and music. Also on Monday, the 2008 Homecoming Royalty candidates were introduced and online voting for king and queen began.

As the second Medallion Hunt clue was posted Tuesday morning at the University Center Information Desk, the Food Drive Competition kicked off near the Riverside Commons. For this competition, each team was required to decorate a box based on the Homecoming theme, as well as who they were representing. Students were encouraged to donate food to their favorite team's box, with the collected items going to the local food shelf.

The "Team Quiz Wiz" took place in the Falcon's Nest at 1 p.m. on Tuesday and Royalty candidates returned later that night for the Royalty Salsa Dance Competition. Competitors were required to perform a one minute dance in front of a live salsa band. Candidates were judged on their dance skills, enthusiasm and costumes, according to Krier.

Medallion hunters returned to the University Center Wednesday for the third clue, while students donated items to their favorite couple's or organization's box for the School Supply Competition, with the items being distributed to local schools.

Wednesday night show-

Kinders to retire, will join Betz in Oklahoma

Joy Stanton
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UW-River Falls Public Affairs Director Mark Kinders is retiring at the end of November and will join former chancellor Don Betz at Northeastern State University, beginning a new career as vice president for university relations in Oklahoma.

There is no difference—benefit-wise—retiring from UWRF now than in six years when Kinders turns 65, he said in an e-mail interview.

Kinders' current position affords him a yearly salary of \$82,000, versus the \$110,000 he will make at NSU.

Kinders has worked at UWRF for 23 years, beginning in 1985.

As director of public affairs, Kinders has overall responsibility for all media, legislative, Congressional and community and business relations, as well as sports information and photography, according to his résumé.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in journalism from Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University (Ill.), a Master of Arts in history from UWRF and a Master of Public Affairs, Executive Program, at Hubert H. Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota.

During his time at UWRF, Kinders has worked hard as the spokesperson of the University.

"He has grown the job as well as grown in the job," said Campus Photographer Jens Gunelson, who has worked at UWRF for 31 years.

A portion of growth came in 1990 when Kinders chaired a NFL Search Committee that recruited the Kansas City Chiefs to UWRF for summer training camp. As information and media liaison to the Kansas City Chiefs, Kinders developed a marketing and public relations program that has produced an economic impact of over \$40 million and brought 150,000 visitors to campus over 18 years, according to his résumé.

Assistant Public Affairs Director and Sports Information Director Jim Thies said he will miss Kinders' leadership and friendship.

"Mark Kinders has led the way on many fronts during his years at UWRF. He has the utmost respect of everyone he has worked with during his career," Thies said in an e-mail interview.

After attracting national attention to the region through the Chiefs' training camp, Kinders began a new venture in 1995 to promote tourism by founding the St. Croix Valley Regional Tourism Alliance.

Nothing like SCVRTA - which includes the collaboration of 20 communities, six counties and two states - had been



Members of the cheer and stunt squad march alongside their float in the 2008 Homecoming parade. The Oct. 4 parade preceded the Homecoming football game.

Renae Bergh/Student Voice

See Homecoming page 3

See Kinders page 3

UWRF professors weigh in on economic bailout

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The U.S. Senate passed a revised version of the \$700 billion bailout Oct. 1 in an effort to alleviate financial burdens that bad mortgages have placed on banks.

“The purpose of this [bill] isn’t to bail out Wall Street,” UW-River Falls economics professor Glenn Potts said. “It’s to keep the credit markets moving.”

The credit markets, the place where people get mortgages, loans for cars and where students get loans for college, froze up because of an increasing lack of trust between banks.

According to Dawn Hukai, an accounting and finance professor, the banks were selling pools of mortgages, called mortgage-backed securities (MBS) to each other. Some of those MBS contained mortgages that were in default or in foreclosure.

“The banks didn’t know what they were buying from each other anymore because they couldn’t trust the securities,” Hukai said. “So banks figured, why should they go buy a security where they don’t know what the price is because it might be underlined with fraud, and at that level these MBS stopped



Dawn Hukai

trading.”

Once banks stopped trading amongst themselves, they also were hesitant to lend to small businesses, college students and working adults because the banks began to value cash over lending.

“As soon as it becomes a problem, and you had all sorts of institutions with these bonds [MBS] on their books with questionable value, they have to start raising money to cover it,” Potts said. “So whenever an insurance company or a bank gets a dollar into their hands, they keep it, and they start quitting the lending to each other.”

MBS are littered throughout the economy after being bought and sold by banks all over the country, and the world. After the trading seized up it had a strangling affect over the entire economy, not just the housing sector.

The seizing of the credit market led to unprecedented volatility in the stock market along with the failures of banks like Wachovia and Washington Mutual. To avoid a colossal amount of bank failures, the federal government intervened in late September, as President George W. Bush announced a \$700 billion “bailout” for banks.

“With large financial crisis government feels it can’t do nothing,” Hukai said. “The problem is that with financial crises, generally what the government does doesn’t fix the crisis.”

It is too soon to know whether the revised \$700 billion bill that passed through congress Oct. 1 will fix the problem. The treasury will sell bonds to foreign investors to raise the \$700 billion they will then use to buy the MBS from banks.

“Over the next couple of weeks the treasury will begin the sale of these bonds,” Potts said. “Probably sometime by the end of October you will see the treasury begin to purchase some of these MBS and hopefully the markets will unfreeze.”

The plan is simple enough on paper: an initial \$250 billion spent on buying the bad MBS from banks and another \$350 billion to be used at the president’s discretion. But as the stock market continues to lose ground and speculation becomes bleaker, the government perhaps cannot stop the problem, they can only hope to contain it.

“It is very possible over the next couple of weeks there will still be some financial institutions in trouble,” Potts said. “But hopefully it is a relatively small amount of trouble and the Federal Reserve System will be able to take care of it with emergency lending.”

Homecoming: Thome, Cooper crowned king, queen

from page 1

cased perhaps the most anticipated event of the week: the annual Lip Sync competition.

The “Livin’ la Vida Loca” themed show began in the North Hall Auditorium at 7 p.m., and featured student organizations, Greek life and residence halls competing head-to-head in an ultimate showdown of lip sync and entertainment ability.

“The lip sync competition is always a good time,” junior Dana Bauer said. “The acts are always entertaining and fun to watch.”

The fourth and final Medallion Hunt clue was posted Thursday morning in the University Center, and members of the Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) fraternity were declared the winners.

The Pop Tab Competition began near Riverside Commons, where each team collected pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, Krier said. Royalty candidates then moved on to the taco eating contest in front of the

University Center. For this event, they were challenged to eat six tacos as fast as they could, with the team with the fastest time winning.

Royalty candidate voting ended Friday afternoon and participants spent the day putting the final touches on their Homecoming floats before the Homecoming Parade Saturday morning in downtown River Falls.

“I’ve never been to the Homecoming parade before, but I’m glad I was able to make it this year.”

Dana Bauer, UWRF junior

Also Saturday, a Homecoming barbecue brought students, staff, alumni and community members together before the Falcons took on UW-Stevens Point in the Homecoming football game.

“I’ve never been to the Homecoming Parade before, but I’m glad I was able to make it this year,” Bauer said. “It was neat to see both the UWRF campus community and the River Falls community come together, and the old guys on the little go-karts were pretty awesome.”

A packed stadium at Ramer Field saw the Falcons defeat the Pointers 36-30, and at halftime, Pete Thome of AGR and Vicki Cooper of Sigma Alpha were named UWRF’s 2008 Homecoming king and queen.

As the week’s events came to an end, Krier said she hoped that UWRF students, faculty and even alumni realize that Homecoming events are for everybody—not just the Greeks.

“It [Homecoming] is a time to have fun and show school spirit,” she said. “[Next year] I hope we get more participation from the residence halls and organizations.”

Kinders: Well respected among UWRF peers, students

from page 1

achieved before and it has been a model to other states looking to do the same thing, Kinders said.

One thing Kinders said he finds very rewarding about his job is coaching and mentoring students.

“It’s easy to come to work every day because we are engaged in the noble purpose [higher education], fighting the good fight every day,” Kinders said. “Students come in the door with a lot of energy and you have to be on top of your game.”

Debra Toftness, who has worked with Kinders for 19 years, said that Kinders leaving is like losing family.

“He takes pride in mentoring students who work in the office and has been a great mentor for all of us. He’s one of those people who knows something about everything,” the Falcon Daily editor and public affairs office operations associate said in an e-mail.

Kinders received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in August in recognition of his work for the University.

Through everything “Mark always has kept the University’s mission - that of preparing students to be productive and engaged citizens—at the forefront of everything he does for UWRF,” Brenda Bredahl, communications specialist and public affairs coordinator, said in an e-mail.

Kinders reports directly to Interim Chancellor Connie Foster.

“I think chancellors have come to depend on him for his knowledge...he brings a lot to the table,” Foster said. “He will be missed.”

Former chancellor Don Betz also said that Kinders was a valuable resource to turn to.

“During the three years I collaborated with Mark, I found him to be a natural team player with unique insights into the politics and economics impacting the University,” Betz said in an e-mail interview. “I learned to appreciate his counsel.”

The numerous responsibilities of Kinders at UWRF will need to be filled before he leaves at the end of November.

“We are in the process of reconstructing, taking a look at Mark’s position and deciding what would be the best way to fulfill the duties that Mark has performed,” Foster said.

Foster also said Special Assistant to the Chancellor Blake Fry will be working with Kinders in the area of legislating relations in order to take that over when Kinders retires.

The opportunity to stretch and challenge himself professionally is what Kinders said

attracted him to the vice president for university relations position at NSU. NSU has its main campus in Tahlequah and branch campuses in Muskogee and Broken Arrow. Kinders will work so that NSU has a consistent message across the three locations and into the surrounding areas. Kinders will advocate on behalf of NSU for resources to improve finances. On a personal level Kinders said that Betz, once the director of university relations, has “tremendous empathy for the position.”

When asked about what excited him the most about his new position, Kinders said that no one particular thing stands out the most.

“The passion and the commitment to public higher education is just as strong on those three campuses than at UWRF,” Kinders said.

As far as knowledge of the Oklahoma region, Kinders said that he will be starting from scratch. NSU is located in the foothills of the Ozarks. Tahlequah is also the headquarters of the Cherokee nation; while the Illinois River, like the St. Croix River, is a national scenic river.

Betz acknowledged Kinders’ outstanding work in the Saint Croix Valley region.

“Organizations exist today in western Wisconsin because of Mark’s talents and persistence.”

Don Betz, former UWRF chancellor

Mark’s talents and persistence. He has told the UWRF story to great effect for many years. Mark has contributed in a most substantive way to the growth and development of UWRF,” Betz said. “I applaud his remarkable UWRF career and look forward to welcoming him to the NSU family.”

Kinders said he has made a lot of tremendous friends on campus and he will miss seeing the friendly faces as well as the people who he has “sweat and bled with.”

“There is no way to enumerate the multitude of ways that Mark will be missed at UWRF, but I wish him the best, which he deserves,” Gretchen Link, a senior counselor of counseling services who has served on the Academic Staff Council with Kinders for a number of years, said in an e-mail interview.

Kinders described his wife Linda Bowlby-Kinders and himself as “empty-nesters.” Their youngest, Matthew, is a sophomore at UWRF majoring in business. Their second eldest son, Casey, is a Marine who recently returned from a combat tour in Iraq and is currently stationed at Camp Pendleton. Their eldest son, Christian, daughter-in-law Mindy, and granddaughter Catie, live in Kansas City where Christian does quality control work for Bayer Industries.

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EDITORIAL

Recycling options needed in res halls

UW-River Falls has made great strides in going green. One of the easiest ways for everyone to help out with this goal of sustainability is by making an effort to recycle.

Recently the University has made it easier in academic buildings and around campus pathways to recycle. Bins for recyclables now dot the pathways around campus and each academic building has a recycling room in which to dump off recyclable items. The bins are also now single-sort, eliminating the time-consuming task of sorting out each item type.

Residence halls, however, still have a ways to go to catch up with the rest of the campus.

In previous years most residence halls on campus each had a room where recyclable items could be discarded. However, in recent semesters these recycling receptacle rooms have been removed and replaced with dumpsters located outside of the halls.

South Fork Suites have a garbage room on each floor, but recycling bins are not included in the garbage room. Students have to walk to the recycling bins outside of Crabtree to dispose of their recycling.

Once the temperatures start dropping, it is not a stretch to imagining the apathetic student bundling their garbage and recycling together and throwing it all away with the trash. It is time to make a team effort, between the students and university officials, to recycle.

It could be made more convenient for students to recycle in the residence halls. Re-open the recycling rooms in the basements, place recycling bins on each residence hall floor, put dumpsters closer to the dorms or have a recycling competition between residence halls to stimulate recycling much like they do with energy conservation.

Students can do their part by making more of an effort to separate their trash and recycling.

Perhaps when South Fork Suites II is designed, there could be recycling chutes included—just drop your recyclables down and you’re done. What an easy way to sort your recyclables for years to come.

The university has begun taking steps in the right direction, but more can be done with a combined effort to meet the University’s sustainability goals.

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

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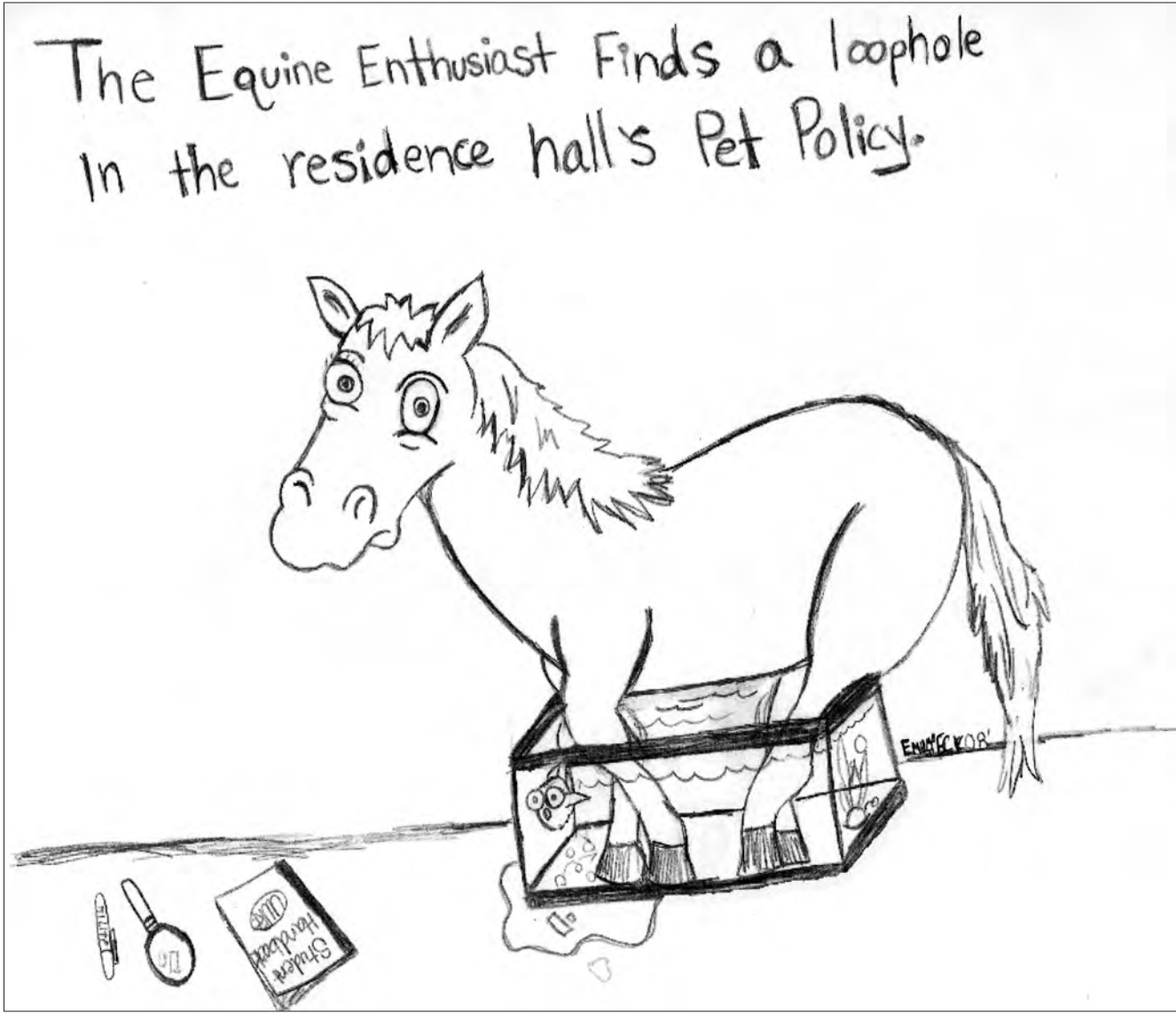


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Diversity courses create empathy

As the person responsible for teaching *Playwrights of Color*, a diversity course that is mentioned in the editorial, “Racist Act Raises Concern” as not dealing with racism, I thought it might be helpful to clarify the content of this course.

My comments, I suspect, apply to other diversity courses as well, although I cannot speak directly to those courses or their instructors. *Playwrights of Color*, uses theatre as a lens through which to look at what it means to be a member of a visible minority in the United States.

Along the way, we read and discuss plays that recount the history of Native American treaty rights, the social isolation of the Chinese immigrants who built the transcontinental railroad, the segregated military, the Japanese American internment, anti-miscegenation laws, and similar issues.

The expectation is that if smart people, like the UW students who come through the course, understand our shared history from the point of view of minority group members and empathize with the experiences of people who have sometimes been denied access to the promise of American life, then they will see the world more clearly and abandon racist attitudes.

There is, of course, no guarantee that everyone who takes a diversity class will be inspired to shed their racism, but there is also no guarantee that everyone who takes a math course will be able to solve sudoku puzzles.

Confronting our internalized racism is a life’s work. The purpose of the diversity requirement as I see it is to raise the issues, provide some facts, and initiate some discussion, in the fierce hope that a transformational process will be initiated.

I have taught *Playwrights of Color* since the diversity requirement was first introduced to the curriculum. For what it is worth the students I meet today are generally more open, more insightful, and more thoughtful than those I worked with when the course was first introduced to the curriculum.

Occasional racist incidents are lamentable but it seems to me that the good work of creating an atmosphere of

inclusion is being done effectively on this campus.

Meg Swanson,
professor of theatre

Obama, McCain unfit for presidency

This election season has been characterized by a single word: Change. Change has pervaded the campaigns of both John McCain and Barack Obama.

Both men have claimed that they will be able to alter the course our country has taken. They have chosen different paths, but both purport that they are able to create “change you can believe in” or that “change is coming.” The question is, can either of them really bring about significant change?

History has taught us that change does not come from above. With few notable exceptions, change has always begun from the grassroots level. The civil rights movement, workers rights, and universal suffrage all began from the bottom up.

It was not politicians who came up with these ideas, it was not men who spent any amount of time on Capitol Hill who fought for these changes, but it was the common people who championed these causes. Taking history as our guide, can we expect either McCain or Obama to bring lasting change to our current troubles?

The answer is no. We have to look to individuals who are not from Washington, people who believe that Democracy doesn’t mean fitting into one of two neat packages; people who desire something more from their government.

Many people view so called “third parties” as a joke. However, these are the same people that complain that they have to make a decision between two terrible choices, or who submit to the “lesser of two evils” argument.

In a functioning democracy, people should vote their beliefs, they should not vote for one person because “we cannot afford to have the other person in office” or because “they are the only ones running.”

The lesser of two evils is not good enough for this country. Even here on campus we are inundated with the idea that there are only two parties.

Some of you may have been to the Vice Presidential

debates at the University Center. What most of you may not know is that both the College Democrats and College Republicans were invited to have a table at the event in order to promote their candidates.

The third party groups, however, were not invited. They were looked over either out of ignorance or out of malice, but both cases are equally reprehensible.

One group in particular will be fighting to get a spot at the next debates, the Union of Democratic Progressives. They believe in “independent minds for independent change.” They invite everyone who believes in democracy to thank your local “radical,” because it is the ones who think outside the two-party box that really create change.

It is time that people stop voting for one of two candidates because the pundits and news stations tell them they only have those options.

It is time we as a nation took back our democracy and voted for what we truly believe in. This year I will be voting for a third party candidate and I would enjoin all my fellow voters to do the same.

Alexandar Nelson,
student

UW System wants extension of power

Students of River Falls, today there hangs above us a great menace to our rights. The Board of Regents, the body that decides all university law, is currently trying to change the rules so that we students can be punished for violating UW-System policy even if we did so off of campus lands.

Say you are underage and are caught by River Falls police drinking at an off campus party—not only will the cops fine you, but now the university is trying to give you a bill as well. Any violation of law, from jaywalking to murder, will soon be subject to university punishment, regardless of whether or not the crime happened on campus or off campus, in River Falls or out of the city, even potentially out of the Unities States.

There is no excuse or justification that the UW System or the Board of Regents can come up with that can even come close to making their attempts to subject us all to

university policy anywhere near morally right.

This is a gross overstepping of their power and we as students need to react quickly and forcefully if we want to stop this. As you read this, the UW System is currently working to revise the documents known as Chapter XVII and XVIII of the UW System policy that details the extend of university power over students for misconduct. The revisions they are placing in these documents are what will allow them to do everything that I am warning you about. Please, tell Student Senate, tell the Chancellor, tell the Board of Regents, and tell every student that this is unacceptable.

I invite and urge you all to come to the weekly Student Senate meetings and share your voice on this or any other matter. We meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River room of the University Center.

Mathew Dale,
Student Senate

Voter registration available in advance

Registering to vote in advance of election day is easy, quick, and helps reduce lines at the polls for everyone. In Wisconsin any US citizen who will have lived in the state for 10 days before the election can vote here. This means that all students who rent apartments, houses, or live in the Residence halls can vote here.

Early voter registration closes on the 15th of October. To register in the early registration period simply fill out the form at the voter registration table located in the UC that is sponsored by the UWRF student senate.

Voters who currently live anywhere in Wisconsin or Minnesota can register at the table October 13th and 14th. Voters who live in the city of River Falls can also register until 4pm on the 15th in addition to the times on the 13th and 14th.

If you do not register in the early registration period you must register at your Municipal clerks office or at the polls on the day of the elections. Election day is Tuesday November 4th the polls are open from 7am to 8pm.

Ben Plunkett,
student

Steps toward a healthier environment are simple, thoughtful

Global warming, carbon footprint, whatever. Call it what you like, one could rightly say that we’ve been treating the environment like crap for ages and should maybe suck it up and be less of a collective jerk to our planet.

We are indifferent, we are negligent and we are greedy. We over indulge, we waste and we whine. Finally, our explosive toll on the environment is being recognized and some people are taking small steps to change their ways. Let us enlarge the proportion of people driving the change and let us widen our stride. It is high time we start giving back to the planet we’ve taken so much from, and it is time to quit whining about it.

I really don’t understand why people gripe about it so much. It is seriously not that big of a sacrifice for the belligerent among us whose heels remain in the dirt. For those that plan on completely re-evaluating the way they live to start giving back, *great*. But not everyone needs to save up for a hybrid car, slap solar panels on their roofs or spend their weekends picking up litter on the side of highways alongside jumpsuit-wearing, moustache-sporting convicts to

make a difference. Simple things can be done to reduce your being an overall ass to the planet. Don’t leave the TV on when you aren’t watching it. Turn your lights off when you leave the room. Get off your lazy butt, leave your car keys at home, and bike or walk to school. It produces less wear and tear on the environment and, if practiced regularly, could help throw a couple extra years on the end of your life or drop a few extra pounds from your waist.

I, for one, am tired of holding up the foam finger cheering on the world’s chunkiest nation. Also, quit throwing away food that could be mauled by your garbage disposal. It doesn’t cost anything, and it makes a pretty sweet sound.

Stop taking 50-minute showers. No one has so much body mass that they need to be cleaning themselves for that long. Even I, who shave my legs at the speed of smell, cannot manage to drag out my showers for more than 10-15 minutes.

If you don’t care about this kind of “liberal hooey” because it won’t affect you in your lifetime, maybe you could do the upcoming generations a solid and not waste their resources by doing 80 in a 55 in your Hummer while throwing your Big Mac wrapper out the window.

And for those of you who think all of this is a bunch of bunk, it might be a good idea to put the muffler back on your car just to hedge your bets a little ... and also, because someone may or may not splatter it with eggs in the near future.

So, River Falls, resist the urge to be a drain on the planet and on the rest of the population. I encourage you to open your eyes and your mind, and realize that not that much is being asked of you. Don’t make others suffer for your bad habits or obstinacy. Do your part, or at least explain to your kids and grandkids during their time of scarcity that running the car for 20 minutes in the winter to “warm it up” was TOTALLY worth it.

Katie is double majoring in international studies and history with a German minor. She enjoys skylines, motorcycle rides, traveling, full bookshelves and good rant.

Native American treaties violated by United States

Today, life on American Indian reservations is a sad and horrid affair.

Poverty runs rampant on reservations; in Wisconsin alone, 96 percent of natives living on reservations and working are living below the poverty line—a number so astounding it is hard to believe, though on the Bureau of Indian Affairs Web site. I encourage anyone to look for themselves.

Across the nation, native people have disproportionately larger incarceration rates; American Indians have the second highest rate next to African Americans, and the incarceration rate for children is 40 percent higher than the national average. On top of it all, the average life expectancy for a native living on a reservation is 46 years, while the average American ranges from 77 to 80.

As everyone knows, this country was not devoid of people when it was discovered; there were millions of indigenous people who had settled here an estimated 12,000 years ago.

As far as the timeline of history goes, the majority of these native people had their lives and culture snuffed out in what seems like the blink of an eye. War and disease quickly tore these people apart, and the newly freed U.S. sought to use these people as a working force and integrate natives into the American way of life. Treaties between the native people and the U.S. were made in hopes of creating peace and maintaining order.

The native people repeatedly had their rights taken away by broken treaties and were moved to “sovereign” lands also known as reservations, which are a miniscule amount compared to what was once possessed by native people.

So the question today is this: what is being done by the government to remedy these situations? The answer is simple and like the rest of the situation, it is not a pretty one.

The truth is that very little is being done to solve these problems and it is a common belief that native people are responsible for their own problems, even in light of the fact that their problems are a direct result of western expansion.

However, one group of Lakotah

(a division of the Sioux Nation), led by longtime American Indian Political Activist Russell Means, took charge of their peoples future and decided to do something about their problem.

On Dec. 17, 2007, four delegates from the Lakotah Freedom Delegation delivered a statement to the U.S. Department of State outlining their withdrawal from all treaties made between the Lakotah people and the U.S. government on the grounds of broken treaties such as the 1851 and 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie, which recognizes the “Sioux or Dahcotahs, Cheyennes, Arrapahoes, Crows, Assinaboines, Gros-Ventre Mandans, and Arrickaras” as sovereign, independent nations, and guarantees

sovereignty to the lands claimed for “as long as the river flows and the eagle flies.”

Though the Treaties of Fort Laramie were not the only treaties to be violated by the U.S., the list goes on: the Ex Parte Crow Dog court case which extended federal jurisdiction into Lakotah territory; the Homestead Acts which allowed U.S. citizens to claim any undeveloped land outside of the thirteen colonies; Lone Wolf vs. Hitchcock, which gave Congress the power to legislate native affairs without consent from Native people.

The Republic of Lakotah has also claimed Article Six of the Constitution which establishes the Constitution and treaties made by the U.S. Government as the “supreme law of the land.” The Republic of Lakotah maintains that the U.S. repeatedly broke its own treaties with Sovereign Nations, an act which today would be viewed by international communities with disdain, and it is most likely that in response an international organization such as the U.N. would respond with both economic and diplomatic sanctions.

Due to the limitations on the size of my column, next week I will continue this article featuring the present situation in the Republic of Lakotah and a Q&A from American Indian Movement Political Activist Russell Means.

Zach generally spends his time forming opinions or trying to destroy them.



Katie Heimer



Zach Hauser

Politics show masculine, feminine contrast

Joe Biden said that it would be a “backward step for women” if Sarah Palin were elected into office. On face value, his statement is absurd.

A female vice-president is symbolic of an impressive move toward a new era of sexual equality. As I tried to wrap my mind around Biden’s statement, I realize that there are two faces to feminism—and those faces belong to Hillary Clinton and Sarah Palin.

If we do a superficial side-by-side comparison of Clinton and Palin, the first noticeable difference is their choice in clothing. Clinton wears the pants, Palin wears the skirt. The pantsuit symbolizes the modern feminist woman—masculine, tough, powerful. The skirt symbolizes the woman of the past—feminine, soft, emotional.

Clinton’s hair is short (masculine), Palin’s is long (feminine). Essentially, we are comparing the traditional to the novel. Are the American people looking for “change,” or familiarity?

The reasoning behind Biden’s statement is a reference to women’s social issues—abortion, education, and the workplace. In spite of her gender, she is painted out to be anti-woman by the left. The right wing

contends that these issues go beyond women’s rights, that fairness extends to the population as a whole.

In contrast, the men of this country are being pushed into a state of identity crisis. The left values men who are emotionally connected, in touch with their feminine half, or sensitive. The right values men who stick their chest out and stand tall with a stiff upper lip. There is an evident shift in our culture away from masculine male and towards the feminine male.

Chuck Palahniuk writes in his book Fight Club that today “we are a generation of men raised by women.” The baby boomers threw a giant divorce party, and us kids were invited for all the fun. Many women were freed from their abusive marriages, and wife-beating men were held accountable. However, many other women grabbed hold of this newfound autonomy and ran away with it at the expense of their sons.

I grew up in a house where the phrase “fucking white men” was the

family motto. I’m guessing that my upbringing wasn’t unique and that this could be the cause for much of today’s political clashing.

Now let’s take a superficial look at Barack Obama and John McCain. McCain is considerably older than Obama, and white. McCain represents the traditional, familiar. Obama is younger and black, and represents difference, or “chope.” (thanks to MAD TV: chope = change + hope) McCain is a tough



Muriel Montgomery

maverick, and Obama is sensitive to our needs! McCain is masculine, Obama is feminine.

It seems to me that in the end, America is going to have to reconcile gender differences and learn to accept that not only is it okay for a woman to be masculine, but it’s also okay for a woman to be feminine. The same goes for masculine men—and those guys really could use a break after the onslaught the boomers gave them. Think about it: the acceptance of diversity means the acceptance of the traditional as well!

Opinions remain unspoken on UWRF campus

6:45 appears upon my clock in bright neon-green numbers. I struggle, tossing and turning, to make it out of bed and up the stairs. By 7:08 I’m pulling out of the driveway and starting my 30-minute trek towards school. As the sun begins to rise, I nearly reach River Falls. I find a parking spot along the street. A task deemed nearly impossible by the public safety staff member, who spoke to me as a freshman. My useless \$90 permit for the, “five-miles-away,” Ramer Field parking lot is left hanging on my mirror. I begin to make my way towards my morning classes.

Past the UC, I find students leaning up against the building, enjoying their cancer sticks. I stroll down the sidewalk and spot a staggering, hung over individual climbing into a pick up. To my right is pile of hay covering the trampled-over grass. Overall, I see a campus with very little direction or leadership. And the truth is... we have become lethargic and silent about it.

From the very first day I set foot on this campus, I’ve been critical. I am paying \$3,357 a semester; I have every right to be. Everyday I walk around campus, as I’m sure you do, and notice things that make me despise being here. Everyone has a complaint, but very few are brave or care enough to do anything about it. Last week, I read Zach Hauser’s column on students failing to care about what matters. I believe he is absolutely right. A majority of people seem to have some sort of opinion on something. However, not many have been doing or saying anything about it.

Including me. A very special person called me up last week when I was in one of my “whining” moods. We started talking about UW-River Falls and why I don’t enjoy going

there. I went on this rant about how unwelcome I felt and how no one seemed to smile on campus anymore. I went on for maybe half an hour explaining how disrespectful people were and what I felt needed to change. Knowing I worked for the Student Voice, she told me something that actually made me laugh at the time. “Change the world with words.”

It sounds completely ridiculous and quite comical. It was a joke to think that through simple sentences, things could change. But, after thinking about it throughout the day, I couldn’t help but feel that she was right.

As much as I would like to believe that this column is going to change the mindsets of people on this campus, let alone the world, I don’t. Yet, I choose to speak my mind, even if it’s difficult to convey the truth.

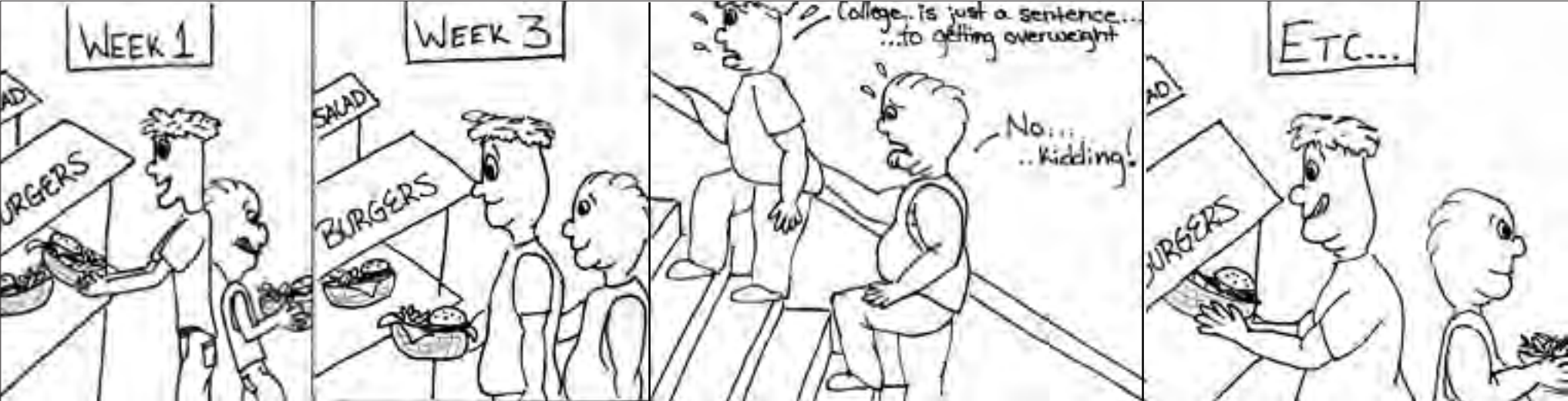
I don’t expect to start a revolution. I don’t expect to step onto campus tomorrow and find a picket line. However, maybe my words will affect one person, similar to how Zach’s affected me. And maybe that person will choose to speak and therefore, affect someone else.

You don’t have to be a journalist or English major to speak your mind. As much as we would love to read it, you don’t even have to write for the Student Voice. Pick up a pen, grab a napkin, a piece of paper you find on the floor, the back of your hand, whatever. Write! Speak! You are not helpless in creating change. It doesn’t matter whether you’re that shy girl in the back of class, that guy playing video games in the dorms, or one of those amazing cafeteria employees.

If you have an opinion, you have every right to voice it. We can change the world with our words.



Cristy Brusoe





Sally King/Student Voice
Renovations to Ramer Field will begin in 2009. The first phase will include new lighting and new field turf, which is currently used at nearly all other WIAC universities. With a few minor exceptions, UWRF’s football field has been virtually untouched since its completion in 1967.

First significant renovations to Ramer Field set to begin with lighting, field turf in ‘09

Justin Magill
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UW-River Falls will begin renovations on Ramer Field prior to the next football season by installing new lights, which is the start of a \$3.5-4 million project.
“We hope to have the lights put in by next football season,” UWRF Athletic Director Rick Bowen said. “That’s an aggressive and strong wish.”
With a large contribution from the David Smith family, the First National Bank of River Falls and \$500,000 from UWRF student fees, \$1.2 million has been raised. Bowen asked the Student Senate for \$1 million from students, but only received the \$500,000.
The new lighting will be the first phase of the renovations that will also include field turf, an artificial surface similar to grass, which is expected to be installed prior to the 2010 football season.
Installing brick around the stands and expanding them would be the next phase. Also included would be replacing the press boxes and installing restroom facilities. Landscaping around the stadium would follow the next year. The estimated cost of the final phase is \$2 million.
The current lighting at Ramer Field has not been touched since the 1967 season and there are no more lighting accessories to repair

“With the lights and new turf, there’s so much more you can do.”
Rick Bowen,
UWRF Athletic Director

them, so the only way to improve them is to put up new ones. The cost of the new lights is \$225,000.
The field turf, which is used at all WIAC schools besides UW-Superior and UW-La Crosse, would cost \$750,000. Superior is the only WIAC school that does not have football. La Crosse will have field turf installed later this fall and its home games are being played at Winona State University, which has field turf.
“With the lights and new turf, there’s so much more you can do,” Bowen said.
“Intramurals doesn’t have to end at dusk and we don’t have to worry about the football field being torn up at the end of the year.”
River Falls High School plays its home football games at Ramer Field. At the end of the year, the field can be a tough surface to play on, UWRF sophomore wide receiver Michael Zweifel said.
“By the end of the year it’s really beat up,” he said. “When it gets cold out, it’s really hard to get traction. It would be an amazing atmosphere for fans to watch the game too.”
Even with the initial cost being expensive, maintenance will cost less in the long run, UW-Stout Athletic Director Joe Harlan said in a telephone interview.
“When you get it in, you don’t have to worry about watering the field or re-chalking it,” he said. “If [UWRF] put it in, all WIAC schools

will have it in place. It’s becoming the standard now to have it in. If you can afford it, you get the money back over time.”
If there is rain the night before a soccer or football game, the field is a mess to play on and the field turf has been an asset, Scott Kilgallon, athletic director at UW-Eau Claire, said in a telephone interview.
“After rain, a grass field is just mud,” he said. “The turf has been fantastic.”
Eau Claire would be limited to holding an average of 22 events on its grass field, but when the field turf was installed in 2004, Kilgallon’s first year as athletic director, it has been able to hold 80-100 events. The total cost of the field turf was \$800,000, Kilgallon said. The renovations are needed at UWRF because it has fallen behind other WIAC and Div. III schools in the Midwest, Bowen said.
“We have the worst facilities in the Midwest at our level,” he said. “This is long overdue.”
UW-Whitewater Athletic Director Paul Plinske agreed.
“No question about it,” Plinske said in a telephone interview. “You have to have the support from within. You cannot get anywhere if you don’t have the institutional support. It’s time for the folks of River Falls to step up.”
Whitewater has received \$4.4 million from students in the past four years for athletic facilities on its campus. David and Lolita Kachel also donated \$1.5 million in May for an athletic complex on the Whitewater campus.
Other schools are getting the support and UWRF needs it, Plinske said.

“They’re getting help from within,” he said. “It’s time now for [UWRF] to get it.”
The support Whitewater has from its students and the community has brought success to its athletics, Plinske said.
“We believe there’s a direct correlation to the facilities we have built and the success we have had,” he said. “River Falls is in a location close enough to Minneapolis and Madison where they should be able to attract more students and student athletes.”
Eau Claire students got the city on board by donating \$300,000 for its athletic facility upgrades, Kilgallon said.
There have been “minor” upgrades to Ramer Field, but it is not entirely noticeable, UWRF football coach John O’Grady said.
“People recognize when your University cares about certain aspects of your athletic program,” he said. “If you go to Ramer Field, does it look like people care about it?”
A problem that could occur is recruiting athletes at UWRF, O’Grady said.
“It goes back to what is our image, what do we want to be,” he said. “Do people believe athletics is important when the look at that stadium? If they do, you are not going to be able to get the same kind of recruits.”
The Kansas City Chiefs have their training camp at UWRF and play on an artificial surface in Kansas City, similar to the one that is planned for Ramer Field. The Chiefs front office personnel have given advice to UWRF on its renovations, Bowen said.
“If UWRF currently had the \$3.5-4 million, the project would have been started.”

Fantasy football picks frustrate long-time fan

Has anybody ever wondered why I hate Brett Favre so much? It’s kind of a touchy subject if you ask me, but here goes nothing. It was Dec. 22, 2003. Yours truly was in an all-or-nothing fantasy football league.
My team had dominated all season long and I was on the doorstep of putting 300 extra dollars into my bank account. I was up by 27 points in the league championship game going into the Monday night game between the Green Bay Packers and Oakland Raiders. The money was mine, oh wait, that’s right, Favre went off that night on the Raiders for 399 yards and four touchdowns. Some people say that Favre’s performance was fueled by emotion after the death of his father several days earlier. The real reason was that Favre was playing against me in that game. 300 dollars out the window!
I’m just like the Minnesota Vikings it seems. Every time I get that close to the brass ring, I choke like President Bush enjoying a pretzel during a football game. I’ve tried to figure out why this always happens to me and just this past week I figured it out.
According to many sources throughout the Jacksonville area, Houston Texans defensive end Mario Williams was spotted talking to quarterback Matt Schaub before their contest with the Jacksonville Jaguars. Williams told Schaub that he was playing against the “Year of the Carl” and suddenly a

transformation began. Schaub didn’t put up gaudy numbers in his first two games, but lightning struck Schaub and he turned into Robo QB. Seriously, it looked like something from Dragonball Z, with Schaub screaming gibberish and throwing balls through walls and Jacksonville defenders on his way to 300 yards and a couple of touchdowns. The next week when Schaub didn’t have to deal with the pressure of facing the “Year of the Carl,” Schaub missed the game with a stomach virus.
To further prove my point, Kansas City Chiefs running back Larry Johnson had the same problem in the first two games. Nothing like a visit from the “Year of the Carl” to pad those stats! Johnson ran like I was chasing him and gained 198 yards and two touchdowns to pound my team into submission. The next week, Johnson gained a whopping 7 yards!
Don’t worry, this is not limited to people I play against. Players that wind up on my team also wind up in the crapper. I had the number one pick in a league and was debating on taking either Vikings RB Adrian Peterson or San Diego Chargers RB LaDanian Tomlinson. The original plan was to take Peterson, but with the effect that I have on players, I

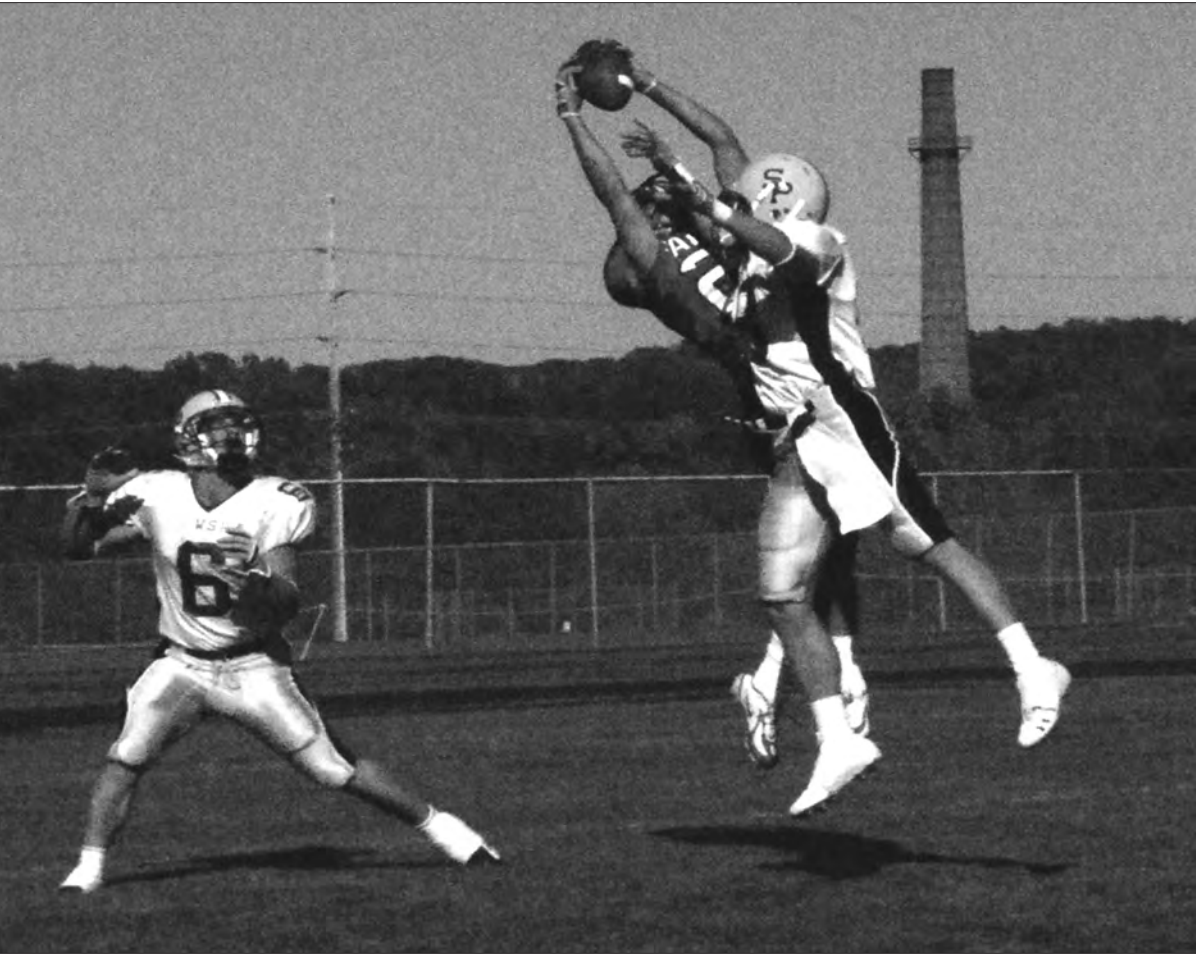
didn’t want the Vikings to have a horrible season (Oops, too late!). So I took LT instead. LT has a reputation of being super unstoppable awesome man coming into this season. NOT ANYMORE!!! LT has one 100-yard rushing game after being taken No. 1 overall by me. What’s the problem? His big toe is bothering him. Aw, we can’t have problems with our footsies now can we? This has lead to mass profanity coming out of 306 North Hall every Monday morning including, but not limited to, “LT only had 35 @#\$\$%^* yards!?”
I know that many people feel like they have the same problems as well. Many people are probably thinking about ripping this column in half and screaming something like “DID YOU DRAFT TOM BRADY?” or “Your team didn’t have five guys not score a point this week! Stop crying!”
However, next time you’re getting pummeled by 40 points by sub-human performances, remember that there are people who go through that every week, which makes football season unbearably long.



Chris Schad

Chris is a 22-year-old senior majoring in journalism. He is also the sports director for 88.7 FM WRFW and is the play-by-play voice for the Falcon football and hockey teams.

Falcons start WIAC play with Homecoming victory, O’Grady reaches 100th career win



Sally King/Student Voice
Sophomore wide receiver Michael Zweifel catches a touchdown pass in UWRF’s Homecoming game Saturday at Ramer Field. The Falcons beat previously undefeated UW-Stevens Point 36-30.

Football			Soccer		
WIAC Standings	W	L	WIAC Standings	W	L T
UW-Whitewater (4-0)	2	0	UW-Eau Claire(12-0-2)	4	0 0
UW-Stout(3-1)	1	0	UW-Stevens Point(9-2-0)	4	0 0
UW-River Falls (2-2)	1	0	UW-Stout(4-5-0)	2	1 2
UW-Eau Claire (3-1)	1	1	UW-Oshkosh(6-4-2)	2	1 1
UW-Stevens Point(3-1)	0	1	UW-La Crosse(6-4-2)	2	2 1
UW-Oshkosh(2-1)	0	1	UW-Platteville(6-5-1)	2	3 0
UW-Platteville(2-2)	0	1	UW-Whitewater(5-6-0)	2	3 0
UW-La Crosse(0-4)	0	1	UW-Superior(3-10-1)	0	4 0
			UW-River Falls(2-9-0)	0	4 0
Volleyball			Tennis		
WIAC Standings	W	L	WIAC Standings	W	L
UW-Eau Claire(11-9)	3	0	UW-Whitewater(8-1)	3	0
UW-Oshkosh(20-2)	5	1	UW-La Crosse(5-1)	1	0
UW-La Crosse(18-6)	3	1	UW-Eau Claire(8-3)	4	1
UW-Whitewater(14-6)	3	2	UW-Oshkosh(7-3)	2	2
UW-Platteville(12-11)	2	2	UW-River Falls(7-6)	1	3
UW-Stout(4-14)	1	2	UW-Stout(3-5)	1	3
UW-River Falls(9-11)	1	3	UW-Stevens Point(6-5)	1	4
UW-Stevens Point(9-13)	1	4			
UW-Superior(6-11)	0	4			

Paul Stanton
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The Falcon football team began their conference play Oct. 4 as they defeated UW-Stevens Point at the Falcon Homecoming game. With the win, Head Coach John O’Grady captured his 100th career victory and the Falcons continued their strong play to improve their record to 2-2. Standing in the way of the Falcons’ .500 record was the previously undefeated Stevens Point Pointers. At 3-0, the Pointers were off to an impressive start lead by quarterback Jared Beckwith and running back T.C. Farber. Before the game, both players had a combined total of five touchdowns.

Paving the way for the Falcons offense this year has been senior quarterback Storm Harmon. The WIAC named Harmon Offensive Player of the Week Sept. 30 as he did his part to help defeat Alma 25-20, recording a career high 97 rushing yards and one touchdown.

Before the Homecoming game, Harmon said he had hoped to duplicate this success.

“Homecoming is one of the atmospheres that we don’t get to play in all the time. It usually has bigger crowds, and it’s louder,” Harmon said. “All the events of the week lead up to the game and we feel that it is important to show everybody a good game.”

A great game the Falcons fans got to see.

“I have been at UWRF for three years and this is by far the most exciting game I have been to,” Trey Molitor, a former student at UWRF, said. “Harmon and the rest of the team were impressive.”

Harmon followed up his performance against Alma with another solid performance against the Pointers where he threw for three touchdowns and 241 yards passing.

No. 1 wide receiver for the Falcons, sophomore Michael Zweifel, added to the offensive success against the Pointers. Zweifel caught 16 passes for 139 yards and two touchdowns, and also extended his personal streak of catching a pass in every college game he has played in - a streak that now has climbed to 13 games.

Before the Homecoming game, the Falcons offense was ranked No. 1 in total offense at 374 yards per game. Harmon leads the WIAC in passing (181.3 yards per game) and Zweifel is tied for the lead in receptions (22).

On the defensive side of the ball, first-year Defensive Coordinator Greg Bower said he was impressed with the teams win.

“A lot of former students and former athletes come back to River Falls for the homecoming game, and when you win it’s always a good experience,” Bower said.

Leading up to this season Bower had spent four seasons as tight ends coach and two seasons as defensive tackles coach for Northern Illinois University. Bower credited the players for helping him make an easy transition from NIU to UWRF.



“The players have been great. Each defense has certain qualities about it, and when the players do what you ask of them, the outcome is usually a successful one,” Bower said

Up next for the Falcons is undefeated UW-Whitewater. The game will be held at Ramer Field noon Oct. 11.

UC Lobby 8am - 10pm
Mon., Tues., Oct. 13, 14

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER

VOTE



SHARED GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATION

If you have any questions matthew.dale@uwrfr.edu or call UWRF Student Senate at (715) 425-4444 ext. 175.

Student Senate • Leadership Development & Programming Board • Facilities & Fees Board

Chancellor creates task force to aid veterans

Lindsey Rykal
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UW-River Falls is forming a special task force to address the special needs of our veteran and active duty students.

UWRF has approximately 300 students who are veterans or active duty servicemen and women, and this number is expected to increase with the new G.I. Bill, which will take effect in August 2009, according to Interim Chancellor Connie Foster.

"We are seeing an increase and we are aware that they will be needing special services," Foster said. "We want to make sure we are accommodating them."

The members of this task force are asked to assess and review the University's ability across the institution to meet the special needs of the students who are veterans. They will summarize the current programs, services, policies and procedures regarding veterans on campus, analyze the strengths and weaknesses of those services and make specific recommendations for improving them.

"This is a national discussion that is going on at every campus," Mark Kinders, veterans club advisor, said. Kinders is a veteran and has a son in active duty serving in Iraq.

The new G.I. Bill that will take effect in August of next year will allow veterans a chance at a free four-year degree. The new plan was designed to match the free college tuition pledge under the G.I. Bill of Rights approved after World War II, which paid for a four-year degree plus additional funds for books and housing expenses. However, the amount awarded has not kept pace with the price of a college degree, making it unlikely for veterans to get a degree without loans or financial aid.

Under the new G.I. Bill, the amount awarded is tied to the price of the most expensive public college in a service member's home state, plus additional housing and living expenses.

"Congress has finally stepped up to the plate and are funding vets the way they should," Kinders said. "The G.I. Bill puts higher education at reach for students."

Veterans are coming from an experience where team camaraderie is very important and, once they leave the service, that lifeline is cut. The veterans task force will focus on making

the transition easier, Kinders said.

"We would like to provide an option for networks to come together as an organization," he said.

They will also look into changing enrollment procedures so veterans do not feel outnumbered in a classroom and to make them feel more comfortable expressing their point of view in class.

"I felt out of place in class because I couldn't relate with campus life. I wasn't coming into school as a freshman," veteran Cora Gerth, who served six months in Afghanistan, said. "Being in the military, serving in a foreign country and then coming back and going to school is something that unless you've experienced you can't understand the transition."

The task force also wants to ensure that veterans and active duty servicemen and women know where to go to receive their G.I. benefits. A major difficulty in the past for veterans is that there seems to be no correlation between the Financial Aid Office and the Veterans Office, Gerth said.

"When I would go to the financial aid office they would tell me I needed to go to the Veterans Office, but no one would be there,"

Gerth said. "That was really hard because the Veterans Office hours are very limited."

The task force will also focus on improving for those leaving school because of deployment. The Wisconsin National Guard is deploying to Iraq in February 2009 and UWRF has 30 or more guardsman included in the deployment. A goal for the task force is to make sure the students leave school in good standing so they can return. UWRF would also like to offer online classes to those serving overseas, Kinders said.

"I took online classes in Afghanistan and also when I was stationed in Alaska through a community college in California. That was great because I received six credits, but because it wasn't through UWRF, where I choose to get my degree, they only counted as generals," Gerth said.

The veterans task force will hold its first meeting within the next couple of weeks and will conclude with a report by the end of the semester. The report will include a list of issues they found at UWRF concerning our veterans and active duty service members and solutions to those issues.

Universal chemical hygiene guidelines to protect UWRF laboratory students

Kelly Richison
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A one-time only Faculty Senate Committee has formed to make a chemical hygiene plan that will establish a universal standard across campus to provide safety guidelines for individuals working in campus laboratories that will require the approval of the Faculty Senate.

The motion to create an "ad hoc" Faculty Senate Committee was requested by Connie Smith, risk management officer, at the Faculty Senate on Sept. 10. This nine-member Committee will make universal safety guidelines that include all departments that use chemicals. Currently there are eight departments that use chemicals: biology, chemistry, plant and earth science, agriculture engineering, animal and food science, physics, art and theatre. Each department will be represented in the "ad hoc" Committee.

"I knew this project had the potential for significant faculty time from the eight departments represented, so I wanted to make sure the Faculty Senate was informed of the scope and goals before I started and would support the work," Smith said.

The Committee decided at its first meeting Sept. 19 that they will follow the federal regulations for chemical hygiene in laboratories as established in the Code of Federal Regulations. According to Smith, who was elected the chair of the "ad hoc" Committee, it is crucial to look at examples from other universities to make sure the plan coincides with other institutions. The Committee is looking at examples from Purdue, Harvard, Texas A&M, UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee.

"As we follow the UWRF values for excellence and continuous improvement, it only makes sense to compare what we are doing to other campuses both in Wisconsin and across the nation that are considered to be 'best of practice,'" Smith said.

Many departments already have chemical hygiene plans. Written plans were established in 1995 under Chancellor Gary Thibodeau. Smith, however, said she noticed

a "redundancy" to the plans when she became the risk management officer last fall. After some research, she said she noticed that most of the major campuses in the UW System had one chemical hygiene plan per campus. The "ad hoc" Committee will work to reduce repetition and implement a universal plan.

"It was [Smith's] plan to essentially draft an overall plan that the Committee would then look at, rather than have the Committee work to try to come up with planning. It made more sense. I would agree with her that she can make plans then have the Committee look at it to modify it to meet the needs of the campus," Faculty Senate Chair and science professor David Rainville said.

Although the types of chemicals and associated equipment between departments will change, the safety guidelines will not undergo much change. Some departments, such as physics, use lasers and specific procedures need to be followed for their use. Some of the departments may include in the plan the need for special equipment to provide safety. Even the art department uses hazardous chemicals, such as flammable solvents and paint thinners, which will be included in the chemical hygiene plan. According to OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) its role is to provide a safe and healthy workplace for employers, which can be related to students who work with chemicals on campus.

"I think it's important to have a universal plan because that's what OSHA does and it's important to follow regulations," art education major Margaret Nelson said.

The chemical hygiene plan is not something that is new; its aim is to be more consistent and enhanced on documenting procedures.

"It will increase efficiency because we will only be updating and following one plan instead of eight," Smith said. "It will also increase knowledge and understanding of the regulation and associated requirements because we will have standard procedures that can be applied no matter which lab on campus a person is working."

"I think it's important to have a universal plan because that's what OSHA does and it's important to follow regulations."

Margaret Nelson,
UWRF student



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Career Fair to provide networking opportunities for students

Troy Ingli
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UW-River Falls students will have the chance to network with more than 100 potential employers at the 2008 Career Fair Oct. 15 in the University Center’s Riverview Ballroom.

According to Caitlin Conley, this year’s fair coordinator, students attending will get a chance to develop valuable communication skills that can be used during their time in college and can continue to develop as they explore future job markets. Conley has been working since May on planning, organizing and marketing this year’s event. She said the biggest challenge was staying in contact and communicating with the many organizations that will be attending the 2008 Career Fair.

“We sent contact information to around 5,000 organizations, but limit the number admitted to the Fair to 100. Basically it’s on a first come first serve basis. We do feel that with the large number of contacts made we are really offering students here a nice variety of future opportunities,” Conley said.

Conley also pointed to other perks that students attending the Fair can take advantage of.

“The fair is a great networking tool, and it gives students a chance to work on communicating with others in a professional setting. You never know, someone may get a lead on that dream job they are looking for,” she said.

John Szatkowski, a business administration-finance major who will graduate in the spring, echoed some of the same words that Conley used to describe this year’s event.

“I’ll be looking to network. Hopefully by making a few connections and seeing what is out there it will help me make a decision where I might go after graduation,” Szatkowski said.

Michael Morris, a business administration major, said going to the fair will benefit him in several ways.

“You get to meet and talk to people in the real world to gain experience. Plus I get extra credit for one of my classes as well. It’s an overall great opportunity,” Morris said.

Conley said that the Career Fair can be beneficial to students of all majors, not just those with business or agricultural interests.

“Many years, education majors have not attended. But this year we have several organizations directly related to education coming,” Conley said. “Career Services strongly encourages those going into the education field to attend.”

Katie Storlien, an art education major, said she does not know if the fair will offer a job directly in her field, but she will be attending anyway.

“You never know what might come up, or who you might meet that will have a lead for you,” Storlien said.

Austin Public Schools, Admission Possible, Minnesota Reading Corps, New Horizon Academy and World Endeavors are some examples of organizations directly representing education at this year’s Fair.

Students are not the only group who stand to benefit from this year’s Career Fair.

Conley said the organizations have much to gain as well.

“When companies come here, they get a chance to see many qualified candidates. They are able to connect with the students, and also build a relationship with the professors and

the University as well.” Conley said.

Sarah Idowa, communications coordinator for Admission Possible, said they are anxious to meet potential team members.

“We are coming to the Career Fair looking for people that want to make a commitment to our program. It’s our first time coming to this fair and we are excited to meet the students from River Falls and share this opportunity with them,” Idowa said.

Students interested in the Career Fair can find out more by stopping in at Career Services or visiting the Career Fair Web site. The Web site lists all of the organizations attending this year’s event, along with advice and tips for success for those students who are going. Informational sessions regarding the fair will be offered at Career Services two days prior to the event, and guides that list information about all of the attending organizations and their employment options will also be available.

“This is a great opportunity for everyone,” Conley said. “It’s been a lot of work, but it’s been a lot of fun too.”

‘How to Lose Friends and Alienate People’ lacks comedic focus



Ken Weigend

“How to Lose Friends & Alienate People” attempts to play out like a ‘gaining popularity for dummies’ user guide. Instead, it comes off as a crass, in-your-face party favor. I couldn’t help feeling slighted as I walked away, wondering how a film could top Sybil in the split personality department.

Centering around British cult-icon comedian Simon Pegg, “HtLF&AP” works from an adapted screenplay of British author Toby Young’s novel of the same title. That being said, it seems obvious that the film would borrow heavily from the dry comedic style made famous across the pond. But instead of embracing those hilariously awkward moments, taking the film in a Ricky Gervais or Wes Anderson direction, director Robert Weide attempts some form of cinematic bastardization, mashing together sly, dry comedy with humorless American slap-schtick a la Adam Sandler. The end result is something akin to a film-house Siamese twin.

British writer/publisher Sidney Young (Pegg) uses his indie pop culture magazine “Post Modern Review” to infiltrate high society in an attempt to push celebrities off their silver-spoon pedestals. Instead, Young is singled out by American media mogul Clayton Harding (Jeff Bridges, in a far more fitting role than

his villainous stint in “Iron Man”) to travel stateside and write for the Rolling Stone-esque publication Sharps.

Young’s particular brand of journalism adds insult to injury, winning him no friends, especially not the affections of co-worker Alison Olsen (Kirsten Dunst), who Young plays love/hate tag with throughout.

Adding fuel to this taciturn blaze is the innocently naive femme fatale bombshell Sophie Maes (Megan Fox), an up-and-coming Spearsian starlet who wraps Young around her finger, justifying her puppeteering by pouting “I’m drawn to sick animals.”

The cast rides the talent roller coaster all the way through. Pegg, although not a household name, has quickly amassed quite a following after smash back-to-back hits “Shaun of the Dead” and “Hot Fuzz.” But he can only carry the film so far, quickly sinking into a stale quagmire by the very presence of the cancerous Dunst. Her subpar style of whatever it is she does on screen (it certainly isn’t acting) betrays any hope the film may have for credibility.

But the real fun here is watching Fox. Her character’s lack of substance is intentional - infiltrating the ranks of Jessica Simpson as eye-candy filler - as she floats lusciously around the screen, perfectly playing the taunting temptress aware of the lustful desires she evokes. Her faux erotic Mother Teresa biopic teaser trailer is, by far, the highlight of the film.

It’s not that “HtLF&AP” is a bad film—at times it’s quite good. But it does suffer

from an internal scripting schism. The bulk of the film disguises off-color, off-kilter comments on the sad state of Hollywood affairs, simultaneously mocking and satirizing an industry that has learned to embrace the Barbie image over Rosie the Riveter. Unfortunately, this brutally brilliant, poignant mock-expose of the West Coast is deluded by a poisonous slew of amateur punch lines. A film that could have contended as one of the funniest of the year is, sadly, reduced to a mere shadow of what it should have been.

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. Hakari

Budding journalists are taught that while true objectivity is a myth, their reporting should still be as slant-free as possible. As a result, movies have conjured up countless characters who abide by this creed, delicately dancing around ethical red tape as they battle the big, bad villain du jour. This is why I breathed a sigh of

relief when I saw the new comedy “How to Lose Friends & Alienate People.” Rather than hitch a ride on a moral high horse, this flick gleefully tosses mores out the window, eventually evolving into an all-out assault on celebrity culture - and doing a pretty funny job of it.

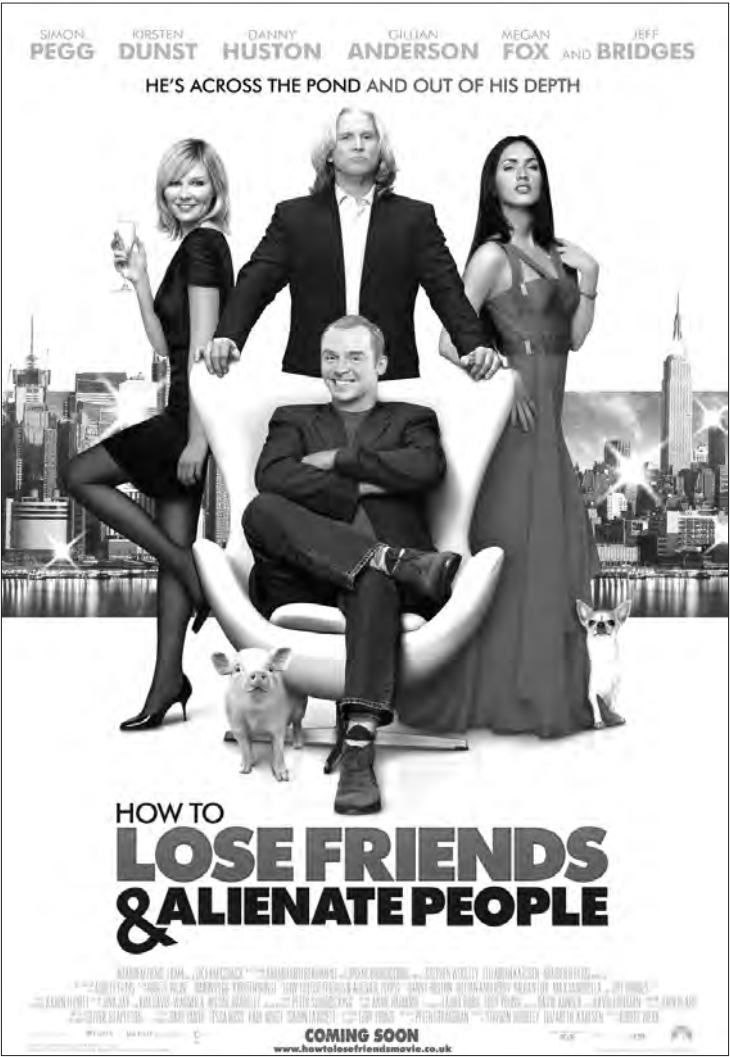
As the editor of quite possibly the world’s teensiest periodical, Sidney Young (Simon Pegg) has spent most of his life as one of the little people, writing savage articles about high society whenever he’s denied entrance into their up-scale world. But after a wild stunt at a high-profile party, things actually start looking up for our beleaguered chum. Sidney’s mishap just happened to have caught the attention of Clayton Harding (Jeff Bridges), chief editor of New York-based Sharps magazine, enough so that he offers Sidney a job on the rag’s society beat. In no time at all, Sidney is hobnobbing with supermodels, filmmakers and all manner of paparazzi fodder. The trouble is that this all-access pass comes with a price, with Sidney finding himself torn between maintaining journalistic integrity and kissing the hind ends of celebrities for the rest of his life.

I know, it’s not exactly earth-shattering for a movie to preach about how vain celebs are (next you’ll be saying the Earth is

round, or something). But “How to Lose Friends” brings a true sense of snarkiness to the table, its attacks coming across with real bite instead of doling out lightweight lobs. The story wisely puts off Sidney’s clichéd struggle to remain true to his ideals until later in the film, instead focusing on the amusing shenanigans he causes while trying to keep his head above water.

Once “How to Lose Friends” reaches that point, though, it does run out of steam remarkably fast. In short, this is pretty much “The Devil Wears Prada” repackaged with a male demographic in mind, embodying virtually the exact same story structure. But aside from lengthening the running time a bit too much, it’s nothing that cripples the flick too badly. The cast is always dependable for doing wonders with the material. Aside from Pegg’s hilarious turn as the hell-raising Sidney, Bridges has fun as his burned-out boss, and Megan Fox (who lived up to her last name in “Transformers”) does great work as a shameless attention whore.

“How to Lose Friends & Alienate People” covers no ground that hasn’t been satirized before. But for the most part, it maintains a fresh vibe as it goes about its duties. Sharply written and nimbly acted, “How to Lose Friends” is the perfect film for anyone who’s come close to hulking out at the mere mention of “TMZ.”



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



Movie ratings are based on a scale from one to five. A film that scores five stars is worth seeing. A film that scores one star is horribly acted or directed, with no substance.



Escape the Fate undergoes transitions, but still falls short



Erik Wood

Have you ever had a band or favorite group that either lost members or altogether decided to call it quits? In 9/10 cases, if the group replaces lost members, the band is never the same and will lose large numbers of listeners. I’m experiencing this phenomena with the renewed Las Vegas quintet, Escape the Fate. Numerous line-up changes took place in 2005 and the final line-up

came into focus in 2006. Bassist Max Green sums it up perfectly, “Our guitar player walked out in the middle of a tour, our singer went to rehab twice, then he went to jail, he got probation. Later we couldn’t leave the United States, then we couldn’t leave Nevada. Our singer became a drug addict, our bass player - that’s me - became a drug addict. I got cleaned up, we kicked out our old singer, and a ray from heaven shined down on us with an amazing opportunity.”

Craig Mabbitt, ex-frontman of Blessthefall was that opportunity. Craig brings a variety of vocal ability in comparison to former singer,

Ronnie Radke. Many critics believed that Radke’s inability to write lyrics that were not plagued with themes of death and decay of relationships and a false sense of personality.

Reinvigorated, Escape the Fate headed into the studio with John Feldman (The Used, Atreyu, Good Charlotte). The new album is exactly that, a mixmash hodgepodge of all three of Feldman’s former produced albums. The album, “This War is Ours,” is due out Oct. 21 on Epitaph Records. When the intro to the albums first track, “We Wont Back Down” hits, I completely eradicated everything I’ve ever loved about Escape the

Fate and Craig Mabbitt as a singer. “We Wont Back Down” weakly proclaims that this band is at the mercy of his grasps and that Escape the Fate as a whole are moving on from everything they’ve experienced in past years. While I expected more screaming from Mabbitt on the introductory track, I was pleasantly surprised going into the next track entitled “On To The Next One.” Sad to say, there aren’t many tracks on the album that separate themselves from any other pop-punk, alternative bands out there. Tracks like, “Ashley,” “Something,” and “Harder Than You Know” were written for the all ages crowd.

In a statement released by the band prior to the release, they state “This is the next generation of rock. We’ve been through a lot of shit this last year, and we took all that anger, frustration and sadness and molded it into an album with huge rock choruses, in your face riffs and melodies and drums that will give your parents a heart attack.” Radke’s arrogance and ignorance stuck deeply rooted into the band, but this album isn’t the next generation of rock. “This War Is Ours” does have a few saving graces. The debut single, “The Flood,” is opposite of everything stated above. This is an in your face proclamation of Craig’s issues with the

parting of Blessthefall. It isn’t lyrics about death and all the other non-sensical bullshit that Radke spewed each day while sounding like a thirteen-year-old teenager. The second single, entitled “This War Is Ours (The Guillotine Part II),” is the album’s highest point. With an introduction similar to that of Halo 3, it quickly dissipates into ear-splitting trills and riffs combined with thunderous double kicks and high paced barks from Mabbitt. Lyrically, the song doesn’t provide the listener with anything that will change your life. This song screams at the top of its lungs that Escape the Fate is back and here to stay.

Annual visit by Chiefs provides more than just a team

Ken Weigand
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The Kansas City Chiefs have, for 18 years running, made UW-River Falls their summer home. For roughly four weeks in each of those past 18 summers, the Chiefs have used the University for their off-season training camp.

The Chiefs arrive on campus roughly near the end of July and stay until the middle of August, when NFL preseason begins. The team’s training staff arrives one week earlier to prepare the facilities.

The only exception is the Chiefs’ head groundskeeper, Andre Bruce, a nationally renowned sports field manager with 33 years experience with the Chiefs, who arrives in May to hire two university students to a summer internship helping prepare and manage the four football fields the Chiefs use.

According to Steve Stocker, the director of the Hunt/Knowles complex, Bruce budgets \$30,000 strictly for grounds maintenance - materials and labor. The fields are rolled, seeded, over fertilized up to four times and every divot gouged into the fields is filled in with sod.

“All this adds up,” Stocker said. “The Chiefs don’t just pick up and leave. Andre leaves those fields looking spectacular. We would have gone to turf fields years ago if the Chiefs didn’t keep our fields in such great shape.”

The exceptional care given to the fields also serves the student populace, giving them professional quality practice and game fields.

“They want to take care and they want to leave [the fields] better than when they showed up,” Ben Fraser, assistant director of Hunt/Knowles, said.

According to Stocker, there is no drawback to the Chiefs visit from a recreations viewpoint. The training camp gives the University a chance to generate outside revenue by utilizing practice facilities that would otherwise sit dormant.

The Chiefs utilize four football-sized fields, including Ramer Field,

as well as the Hunt Arena field house, training rooms, locker rooms and three offices in the complex.

The Chiefs also occupy two residence halls. In the past, they have stayed in McMillan and Grimm Halls, but this past summer the Chiefs players and coaching staff stayed in South Fork Suites. The administrative staff remained in Grimm Hall, where they converted one of the wings on first floor into a bank of offices.

The team also utilizes the University Center, holding meetings in all the rooms and theater on the third floor as well as converting an area on second floor into a satellite training room. The Falls Room outside the Riverside Commons is used as a press conference area.

Testa pointed out that the Chiefs pay for everything they use.

“Anything associated with them being here they pay for,” Testa said. “They pay a fee for food services and facility rental, as well as paying a housing fee.”

Stocker was quick to point out that students in no way supplement the Chiefs.

“We utilize these fields through outside teams to supplement the facilities so students don’t have to,” he said.

With their arrival on campus every year, the Chiefs bring with them over 70 summer job and internship opportunities for students.

“There is quite a bit of employment for students,” Testa said.

A recent survey put out by agricultural economics professor David Trechter estimated that the University paid roughly \$138,000 to summer student workers during the Chiefs training camp.

Avid football enthusiast and UWRF student Blake Karas had the opportunity to be a courier for the Chiefs last summer. His primary responsibility was to shuttle players

and staff to and from wherever they needed to go.

“Working for the Chiefs this summer was one of the greatest experiences of my life,” said Karas in an e-mail interview. “The town was a lot more vibrant with the Chiefs there. I could feel River Falls being busy and more of a fun place to be when they are here.”

Not all students share that same optimism, however.

Dan Scott, hall manager for South Fork Suites, said he is frustrated by the Chiefs presence. Part of Scott’s HM duties require him to arrive on campus several weeks before classes begin. His building was not ready for any early arrival students to move into as a result of the Chiefs stay.

“When coming to campus for training I, among many other students, was unable to move in to the building I was assigned because the Chiefs had stayed there and it wasn’t clean yet,” Scott said.

It is not just the delay on moving into the building that Scott said hinders UWRF. He said he is also concerned by the apparent disrespect for the building in general which, in turn, leads to more stressful work for the custodial staff.

“It doesn’t seem like a big deal, but the Chiefs are slobes and make a huge mess when they go to camp, which gives the custodians a ton of extra work and makes cleaning the halls the Chiefs stay in longer to clean. Which, in turn, makes it a huge inconvenience for professional staff members to find temporary spots for involved students who then have to move in to temporary housing before they can move into their spot for the year.”

When asked about the Chiefs’ respect for the buildings they stay in, Testa said there was “absolutely no truth” to any stories about the players being rough on the buildings.

“[The Chiefs] have been nothing but respectful,” Testa said. “As an organization they have been

extremely professional. No problems whatsoever.”

Custodial Services was unavailable for comment.

During the Chiefs stay, they are kept extremely busy and are out of the res halls for most of their pre-planned day.

But although they do not venture off campus too much, the Chiefs do bring a stimulus to the city of River Falls.

By playing host to an NFL team, UWRF and the surrounding community, have been placed into the national spotlight. A number of major media organizations have come to campus to cover the Chiefs, including The New York Times, USA Today and HBO.

Two summers ago, HBO made the Chiefs the focus of their program “Hardknocks,” a reality sports documentary series that follows an NFL team through their preseason, focusing on how they are preparing for their upcoming season. A good amount of filming was done in River Falls, exposing the city to a mainstream audience.

“[The] Chiefs made sure HBO highlighted River Falls in a positive way, really urging they capture the feel of the area,” Kinders said.

It is this type of publicity that has the University staff so excited about the team’s annual visit.

“What other D3 school can be in USA Today or be on HBO?” asked Stocker. “The impact is priceless.”

When Kinders first became a staff member at UWRF, he said he could recall having to give “geography lessons” to anyone not from the area when mentioning River Falls.

“There is an enormous depth of media coverage,” Kinders said. “Since the Chiefs have come here, River Falls has been mentioned in national media millions of times. That brings tremendous name recognition. If you had to purchase that, it would cost tens of millions of dol-

lars.”

The impact extends beyond the University and out to the town as well.

Brian Lee, the general manager of the River Falls Walgreens, said he saw a small rise in sales, mostly from the large amount of die hard Chiefs fans that comes out to watch the open practices.

“There wasn’t a great spike in general merchandising, but there was quite a pick-up in photo,” said Lee. “There were a lot of people from out of town... from all over the U.S. [that developed photos].”

The positive impact the team has on the city reaches far beyond more photo development. River Falls Chamber of Commerce CEO Rosanne Bump estimates that the Chiefs bring with them a \$1 million economic stimulus to the city. The tourism businesses - hotels, restaurants and retail stores - see the most impact, Bump said.

It is unclear whether or not the Chiefs will return again next year. Their contract has expired and the team is in year-to-year negotiations with the University. Complicating the situation is the fact that the Chiefs just completed construction on a new multi-million dollar practice facility in Kansas City. It is unknown by UWRF officials if that new facility will impact the Chiefs’ decision to return to UWRF.

“If they don’t come back it won’t be because they had a bad experience, they just wanted to stay home,” Testa said.

An absence by the Chiefs may have a deep-lasting impact on the community and campus, putting an end to out-of-town tourism sales booms and leaving UWRF out of the national spotlight again.


“We want them back,” added Stocker. “Their absence would leave a serious void in revenue and publicity that might never be filled.”


“Working for the Chiefs this summer was one of the greatest experiences of my life.”

Blake Karas,
UWRF student


“...the Chiefs are slobes and make a huge mess when they go to camp.”

Dan Scott,
Hall manager





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