



SOFTBALL, PAGE 6
Falcon softball team looks to have strong season

BILLINGSLEY, PAGE 5
Student Senate fails to keep students in mind

BOLIVIA, PAGE 8
Retired UWRF professor, graduates teach in Bolivia



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

STUDENT

RIVER FALLS

VOICE

March 6, 2009

www.uwrfvoice.com

Volume 95, Issue 17

Falcons earn NCAA berth with finals win

With the O’Brien Cup on the line, the Falcons held off a furious Pointers attack to win their third O’Brien Cup title and an NCAA tournament bid

Justin Magill
justin.magill@uwrf.edu

There will be another banner to hang from the rafters of Hunt Arena as the No. 7 ranked UW-River Falls women’s hockey team defeated No.10 UW-Stevens Point 5-3 in the finals of the NCHA O’Brien Cup. The victory guarantees the Falcons a spot in the NCAA tournament which begins on March 13. For the Falcons, it is their first O’Brien Cup in six years and goalie Cassi Campbell, who finished the game with 29 saves, said it is a great feeling. “Feels absolutely amazing,” she said. “All of our hard work has paid off and there is proof right there.” Junior co-captain Stefanie Schmitz said it is one of the best moments of her life. “Awesome. Probably the best feeling ever,” she said. “We worked

really hard and took it to them basically.” For Jamie Briski, who scored a shorthanded goal less than four minutes into the third period to give the Falcons a 3-1 lead, the championship is deserving from all the hard work put in this year. “Amazing,” she said. “We put in a lot of hard work and we deserve it.” For Falcon head coach Joe Cranston, this is his third playoff championship in 10 seasons. In his first season at the helm, the Falcons went 3-15-0, but now has coached teams that have put up six banners. Cranston was named 2009 NCHA Coach of the Year. He also won the award in 2007. UWRF had a couple of two goal leads in the third period, but Stevens Point, which played in its third game in as many days, would not go away and continued to apply pressure in the Falcons zone. “We score and are up by a couple, then Stevens Point would run out of energy, but would come back,” Cranston said. “I don’t know where they found the energy, but they had us on our heels at the end.” None of the goals that were scored on Sunday beat the goalies clean, as both played stellar. The aforementioned Campbell did not have a chance to stop any of the Pointers shots and d’Andra Phillips made the Falcons earn each goal they scored. “Both goalies were awesome



Jens Gunelson/Submitted Photo
Members of the UW-River Falls womens hockey team celebrate after clinching the O’Brien Cup on Sunday at Hunt Arena. The team will play in the NCAA tournament beginning next weekend.

tonight,” Cranston said. “They made great saves and were just huge.” With Campbell nursing an injured knee for much of the second half of the season, Briski said she had no idea her teammate could make the stops she did. “I don’t know where she got those moves, but she played so good,” Briski said of Campbell’s performance. “She was unbelievable.” Schmitz added that goalies are on top of their games when goals were scored the way they were on Sunday. “When you have to score on the second or third shot you know the goalies are playing good,” she said. “Both goalies played unbelievable.” After Briski’s goal the Pointers

took control of the game and had the puck in the Falcons zone for most of the middle part of the third period. With Stevens Point being down, Campbell said UWRF knew the Pointers would not go down easy. “We knew that they were going to come out with a lot of pressure,” she

See Hockey page 3

State budget plan means cuts for UW System schools

Nathan Sparks
nathaniel.sparks@uwrf.edu

The state of Wisconsin’s new budget for the period of 2009-11 has been released. It is expected to shield students from low-income families from tuition increases, and cause nearly \$150 million in cuts in the UW System. UW-River Falls may lose \$4 million, some of it permanently, over the next two years. The plan, released Feb. 17 by Gov. Jim Doyle, included funding cuts for many state departments and programs. One of the few areas receiving any kind of spending increase is education. “I don’t believe that the people of Wisconsin elected me to watch the University of Wisconsin turn into a second-rate institution,” Doyle said in the summary of the budget on his Web site. “Our universities and our schools have always been the engines that drive Wisconsin. My budget sees education as our most important function—education, again, is the one primary area that is receiving any increases.” Doyle went on to say that the UW System would remain accessible and open to an increasing number of students, and

See Budget cuts page 3

University to continue scholarships, financial aid for students despite economic troubles

Adrianne Patterson
adrianne.patterson@uwrf.edu

As the spring semester flies by, students will soon begin to plan for next fall by meeting with their advisor, sign up for classes and ultimately determine how to afford another year of education during this tough economic state. Students may feel the pressure to scrape to the bottom of their penny banks, but UW-River Falls is present, willing and available for students in need. During this tough economic recovery, UWRF holds strong to providing students with a strong financial aid system and hundreds of scholarships for the upcoming school year. “From what we know right now, most federal financial aid programs will not decrease for next year,” financial aid counselor Kathy Rapienski said. Due to the recent stimulus package signed and new acts being passed by the federal government, students in need are receiving support. According to the U.S. Department of

Education Web site, on Feb. 17 President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 into law. This act will help young people attend and continue college by raising Pell Grants and tuition tax credits. According to the UWRF Enrollment Services Web site, Pell Grants, unlike a loan or financial aid, do not have to be repaid. Pell Grants are available funds given to low-income undergraduates seeking additional education. On Feb. 5, UW System President Kevin P. Reilly released a statement regarding the grants. “The House Appropriations Committee will increase financial aid for college students by including \$15.6 million for Pell Grants, increasing the maximum grant by \$500 to \$5,350, Reilly said.” Within the state of Wisconsin, the support for students is strong and generous. On Feb. 17, UW System confirmed that Gov. Jim Doyle’s state annual budget will provide \$12 million increase to the UW schools for need-based financial

aid. “Together with significant new federal assistance and tax credits, this expanded state aid sends a clear message to Wisconsin residents—that college remains within their reach and we want them to enroll,” UW System spokesperson Doug Bradley said. A large portion of the aid given to UWRF students is through FAFSA - a free application for federal student aid - will also see an increase during this critical time. “If a student’s family has experienced a decrease in income in 2008 compared to prior years, their FAFSA for their next year’s aid will reflect those income changes so they may have more financial need as a result,” Rapienski said. According to the Information of Financial Aid Professionals, as of Jan. 9, 5,822 students at UWRF applied for FAFSA for the 2007 school year out of the 6,452 students enrolled. The large portion at UWRF is a small

See Financial aid page 3

UWRF ag science engineering department acquires seed press



Nathan Sparks/Student Voice
UWRF students Eli Chandler and William Pettis use the new, \$7,500 seed press in the Ag Science building.

Nathan Sparks
nathaniel.sparks@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls agricultural science engineering department has acquired a new machine for its bio-diesel research. The \$7,500 machine, called a seed press, was purchased in December from a manufacturer in Eau Claire. Students are still testing the press to maximize its efficiency, but when ready it could produce additional oil to power the campus farm equipment and process animal feed to supplement the farm’s several dozen cattle.

The machine is currently in the engineering annex of the Ag Science building. Students use soybeans with it because they are common to the region around UWRF, relatively clean and a good balance between the amount of oil and feed produced, ag engineering chair Dean Olson said. Senior ag engineering majors William Pettis and Eli Chandler are among the students experimenting with the machine. “[It’s] not that loud, actually,” Chandler said. “It runs about twice as loud as an Xbox 360.” With the help of senior Dan Volkert and junior Sam

Vorpahl (also ag engineering majors), Chandler and Pettis demonstrated the press for the Student Voice. Under Olson’s supervision, a quarter bushel of soybeans was poured into the machine, producing 400 milliliters of oil and enough pellets to feed a cow for a day. Olson said this could probably be improved over time. “They’re still figuring it out, but we can expect about a gallon of oil per bushel of soybeans,” Olson said. “I see our lab farm going through 1,500 bushels of soybeans per year, [and] roughly 1,500 gallons of oil per year... would be about 20, 25 percent of the oil needed for the lab equipment.”

The press is a few feet long and powered by an electric motor. First, the beans are stored in a large bin mounted above the machine. When released, the beans pour down through a funnel into the front of the press. The machine takes a few minutes to prime, and then the seeds are ground up by a large internal screw and crushed against a press plate. The oil drips out through a perforated column into a cup, while the remaining soy pellets are squeezed out of a nozzle on the end. The oil can be run through a bio-diesel processor and used in equipment. The feed

See Seed press page 3

VOICE SHORTS

Daylight savings time begins

On Sunday, March 8, daylight savings time will begin and clocks will have to be moved up by one hour.

'Twelve Dreams' to be performed

The play "Twelve Dreams" will be held in the Davis Theatre in Kleinpell Fine Arts building and costs \$8 for adults and \$5 for students with ID. The play starts at 7:30 p.m. March 6 and 7. In the play, a 10-year-old girl, Emma, gives her father a book for Christmas in which she describes her dreams. These dreams are very unusual because they are filled with symbols of creation, destruction and decay, birth and death.

Davee Library hosts CRSCA awards

The Offices of the Provost, Grants and Research, and the Chalmer Davee Library is hosting a Celebration of Research, Scholarly and Creative Achievement (CRSCA), an annual event honoring the intellectual and creative accomplishments of UW-River Falls faculty and staff during 2008. The celebration includes exhibits throughout the library and a reception 3 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, in the library atrium. UWRF student and violinist Marta Pedersen will be performing during the reception.

Church food drive to be held at UWRF

On Monday, March 9-10, there will be boxes set out at various locations on campus for people to donate nonperishable food items. Several of the dorms and other buildings will have boxes set up in hopes that students will want to donate some of the food items they have, especially since break will start the following week. All the food will be given to the food shelf at Ezekiel Lutheran church. They happily accept money donations, but food is more than enough.

Tuition feedback session scheduled

Open meetings for students and advisors/campus community members to provide feedback on proposed changes to the tuition payment plan will take place 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 in the Kinni Theater in the University Center. The student session is from 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. The session for advisors and other campus community members is 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This proposal by Enrollment Services is intended to prevent students from falling behind on their financial obligations, simplify the registration process and create efficiencies for the University.

Orchestra to perform at UWRF

The St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra concert will be held 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 6, at the Abbott Concert Hall. The concert will feature Jung Hung Lee, visiting artist from Seoul, Korea in "Ah! Je veux vivre" from Romeo and Juliet by Charles Gounod. Other selections include Wedding Day At Trolldhaugen by Edvard Grieg, The Olympic Spirit by John Williams, Stars and Stripes Forever by John Philip Sousa, Pavane Pour Une Infante Defunte by Maurice Ravel and Symphony No. 9, "New World", mvt. 2 and 4 by Antonin Dvorak. The St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra is directed by professor Kristin Tjornehoj. For further information contact Tjornehoj at 425-3940 or kristin.tjornehoj@uwrf.edu.

Wireless system may be too small



Tennae Maki /Student Voice

UWRF student Tyler Patterson works on his laptop in the Davee Library.

Collin Pote
collin.pote@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls wireless systems may not be adequate to handle the growing use of wireless devices on campus. Steps have been taken in the past to attempt to move Information Technology Services in a direction that is more supportive of portable computing devices, but no changes have been approved as of yet.

Mary-Alice Muraski, computer support services manager of ITS, said outright that permanent computer labs are not sustainable in the long run.

As such, the Information & Instructional Technology Council proposed a resolution last year that would make the campus more accommodating to the growing use of wireless devices and Wi-Fi.

“What we hope to do is provide better support,” Muraski said.

The resolution was proposed to both Student Senate as well as Faculty Senate. While the Student Senate passed the resolution 14-3, Faculty Senate was more divided and ultimately rejected it 7-8.

A wireless learning environment is not unheard of in the UW System. As part of its curriculum, UW-Stout requires that all students subscribe to the eScholar service. The service is part of tuition fees, and supplies all students with a laptop no more than two years old, a backpack, all required connectors and wireless connectivity on campus. In addition, all laptops are loaded with software relevant to the students’ courses.

The eScholar program aims to set a technological standard for all people on campus. The end result is faster service and repairs to hardware as needed.

“I think it’s kind of nice. I think you’d get quite a bit out of it,” UW-Stout Help Desk employee John Pfeiffer said. He noted how useful the immediate technical assistance is and said he couldn’t think of any immediate problems he had with the program.

While UW-Stout’s program may be running well, shifting to such a learning environment would not be without some significant change and potential growing pains.

“The entire infrastructure needs to change. We need a better support structure that we just don’t have,” Muraski said.

In addition to a change in the support infrastructure, there are other things to consider. According to Muraski, Wi-Fi hotspots around campus are only able to support around 20 logins, and when more students try to send data through it, the flow of information can be slower. More hotspots would need to be installed in order to accommodate the student body.

There is also the issue of electricity. An increased use of laptops in classes would require easier access to electrical outlets. A technological restructuring will likely be expensive as well.

Tech council still wishes to increase wireless support, but because of the partial rejection of the original proposal, any plans to move UWRF in a more wireless friendly direction are in limbo for the time being. This will continue to be the case until a new proposed resolution is approved.

“The entire infrastructure needs to change. We need a better support structure that we just don't have”
Mary-Alice Muraski,
computer support services manager of Information

Carnival canceled due to lack of student interest

Renee Thony
renee.thony@uwrf.edu

The Winter Carnival happens every spring semester at UW-River Falls, but this year, the Carnival was cancelled due to the low number of teams signed up to participate.

Sara Gliniany, the special events coordinator on campus, she had a lot of involvement in the planning of the Winter Carnival, which was scheduled for Feb. 23-27.

“Winter Carnival has been going on since at least the 1960s. It’s a time to celebrate our cold winter weather and gives students something to look forward to during the long winter months,” Gliniany said.

Prior to being cancelled, this year’s events included: Miss Tootsie, Lip Sync, a hat and mitten drive, snow sculptures, trivia and a human dog sled race.

“Traditionally teams and royalty compete in these events throughout the week,” Gliniany said.

Abby Maliszewski, chair of the Homecoming Committee (now called Traditions) from 2007-08, said she was shocked that this year’s Carnival was cancelled.

“There are ways to gather interest—it

takes hard work and lots of planning. Events aren’t something that can be thrown together if you want them to turn out well,” Maliszewski said.

Proper advertising, publicity, promotion and word of mouth generate buzz as well create ways to cater to the audience’s desires. Maliszewski said she feels events like the Carnival are crucial to have on campuses the size of UWRF.

“Traditions like Winter Carnival, Homecoming and even the rodeo should establish a unity amongst UWRF students. Celebrations and events bring people together,” she said. “Sporting events, concerts, even weekly bingo aren’t going to be successful if they aren’t planned correctly. What will students remember? What will they be allowed to remember?”

Students agree to pay fees included in their tuition to fund Winter Carnival each year. Even though the Carnival was cancelled, Gliniany said the money will not be wasted.

“The money that was set for Winter Carnival will still pay for the comedian that was on Wednesday [Feb. 25] night,” Gliniany said. As far as the remaining money the committee has, it will probably go towards next year’s budget. ”

RIVER FALLS POLICE/UWRF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Editor's note: Information for this section is taken from River Falls Police and UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.

February 23
- Curran C. Gillen, 19, was cited for a seatbelt violation.

February 25
- Cory M. Somsen, 25, was cited for speeding in a school zone.

March 1
- Haley C. Kavanaugh, 18, was cited \$249 for underage consumption at Parker Hall.



Plan your summer now

(to earn extra credits—at Normandale)

Normandale is the best educational value. Here's why:

- Excellent transfer of credits** to major 4-year colleges and universities
- Superb reputation** with employers
- About one-fifth the cost** of your average private college
- Day & evening sessions, also condensed courses**

For courses and registration information, go to **www.normandale.edu** or call 866-880-8740.

Register online!



It's where you belong.

Conveniently located in Bloomington, MN, minutes from airport & Mall of America
A MEMBER OF MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SYSTEM



Don't miss out on this limited time offer:

1 Month Free Tanning!

*See club for details.



24 Hour • Co-ed • Secure • Affordable & Friendly

1701 Ward Avenue Suite 201 Hudson, WI 54016
715-386-5020
www.anytimefitness.com

join the club

and anywhere

Hockey: Falcon women to play first NCAA tournament game next weekend

from page 1

said. “We just had to work on blocking shots and not let them get to the net.”

When the Pointers were able cut the Falcon lead to 4-3, UWRF was content with dumping the puck in deep and kept its lines on the ice for less than a minute to keep fresh skaters on the ice.

“Joe [Cranston] just told us to dump the puck in and make them go get it and for us, we were able to change our lines and have fresh legs,” Briski said. “It worked really well for us. We even work on that in practice, just dumping the puck in and changing our lines.”

Jessica Thompson’s goal midway through the third period gave the Falcons a 4-2 lead and

Falcons defenseman Lauren Conrad, who was playing with an injured arm, took a roughing penalty after punching a Pointer forward in the face.

Stevens Point’s Dana Carothers answered 1 minute, 19 seconds into the penalty.

She buried a rebound in front of the net after Nicole Grossmann took a shot from the left faceoff dot. It was Carothers 19th goal of the year and the Pointers had a 1-0 lead going into the second period.

It was not until late in the second period that the Falcons got on the board.

Breanne Hrabe unleashed a one-timer from the blue line and Katelyn Flanagan was able to redirect the puck past Phillips, who was then out of position as she was trying to make the save on Hrabe’s shot.

Conrad made up for

her penalty and put away a rebound in a wide open net, with 19 seconds to play in the second, as Phillips had to make a save on Brittany Erickson’s shot from the bottom of the right faceoff circle.

“She scored a goal by just driving to the net,” Cranston said. “She was playing with one good arm all day. She won all the battles on the boards for us and just had a great game for us.”

Early in the third, Schmitz was called for holding in the Falcons zone.

Stevens Point won the faceoff, but had its shot blocked and Briski skated down the left wing boards with the puck. She fired a shot on goal and with Ashly Berner breaking toward the net for the rebound, the Pointers defensemen went to cover her, but the puck squirted to an open Briski fired the puck top-shelf to beat Phillips for her 15th goal of the



Jens Gunelson/Submitted Photo

The UWRF women’s hockey team rejoices after defeating Stevens Point in the finals of the O’Brien Cup Sunday at Hunt Arena.

and buried a slap shot for the final tally of the night.

For Cranston, the championship is long overdue.

“Feels great. It’s just got to sink in here a little bit,” he said. “It’s been too long—six years—so it feels good.

The last time the Falcons were in the NCAA tournament was in 2003 when it made it to the women’s NCAA Frozen Four after beating the University of St. Thomas (Minn.) in the first round 5-1.

They lost to eventual national champions Elmira College (N.Y.) in

the national semifinals 2-1.

On Saturday, UWRF beat Lake Forest College (Ill.) 6-2 in the semifinals to advance to this year’s O’Brien Cup finals.

Berner, Erickson, Ally Foley and Emma Nordness all had a goal and an assist in the game.

UWRF will not play until March 13 or 14, which is the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament. Neither the rest of the teams nor the site of the tournament has been determined.

Seed press: Machine part of plan to produce bio-diesel fuel

from page 1

is gathered in bins, heated and given to the cattle. It can also feed other animals, if heated in such a way that it retains the proper enzymes.

Students like Chandler and Pettis are still experimenting with the machine to find its optimum production.

Important factors include whether the press plate or the feed nozzle should be heated, how large the nozzle should be and how fast the machine should process the seeds. On a farm, the machine could

eventually pay for itself through savings on animal feed, oil and travel time, Olson said.

“Devices like these could support a typical dairy farm... [but] very few farmers have them yet,” Olson said. “It’s a good engineering experiment to solve the world’s problems, on absolutely zero budget.”

The ag engineering department is also using leftover oil from Dining Services. The seed press is the newest part of their plan to produce bio-diesel fuel.

Budget cuts: UW System facing up to \$150 million in base cuts, lapse

from page 1

that his new financial aid measure would protect college students with a family income of less than \$60,000 a year from any tuition increases. Doyle added that while others would see increases, they would not be severe.

“For those earning more, tuition increases will be modest and in line with what we have seen in recent years,” Doyle said.

The new budget was passed without the extensive delays of the 2007-09 plan, which ended in a freeze—meaning that all the state programs would assume the same amount of funding they had from 2005-07. This plan left the state with a revenue shortfall of \$5.7 billion.

As for the UW System, it is facing two significant budget cuts that add up to nearly \$150 million, Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance Lisa Wheeler said. One of the cuts is temporary; the System will give a certain amount of money back to the state in 2009-10 and receive it again in their next budget. This is also known as a “lapse.” The second cut, spread over 2009-11, will be permanent—also known as a “base cut.”

System-wide, the lapse is predicted to

be \$100 million and the base cut around \$49 million, Wheeler said. She anticipated that since UWRF has a 2.8 percent stake in the whole UW System’s budget, it will also take 2.8 percent of each cut. This means the University would have a lapse of about \$2.8 million and a base cut of \$1.37 million—over \$4 million total, although a fall tuition increase is expected to make up for some of it. The amount of the increase will not be revealed until June.

Wheeler added that while the governor is increasing education spending, much of that money is going to “cost to continue” programs. In other words, the education system’s resources are costing more, and Doyle is increasing spending to maintain the programs that are already in place.

UWRF’s next biennial budget is yet to be decided, according to accounting professor Dawn Hukai. All of the

University’s departments are going through a process of prioritization. The department deans will rank the University’s programs to determine which ones get more money, less or the same amount. After passing through Advanced Priority & Placement and the Faculty Senate, the plan will go back to the deans and the upper administration for an official decision.

The University is doing everything it can to maintain class availability and the quality of education despite a weakening economy, and public education has been adjusting to decreasing state support for the last few decades, Wheeler said. The UW System has been no exception.

“Twenty years ago, [Wisconsin] was paying 47 percent of your education [costs]. Now they’re paying 32 percent,” Wheeler said. “It’s sort of ironic that we’re living in a society where so many more jobs require a college degree...and the state is not funding education to the level it has been.”

“It’s sort of ironic that we’re living in a society where so many more jobs require a college degree ... and the state is not funding education to the level it has been.”

Lisa Wheeler, vice chancellor of administration and finance

Financial aid: UWRF to award 615 scholarships for 2009 school year

from page 1

number compared to the number of students who have filed FAFSA nationally.

“Nationally, 1.4 million more students filled out the FAFSA in 2008 than in 2007,” Hamid Tabesh, professor and director of the Center of Economic Research at the College of Business and Economics, said.

With aid received from multiple sources, there is only one loan that is seeing a definite decrease.

“Every college is seeing a decrease in the amount of Federal Perkins Loans they can award. Each college has their own Perkins Loan budget which is determined by how much former students are repaying on their loans,” Rapienski said. “As less of our former students are making payments, there are less new Perkins loans to award to current students.”

Scholarships, similar to financial aid, are still present and obtainable for the UWRF students.

“We do not anticipate offering less

scholarships although the award amounts for some of the scholarships will be less due to the economic impact,” scholarship coordinator Logan Spindler said.

According to Kimberly Gould-Speckman, director of advancement services, an approximate 1 percent decrease will occur to the scholarship amounts that are available for UWRF students.

Spindler said the UWRF Foundation has received over 5,000 scholarship applications for the 2009 school year, which is a 75 percent increase compared to the previous year. Out of the mass of applications, the Foundation will be awarding 615 scholarships to students for the 2009 academic year.

The increase in applications received demonstrates the students’ need for support.

“The applications did go up a lot more, which shows that there is a lot more students with economic issues,” Spindler said. “I believe it is a combination factor

of the economy and the increase in advertising.”

Students who feel the increased challenge in receiving UWRF scholarships have alternative choices.

“Outside scholarships, outside organizations and corporations are available for students,” Rapienski said. “Know about outside scholarships and apply throughout the year.”

According to one UWRF student, the additional financial aid and the benefits of scholarships and grants all contribute and encourage students to finish what they started.

“You need to make an investment into your students if you want them to pay off,” Mandy Liesch, a junior who received financial aid and grant from the Foundation, said. “I think that the huge investments that I got from our University for my research and study aboard experiences made me a better person, more able to contribute to a global society and positively contribute to a world in a poor economic condition.”

MARK STARY and the WHISKEY ROSES

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

TEXAS2MINNESOTA.COM presents

JASON BOLAND

Real Texas Country! AND THE STRAGGLERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

www.thestrugglers.com

BACK PORCH MARY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

21+ SHOWS

UNCLE LUCAS

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

LIVE MUSIC! Acoustic Thursdays

SUN-WED \$10 BOTTOMLESS CUP

THUR-SAT \$15 BOTTOMLESS CUP

MONDAYS: FREE TEXAS HOLD EM'

COMING SOON: STAND UP COMEDY

P.R.'s Place

1107 S Wasson LN, River Falls, WI

PH 715.425.9554 www.prsplace.com

EDITORIAL

Common courtesy scarce at UWRF

The old adage says, “If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.” That is sound advice, and it’s a lesson a lot of college students would do well to (re)learn. The Student Voice has noticed a growing number of inconsiderate students ignorant to the fact that they are not the only people attending UW-River Falls. With midterms rapidly approaching, the use of on campus computer labs and the Davee Library as quiet resource centers will drastically increase. But there are individuals who seem to not notice the crowd around them, talking loudly on their cell phones. Not only does this lead to an incredibly awkward situation, resulting in the inadvertent eavesdropping of everyone around them, it’s rude as well. People utilize spaces such as computer labs for legitimate academic purposes, not to hear about fellow students’ relationship issues, drunken one-night stands or personal plans. Students should be careful what they say in public anyways; you never can be sure of who around is listening—whether it is a professor or someone who could potentially aid in a future job hunt. So hang up your phones and wait until after class to wax ignoramus!

Beyond the Library and labs, the Student Voice has noticed a general disregard for common courtesy in the classroom. All too often, students blatantly disregard teachers during lectures, opting to instead text their friends or talk loudly to their neighbors. Even when the professor tells them to be quiet, they continue to talk in obnoxious, obvious whispers. Every student on this campus pays for the privilege to attend classes, yet there are still those who throw courtesy out the window and ignore the expensive education they have frivolously wasted money on. By now, students are all adults. It is time to start acting like an adult. Silence all cell phones before entering a classroom, lab or the Library; watch carefully the topic of conversation and avoid discussing lewd or offensive material in public; honor fellow classmates and professors by respectfully refraining from conversation during class. Mothers everywhere unite in saying “Act your age, not your shoe size.” They seem to understand what college students do not-disobeying common courtesy is nothing but uncouth advertisement broadcasting your own personal brand of witless, uneducated ignorance.

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

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

Editor	Ben Brewster
Assistant Editor	Ken Weigend
Front Page Editor	Eric Pringle
News Editor	Aaron Billingsley
Viewpoints Editor	Abby Maliszewski
Sports Editor	Justin Magill
Etcetra Editor	Jenna Nelson
Chief Photographer	Sally King
Staff Photographers	Renae Bergh Tennae Maki
Cartoonists	Emily Eck Jon Lyksett
Chief Copy Editor	Andrew Phelps
Proofreader	Joy Stanton
General Manager	Kirsten Blake
Ad Manager	Alaina Arthurs
Circulation Manager	Kyle Flanagan
Online Manager	Cristy Brusoe
Faculty Advisor	Andris Straumanis

Read the Student Voice online at www.uwrfvoice.com



ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS



WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Single copies of the Student Voice are free. Printing is paid for through student fees.



By Emily Eck

Public figure voices hypocritical opinion

Bristol Palin, Gov. Sarah Palin’s teenage daughter, gave an interview a couple of weeks ago about her experience being a new mother, and taking the position of advocate for teen pregnancy prevention and a mother’s choice. That’s right, an advocate for teen pregnancy prevention and choice. You may have seen this interview on YouTube or TV (if you haven’t, it is still available). I watched the video on the Huffington Post in a joint report with Fox News and was as shocked with the content of the interview as with the collaboration of news organizations that made this story and video available. Maybe you remember in Sarah Palin’s disastrous run for vice-president on the McCain ticket, she was a strong advocate of abstinence-only education and lifestyle for young people as well as an ardent anti-choice candidate. Bristol began the interview with discussion of how difficult it is to be a new mother, yet how much she loves her son. She talked about how her son is the result of an unplanned pregnancy and

that she wishes it would have happened at a later point in her life. Bristol also made very clear that it was her CHOICE to keep her baby and that her mother’s pro-life stance had no impact on her decision. It was her decision, and it seemed that’s how she feels it should be. Bristol discussed how she would like to be an advocate for teen pregnancy prevention. She wanted to share her story to show the realities of being a teenage mother. She stated that she thinks that kids should just wait. It’s not glamorous at all. And after the interviewer asked her if she has a theological objection to contraception or if she is just lazy, Bristol said that abstinence is good but not realistic. She said that sex is more accepted by kids her age now. The interview closed with Gov. Palin coming in with Tripp (Bristol’s son) and discussed briefly her reaction to the pregnancy, which is that “life happens.” I thought this reaction was interest-

ing for a huge proponent of the sanctity of life, and she was also able to sneak in that she doesn’t feel it’s the government’s role to help young mothers like Bristol, even if they don’t have the same support network their family is “blessed with.” A reoccurring theme in the interview was how lucky Bristol and Tripp are that they have such a wonderful and supportive family. I think this story is very sweet and think it’s awesome that Sarah Palin’s daughter said that abstinence is not realistic. She also made the good point of how unprepared she was to become a mother and that it is imperative for a good family support network to raise her child. It makes me really sad to think of all the young people in her position that do not have this same great support network, and don’t understand how Gov. Palin (considering the circumstances) would still be opposed to government programs which help young mothers (like Bristol) to survive.



Tracey Pollock

Economy not just responsibility of politicians

The economy has been letting a lot of people down since last fall. Many of us see the signs and are experiencing it personally. Maybe you or someone you know has lost a job, your friend’s life savings are going to pay the rent or your retired relatives are going back to work to support themselves. Some people have said this can all be solved with fundamental changes to how the economy works—making more, or even all of its functions government-regulated. Others have suggested the opposite—that government and its regulations made the problem much worse than it would have been otherwise. Going any further will take us down the road to socialism. And still others are just not sure, including me. I will say that the stimulus packages and loans to corporations were probably not the best idea. The stimuli just seem to be throwing



Nathan Sparks

good money after bad and worsening the national debt. As for the corporations, most of them brought their problems on themselves and probably deserved to face the consequences. But let’s look at the big picture. I think the biggest issue of all is this: at the end of the day, no matter what system you’re using and how good it sounds, people will find a way around it. They can misuse its strengths and exploit its weaknesses to serve their own purpose. Since all governments, institutions and societies were created by humans in the first place, on some level they are all equally subject to destruction. The most effective way to safeguard these institutions is not to pour money into them, fool around with them endlessly or remove them. I think the key is to change how people feel about them. Maybe the human experi-

ence is all in our minds. If people are brought up with the belief that the long-term maintenance of the system is more important than their own short-term gratification (and in the end, more rewarding), that system has a much better chance of survival. It can stand through generations and retain its basic integrity. To some degree, I think the United States lacks this quality. We may care deeply about our systems and fight to protect them—but in the end we often fail to protect them from ourselves. The economy was no exception. After all, don’t most of us judge it simply by how it affects our own lives, rather than statistics and studies? If more people had looked into their own spending decisions, where their money was coming from, what was being done with sub-prime loans and some less-than-responsible practices of our key financial institutions, perhaps the

country wouldn’t be in this mess now. But we’ll never know for sure. What we can all do is learn a little bit from the experience. Read a financial magazine once in a while; keep an eye on the market even if you have no investments; take a few economics classes as electives. UWRF’s College of Business and Economics is one of the finest in the state, so you couldn’t ask for a much better opportunity. We may be only human, but humans can learn. Even if we’re unwilling to make personal sacrifices to ensure a strong system, we should at least do our part to stay watchful and prevent the system from repeating the same problems as before—some of them centuries old. We can make a difference. The problem, as always, is that it’s just so much easier not to.

... don’t most of us judge [the economy] simply by how it affects our own lives, rather than statistics and studies?

Something on your mind?

Be heard. Write a letter to the editor.

Submit your letter to editor@uwrfvoice.com or deliver it to the box outside 304 North Hall.

Student Senate lacks reliability, students’ voices still unheard

The UW-River Falls Student Senate does not seem to care where student money goes. From their own budget, of which they have a \$30,000 surplus that they’re trying to get rid of, the Senate paid \$200 for a stack of business cards for every senator. I understand that you want to look professional and it’s a miniscule amount for a committee that has such a big budget, but maybe there’s something else you can waste money on that will only impress moms and dads.

Oh wait, there is. The Senate has also suggested spending \$890 on iclickers because apparently they can’t raise their hands to vote. Granted, not all the senators are for this idea, but the simple fact that it was suggested in the first place is disturbing. Here’s an idea: buy some Bic pens and go click crazy without wasting nearly \$1,000.

I don’t think these are people that I trust to have a voice in where student money goes. That’s the point of the Senate in the first place isn’t it? To represent the students? I can’t recall the last time I was asked what I thought of this issue or where I would like my money to go, but they keep coming up with and approving ideas and our tuition continues to rise.

Look at the new statewide budget. UWRF saved between \$5 and \$6 million for new, on-campus buildings, but the new plan from our governor may take that away. Obviously, our Senate cannot control what the governor decides, but what they can control is stopping the construction of the new Health and Human Performances building and the add-on to South Fork Suites.

Yes, we need a new HHP building, but we also need a new KFA, which everyone uses for his or her liberal arts. If we’re going to build, then we should build what will help the most students—

and everyone needs KFA. Everyone needs a new dorm though, too. Maybe not directly, but everyone is affected by the increasing student population, especially dorms and extended housing. Is the best solution really to add on to suites that students need to pay an extra \$1,000 to room and board just to live in? No, build a new, regular dorm—there’s already a base for it in David Rodli Hall.

Speaking of Rodli, what is the Senate doing about it still being heated even though it’s not in any great use? Better question, how many students realize that one reason tuition is rising is because we are still paying to heat Rodli?

If they convert Rodli into an extension to Centennial Science Hall, are we still going to pay for it?

I definitely see it as a possibility, seeing as it doesn’t seem to be common knowledge where student money goes.

Most of this information can be found in the Senate’s minutes, which may be difficult to track down, considering they haven’t updated since Feb. 10. The rest of the information can be found by just talking to a senator, if you know any.

The way this Senate is run, I wouldn’t be surprised if your best friend was a senator and never told you because he doesn’t want a student’s opinion on campus matters. The Student Senate is doing a poor job of what they were created to do. There seems to be more of a debate between its 25 members of what they want, rather than actually asking the students what we want.

These are not the people we need representing us and it’s time we speak up against Senate President Cindy Bendix and her twisted view of student representation. They’re the Student Senate after all, people. It’s our choice who we want representing us.



Aaron Billingsley

... it’s time we speak up against Senate President Cindy Bendix and her twisted view of student representation.

UWRF students exhibit poor crosswalk etiquette

Being a journalism and marketing communications double major, I frequent North Hall almost every day. Being such, I get to utilize the crosswalks intersecting Cascade Avenue quite often. For those obtuse individuals out there, the crosswalks are the handy white stripes painted on the road that signify the proper areas to cross. The rules regarding their existence are simple: use them! But do so in a polite and dignified way. There are few things that grind my gears harder than those students that simply walk out into the crosswalks without looking, expecting all cars on the road to stop for their passage. And it is towards those individuals that I direct this message:

Hey douchebag! Look both ways before crossing the fucking street!

I always thought that lesson was one of the easiest to grasp back in kindergarten, when we learned how to behave like human beings. Wedged neatly between saying

“please” and chewing with your mouth closed was that one simple guideline: check for oncoming traffic. It boggles my mind that there are college-aged “academics” (I use the term loosely) that ignore such a painfully simple and viciously obvious rule.

The level of arrogance it takes to automatically assume that vehicles will wait for you to cross in your own sweet time is mind-numbingly retarded. Another message for you:

What self-ascribed prophetic delusion makes you think your shit doesn’t stink? Do you honestly believe that when you walk out into a crosswalk,

cutting off a car or truck traveling upwards of 30 mph in icy conditions, that you are going to come out ahead? Did you sleep through physics when you learned that a 2,000 pound hunk of metal traveling 15 times faster than your 180 pound fleshy mess would disintegrate your worthless life into nothingness? Maybe that wouldn’t be so bad—we’d at least remove your dumb-ass gene from our already shriveling genetic pool.

With mindless self-indulgence like this, the reputation of UWRF and her students is being raped. Community members get very little interaction with students, save our drunken bar embarrassments.

And now we add to that very short list our inability to distinguish ourselves from ingrates by refusing to show common courtesy. The actions of my fellow “academics” (again, loosely) disgusts me. Just because we are in college doesn’t make us superior.

Guess what? The person you’re cutting off probably graduated college, so they’re already better than your failing ass! God, I hate you!

I encourage the entire student body to hang up their cell phones, turn down their iPods and look up every once in a while. If you don’t, then I welcome the anguished wails of your mother as she attends your funeral, where they’ll bury your liquefied remains in a used tub of Play-Doh!



Ken Weigend

Ken is an avid people watcher and is allergic to stupidity. He does not have anger issues!

University Center leprechaun blamed for stealing possessions

So there I was, watching the “Terminator Salvation” movie trailer at a kiosk in the University Center, when I felt a brush against my back.

When I turned around to find nobody there minus the girl next to me, I became perplexed. It wasn’t until a few moments later that I found my wallet, keys and cell phone to have vanished. I have never been robbed, and the feeling of loss became almost unbearable. I was about to throw a baby fit when I noticed the tiny green foot steps trailing away from my computer.

It’s that time of the year—the one where Americans outdrink and celebrate St. Patrick’s Day more than Ireland does. It’s also the one where us mostly German kids get all bent out of shape, wondering just what day of the year we get, and then we try to keep up passing out by 8:30 p.m.

Well not me, actually, and having had been ripped off by a damn leprechaun-artist further ignited my rage toward the Irish even more. It was in my destiny to prove that I have what it takes to keep up with the little green prick.

Let’s face it—there’s a leprechaun (artist) loose in our very own UC. After leading a single, vigorous assaulting campaign to retrieve my personal items and failing miser-

ably, I’m offering a campus-wide opportunity to seek my redemption.

Now I know most of you are officially perplexed, and you’re thinking “but wait, Brad never loses at anything.” While true, I admit I’ve been outdone for the first time in my life. This is why I’m brandishing the ultimate weapon—public vengeance.

With the unstoppable force that is the 7,000 plus UW-River Falls-enknights, we will drive this beast out of existence. However, before you get all pumped, pack your gear and head into a slaughter, I feel I must first relay my first encounter with “Leppy” the Leprechaun.

In preparation for my solo engagement with Leppy, I instilled the help of a UC building manager, Raymond Moore, who’s also an expert in the field of Irish mythology.

Before my first reconnaissance mission, I sat down with Moore in hopes of further understanding my enemy.

“He’s a tricky little bugger,” Moore told me. “You need to keep on your toes or he’ll take you out.” I only recently became aware of Leppy’s other adventures in the UC.

Apparently, according to the other UC staff, Leppy’s been sabotaging custodial equipment (urinating in the carpet/floor cleaner’s water reservoir), stealing ladders from the production workers and even breaking into the information desk’s secure safe.

When I was much younger, I ran a pretty tight group of bank robbers, and when we didn’t force our way into vaults, I prided

myself and my capability to crack any safe. Even I can’t break the info desk’s safe.

“You’ll probably want to take it slow, and too much action right away will draw attention to yourself,” Moore told me.

He could see the determination in my eyes and was referring to my hot-headed method’s of search and seizure. Preposterous.

I suited up with haste anyway, packing an assortment of weapons, MREs, a battle dress uniform, full Kevlar, nets (thousand pound tested), a GPS, ammunition, tranquilizers, a modified BackWater Humvee, a decommissioned, multi-hundred yard long Ohio-class nuclear submarine, a photo of my girlfriend (that I’d later lost in combat—typical cliché, but very true), an outfitted AH-64 Apache



Brad Brookins

Search for internships remains unfruitful

It’s been four weeks now. I still haven’t found the internship that suits me.

I started early, in hopes of putting myself out there and showing my eagerness to work in the field.

I sent out 10 e-mails the first few weeks. When I didn’t get too much of a reply, I sent out 10 more the

following two to three weeks. It’s been about a month and a half and I’ve received four replies, one of which was a sarcastic response, basically telling me that I wasn’t good enough to work for them.

I’m almost positive that two came from some sort of robot machine, because they were that impersonal. And the remaining one is what I’m working with currently. Twenty or more e-mails, each with a personalized cover letter, writing samples and a résumé.

Six weeks later, here are my thoughts. Number one, I know people are busy, but could you at least send me some sort of response? Even if it’s simply a “no,” I’d appreciate it.

Number two, most of these intern-

ships are unpaid!?! That’s right, I’m willing to basically volunteer and yet I still fail to receive even a response. And number three, I consider myself a good candidate for these internships.

I don’t mean to sound self-centered or ego-driven, but I’ve worked pretty hard and have put myself in a good position for obtaining

an internship.

If I’m having this difficult of a time, what are others with less experience and background knowledge going through?

I didn’t expect to have a full-fledged internship in place by now. However, a few responses, draws of interest would be nice.

This was part of my plan. I started out thinking I might be able to snag a paid internship that I actually enjoyed. Now, I might end up unpaid and doing work that’s non-beneficial towards my major.

I have this inner hope that something’s going to pop up and that every-

thing will work out fine.

Yet, as the days go by, my expectations continue to dwindle.

I understand that the economy is in rough shape right now. Shouldn’t that mean that you should be taking advantage of unpaid employees, who merely want a chance to learn and gain experience?

I truly feel I’ve put in a ton of time and effort for nothing. I’m starting to question my credentials and more importantly, my love of writing.

I am absolutely baffled at how this process is working out for me.

I’m running out of resources, time and hope that I’d finally be able to put my education into practice.

Now, I could take this time to throw my own personal advertisement out there. Would it really do me any good? Am I doing something wrong or is it still too early? Is it really meant to be this much of a challenge? Help me out. This columnist is lost.

Cristy is a journalism major. This is her second semester working for the Student Voice.



Cristy Brusoe

I’m running out of resources, time and hope that I’d finally be able to put my education into practice.

STUDENT VOICES

What have you been doing to find summer internships?



Amanda Cichosz, sophomore

“I’m going to contact the head of my department, which is HHP.”



Jenifer Biss, junior

“I got one with the Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service, but won’t be taking it.”



Dustin Norman, senior

“I plan on looking at the internships through the CBE Department.”



Kristin Canan, sophomore

“I got one with Wisconsin Big Cat Rescue and am waiting on a reply from the International Exotic Animal Sanctuary.”

Student Voices compiled by Renae Bergh

Softball team has high expectations

Renae Bergh
renae.bergh@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls women’s softball season is up and running and beat Augsburg College (Minn.) 8-3 and 10-4 on Tuesday and played the University of St. Thomas (Minn.) on March 5.

The Falcons had an exceptional season last year, coming within one game of taking the conference title and becoming the first team in WIAC playoff history to beat the No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 seeded teams at the conference tournament.

After finishing last year’s season with a record of 8-8 in the WIAC and 29-13 overall, the Falcons got its single best season win total in Falcon history and finished fifth in the conference.

Head Coach Jody Gabriel said there were

three main reasons for the success of last year’s team.

“We were successful because of the six seniors, strong leadership and hard work,” Gabriel said.

The six seniors who graduated were Emily Howlett, Brittany Rathbun, Amanda Peters, Ashley James, Keri Feller and Ashley Bertrand.

Howlett, the starting third baseman last season, will be a definite loss to the Falcons this season. Last year she was voted the team’s most valuable player and offensive player of the year. She was also honored with being named to the first All-WIAC team, the first NFCA Great Lakes Region team and became the first Falcon to be named the WIAC Position Player of the Year. Howlett led the WIAC in batting average, total bases, slugging percentage, doubles, RBI and hits,

according to the UWRf athletics Web site.

After the loss of six seniors at the end of last season, the Falcons now face a tough road ahead as 11 of its 18 players are freshmen. The biggest challenge for the team this year will be getting the new recruits focused on what Falcon softball is, Gabriel said.

Even though there are many new recruits, Gabriel said she is confident that this year’s team has the ability to do just as well as last years.

“This group is just as talented, but they are very young,” Gabriel said. “It may take them a little longer to gell, but they will be just as successful.”

Senior Mindy Rudiger said she is also excited about the potential of this year’s team.

“We have a ton of talent and lots of opportunity,” Rudiger said “We just got to bring it

all together.”

Overall, Gabriel has high expectations for this year’s team.

“We plan to finish at the top of the conference,” Gabriel said.

The Falcons will be traveling to Kissimmee, Fla. to participate in the Rebel Spring Games over spring break. After losing their first game in the Rebel Spring Games last year, the Falcons went on a 15-game-winning streak, setting a new school record for consecutive wins.

After returning home from spring break, the Falcons will play a single game against Bethel University and then compete in the Augustana Tournament in Moline, Ill. Besides games against Hamline and St. Mary’s University, the Falcons will compete in conference games for the remainder of the season.

Falcon season ends, lose to Saints in NCHA playoffs

Justin Magill
justin.magill@uwrf.edu

A pair of 2-0 defeats on Feb. 20-21 to No. 4 College of St. Scholastica (CSS) in the first round of the NCHA playoffs has ended the season for the UW-River Falls men’s hockey team, which finished the season with a record of 10-15-2 (4-9-1 NCHA).

This season had high expectations, but the Falcons came out of the gate slow and posted a 1-6-1 record in their first eight games and never fully recovered.

In the first round of the conference playoffs, UWRf played the Saints, a team that upset the Falcons a year ago in the first round. This season, there was no upset.

Despite playing a top team that UWRf has played well all year, it could not find a way to get a puck past CSS goalie Steve Bounds, who stopped all 63 shots he faced in the two game series, including 38 on Feb. 21.

“We ran into a hot goalie,” senior co-captain Derek Hansberry, who ended his season with a team leading 16 goals. “We just did not get the bounces at the end.”

The teams had two regular season meetings prior to the playoffs and split the series. UWRf won its first game of the season on Nov. 14 6-3 while the Saints were able to win 3-2 on Jan. 24.

Falcon Head Coach Steve Freeman said the team went up to Duluth, Minn. and played about as

hard as they could.

“The guys played really hard and with a great deal of intensity,” he said. “They have a great team up there and we were able to play with them. We just didn’t bury the chances we had. There were times in the game where we really outplayed them, but did not convert.”

With the season coming to a close, it also means the book closes on the career of Hansberry, whose 74 career goals falls five short of the all-time goal scoring mark.

“I would have liked a few more goals or a few more assists, but more wins for the team for sure,” he said. “I think all of us would have liked a better ending to the season, but looking back at everything, you can’t be disappointed.”

Josh Meyers, the Falcons other co-captain, played his final game in a Falcon uniform said the past four years were special.

“It was fun,” he said. “Fun to be on a team that won as much as we did. This program has a lot of rich hockey tradition and to be a part of it is something else. Three years we were able to hang banners and that is something to be proud of. I’m thankful for all the good times as well as the bad times.”

The Falcons won the WIAC championship in 2006, 2007 and 2008, but it is not looked at as seriously as the NCHA, which consists of all the WIAC teams as well as St. Norbert College, CSS and Lake Forest College (Ill.).

The biggest problem UWRf had

all season was scoring goals.

It averaged 2.56 goals a game, second worst in the conference, and lost many close games as a result. The Falcons and Lake Forest were the only two teams in the NCHA not to average more than 3 goals a game. Opposing teams were able to focus on Hansberry for UWRf’s goals scoring.

“We had some character problems and let some guys go that were part of the program last year and that might have hurt us,” Freeman said. “We brought in a lot of young guys in this season and it took them a while to get used to the game.”

Tyler Czuba was the team’s leading goal scorer for most of the season was unable to play for most of the last month of the season, including the playoffs, which hurt the Falcons. With him in the lineup UWRf had two solid goal scoring lines.

Czuba was dealing with several injuries throughout the season.

“We were hit with injuries late in the season,” Freeman said. “Some of them were regulars and we didn’t have them for some big games.”

The advantage for next year is UWRf freshmen will have gained the experience of the powerful NCHA and should be poised for a conference title next season.

“A lot of freshmen got a lot of minutes, which should help them next year,” Freeman said. “I look forward to working with these guys next season. We have a good foundation in goal with Stephen Ritter

and Bo [Storozuk] and we build from there.”

As far as this season went Freeman said it is a mixed bag of emotions and great learning experience taught by Hansberry.

“Record-wise it is disappointing,” he said of the team that was picked to finish second in the NCHA. “But I think it will be good for the team next year. The younger guys saw first-hand how Derek [Hansberry] handled himself. His work ethic and drive really showed.”

Hansberry and Meyers said the

messages to their teammates for years to come did not need to be delivered, but they all know what it is.

“You can’t take it for granted,” Meyers said. “The years go by quick and you have to take advantage of them. The guys know that.”

Hansberry said something similar. “It goes by fast,” he said. “Showed that you have to work hard and if you don’t you won’t win. I still think the season was a success” and a lot of guys learned a lot from the season.”



Sarah Schneider/File Photo


UWRf’s Derek Hansberry practices at Hunt Arena this season.



Sally King/Student Voice

The 5-Year-Olds With Sticks defeated the Benchwarmers 40-35 in intramural basketball on Feb. 24 at the Karges Center. Both teams are in the recreation division.

BE THE LUCKY ONE TO FIND THE LEPRECHAUN
IN THE UNIVERSITY CENTER
WIN A \$50.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE
TO THE FALCON SHOP BOOKSTORE



CLUES WILL BE POSTED AT THE CAMPUS INFORMATION DESK
THE WEEK OF MARCH 9TH UNTIL THE LEPRACHAUN IS FOUND

With no salary cap in baseball, small market teams will suffer

The New York Yankees are sometimes considered synonymous with baseball.

They have a tradition of winning and winning often. However, what is going too far to ensure that the winning tradition continues on?

This past offseason the Yankees signed three superstars to their roster for a whopping average of \$141 million. Pitchers C.C. Sabathia, the most coveted free agent of the offseason, and A.J. Burnett and first baseman Mark Teixeira will all be wearing the pinstripes this season, and combined will make more money than the entire Twins team. That’s not including Alex Rodriguez and Derek Jeter, who already have contracts set in stone that will have them enjoying retirement very comfortably.

Where do you draw the line and say a team like the Twins cannot compete with a team like the Yankees?

The MLB has allowed too much, and like most professional sports leagues, should institute a salary cap to make the playing field more equal.

Before the first official pitch of the regular season has been thrown, most people have already placed most, if not all of their money, on the Yankees winning the World Series this year because of their offseason acquisitions. Not having a cap in baseball discourages teams such as the Twins or Brewers from even attempting to negotiate a contract with a free agent superstar.



Adam Vircks

Teams like the Yankees, Angels and others are willing to pay outlandish figures to some of these players, who simply play the waiting game, waiting for the team who will make the largest offer.

This disadvantages small market teams immensely. Teams like the Twins have to simply try and stay in business, while teams like the Yankees are rolling in the dough.

Not having a salary cap also makes it difficult for teams to hold onto their players. For example, Joe Mauer is, in my opinion, one of the best catchers in the league. When his contract with the Twins expires he will be offered large sums of money to go and play baseball with another team. Can the Twins even match some of those offers if that time ever comes? Most likely they can’t, which takes away a large part of the draw for Twins games at the Metrodome.

I hope that Mauer decides to continue his career in front of his home crowd but it would be difficult to pass up \$20 million to play a game, instead of the 10 or so million the Twins could offer him.

Finally, not having a salary cap in baseball places the power within a few teams of the league. Before the season even begins, many, if not all, of the Yankees, Angels and Red Sox games are almost completely sold out at their respective stadiums. However, the Metrodome and Miller Park have a hard time filling the stadium some nights. This power disadvantages a large percent of the league, and needs to stop before baseball becomes the next bailout for our national government.

Adam is a junior journalism major. He enjoys sports and has been a Green Bay Packer fan since the day he was born.

Irish megastars once again reinvent their world-famous sound



Andy Phelps

It has been five years since U2’s last release—the commercial mega-hit “How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb”—which lingered eternally at the top of the charts. Throughout their long, storied musical career, the Irish giants have been described lovingly (and, at times, hatefully) using every superlative in the English language and have, at one time or another, held all of the “important,” hyperbole-soaked titles that critics and fans alike

have liberally bestowed upon them (“Greatest Band on Earth” has a nice ring, doesn’t it?). The Dublin boys continue to blaze their trail towards rock immortality with their brand new studio album “No Line on the Horizon,” a work that provides much needed reprieve from the empty filler content that has unfortunately characterized their last two efforts.

Gone are the hideous collages and awkwardly designed album cover portraits, replaced with a serene black-and-white shot of the ocean meeting a clear skyline—a foreshadowing glimpse of the music that lays behind it. Gone are the arrangements of the trademark ear-splitting, stadium-rock anthems that have become the band’s bread and butter. They have been interchanged with more tentative and gentle sounding creations. “Our band has certainly reached the end of where we’ve been at for the last couple of albums. I want to see what else we can do with it, take it to the next level,” Bono said in 2007.

“Magnificent,” the album’s second track, starts with the deep growl of The Edge’s signature Gibson Explorer, before quickly giving way to Bono’s reverberating, colossal vocals: “I was born / I was born to be with you / In this space and time.” It’s lines like these that reinforce the fact that Bono

has long since transcended the label of mere “rock star.” He stands before us as a living embodiment of the narcissistic celebrity, a larger-than-life globally-tuned god who has tattooed his own image into the back of our brains.

The first featured single, “Get on Your Boots,” features a mellow, fuzzy guitar in perfect sync with Adam Clayton steady, almost unnoticeable bass. It kicks off with a snappy, rapid lyrical pace. “Night is falling everywhere / Rockets at the fun fair / Satan loves a bomb scare / But he won’t scare you,” Bono croons calmly, hammering home the realization that listeners can never be sure about the meaning behind his cryptic lyrics.

Although it begins in a compelling fashion, the energy and promise that was built up early fizzles into a dull, easily forgettable disappointment.

However, there are several interesting, low-key moments at the album’s tail end that warrant attention.

The gloomy “Cedars of Lebanon” is a sung from the perspective of a war journalist, and “F E Z — B e i n g

Born” shapes up as one of the strangest, most jumbled songs U2 has ever recorded—a stunning achievement in itself.

Devoted fans will undoubtedly love this record (refer to the opening sentence if you can’t deduce the main reason why), but any of the actual music

U2 releases is inevitably fated to be overshadowed by their own monster superstardom and overexposure. Amidst iPod commercials, Super Bowl performances and humanitarian crusades, sometimes it’s hard to forget what made millions of people fall in love with them in the first place. “No Line on the Horizon” isn’t perfect, but it is a big step in the right direction.

Andy is an English major with a journalism minor. He enjoys gambling and Korean soap operas. He possesses a deeply-rooted dislike for Nickelback.



...it begins in a compelling fashion, the energy and promise that was built up early fizzles into a dull, easily forgettable disappointment.

Devoted fans will undoubtedly love this record.

Student Voice cartoon



By Jon Lyksett

‘Valkyrie’ intrigues audience with journey rather than destination



José Cruz, Jr.

Hollywood seems to be obsessed with making films about World War II. From the propaganda “Why We Fight” documentaries to the upcoming “Inglorious Bastards,” the Second World War scenarios have been continuously used and exhausted. But what is even more apparent is our strange fascination with Adolf Hitler, whether we like to admit or not. Many movies have been made specifically focusing on the man himself, with a ‘Hitler vs. the Allies’ element at work. But “Valkyrie” showcases an attempt to dethrone Hitler by his own high-ranking officials.

While stationed in Tunisia, Colonel Stauffenberg (Tom Cruise) is injured during an air raid, which includes losing a hand and his left eye. Meanwhile, General Tresckow (the always prestigious Kenneth Branagh) deals with a botched attempt at Hitler’s life involving a bomb hidden in a bottle of booze. Upon hearing of a key officer being arrested for involvement, Tresckow consults with General Olbricht (Bill Nighy) in getting a replacement. After recovering in Nazi Germany, Stauffenberg is recruited to partake in assassinating Hitler, overthrowing the S.S. and restoring the previous order. To achieve the third phase, they must initiate Operation Valkyrie, which gives them power to execute the first and second phases without military retaliation. However, a crucial component of the plan fails, leaving Hitler unscathed and Germany thinking the Fuehrer is dead.

Like “Titanic” and the “Star Wars” prequels, we all know what transpires. For all of you non-history majors (I had to look up the actual dates myself),

Operation Valkyrie was initiated in July of 1944, and Hitler died little under a year later. The film’s conclusion is already predetermined, and presumably leaves a lot of people not wanting to waste the \$9.25 (or less, if you are lucky). However, director Bryan Singer has crafted several key intense and suspenseful scenes to keep you hooked.

In a film that is based on history, a few questions arise. How much of it really happened? What parts and/or elements are embellished? From what I understand, it does pretty well in the historically accurate department. But the movie is not too heavy into character development, as we are given little background or personal details on Colonel Stauffenberg. Well, except for one scene, as he briefly returns home to his silent, bland wife and watches his kids dress up like soldiers as he forces a smile on his face.



Yes, I am a Tom Cruise hater. I’ve always found his acting to be a bit goofy and contrived, but still managed to get through a few of his films. And as anticipated, he is the weakest link in “Valkyrie,” as far as performances go. Surrounded by well-known English thespians such as Branagh, Nighy and Tom Wilkinson, Cruise appears out of his league. But on the other hand, the Stauffenberg character is a colonel with an eye-patch, so how big can his emotional range really be?

At times, “Valkyrie” is truly intense, despite the fact that we know the outcome already. It works on the principal that it is the journey that intrigues us, not the result. But it lacks character development, and some scenes tend to drag on without any payoff.

José is an English/creative writing major at UWRF. He enjoys documentaries, horror and independent films.



‘Fanboys’ falls short with technical skills, rebounds with believable acting



Nathan Piotrowski

Certain movies develop a cult following over time, but few are made to cater specifically to an already existing cult fan base. However, the recent film “Fanboys” is a film that definitely fits into the last category, with its constant homage to the Star Wars saga. The film is a good example of how to pay tribute to a series through comedy and how to be a good comedic actor, but it also lacks a lot of technical skill.

The film’s plot concerns a group of friends from high school who all share an obsession with Star Wars, but they seem to have drifted apart. When one of them is diagnosed with cancer, they embark on a mission to break into Skywalker Ranch in order to see the rough edit of “Episode 1 - The Phantom Menace.” Their journey takes them through the Trekkie infested foothills of Iowa, to the strip of Vegas to receive insider information from an unlikely source and ultimately to the ranch itself.

The film excels at presenting jokes that not only the die-hard “Star Wars” fans will get, but that the entire audience will enjoy as well. With several different people from the original trilogy making cameos along with others from Hollywood, it can only fully be enjoyed from a true fan’s perspective, which is unfortunate. Although there is something for everyone in the flick, only true fans of the original trilogy will get the most out of the movie.

The acting in the film is actually believable across the board—something that is rare for this type of

comedy. The performances from the four best friends is what makes the film truly work, and not just in a comedic light, but when the film turns serious at points. The audience can still believe what is being said and done by the characters. Notable among the numerous cameos in the film are the appearances of Seth Rogen, Kevin Smith, Jason Mewes and William Shatner, and will leave the audience in hysterics.

But, for all the good things the film does, it does fail at technical aspects. The camera work seems to be mostly handheld, and can at times be painful to watch. There are some editing issues as well, mostly due to a bizarre production schedule for the film, but it is just a small annoyance. One thing to be said for the makers of the film is that the editing of the original “Star Wars” sound effects into the film works out flawlessly.

With everything that the film does wrong technically, it makes up for it in the spirit and comedy of the film. The film will be celebrated by geeks and fans everywhere for its accurate and heartwarming portrayal of this aspect of society, but it is a sad fact that they will be the only ones in on all the jokes. That is the only thing that keeps this movie from moving from out of the

cult film genre and into getting a more mainstream audience. However, if you had planned on busting out your original edit versions of the trilogy on DVD this week, go see this instead. The force is truly strong with this film.

Nathan is a digital film and television major with a film studies minor. In his spare time, he attempts to be a professional lottery winner.





DREAM Dollars

Plenty of seats still available for you to enjoy all the fun of “Spring Break” 2009!

Travel Leaders – Chippewa Falls 31 E. Columbia St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 715-723-9352

Travel Leaders – Ellsworth 371 Main St. Ellsworth, WI 54011 715-273-6490

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:
1-800-826-6644 Chippewa Falls
1-800-205-4902 Ellsworth
For additional travel values, visit our website at:
www.travelleaders-cf.com or www.travelleaders-el.com

We will do all the “shopping” for you! Please give us a call to book your destination of choice to experience the vacation of a lifetime with your friends!

TRAVEL LEADERS®
We’ve Transformed. Formerly Carlson Wagonlit Travel Associates.

“When your journey from a dream to a great story includes us, you travel better.”
— our promise to you

Listen to WRFW radio on 88.7 or listen online at www.uwrf.edu/wrfw/

UWRF graduates, retired professor teach in Bolivia

Eric Pringle
eric.pringle@uwrf.edu

A retired UW-River Falls professor and two recent graduates have spent the past few months teaching English at a university in Bolivia.

Former communication studies and theater arts professor Pat Hanson retired after last semester and has been in Bolivia since the beginning of February. She coordinated the partnership between the University and the school in Bolivia three years ago.

This marks her third trip to the country, each time bringing students and professors.

“The school is attached to the Catholic University of Bolivia...Unidad Académica Campesina-Carmen Pampa (UAC-CP),” Hanson said in an e-mail interview. “I have a shirttail relative who co-founded this school in the Andes 15 years ago to help eradicate poverty through education.”

Getting started

So far, Hanson has not been teaching English and is an unpaid volunteer. However, recent UWRF graduates Andy Engel and Sam Clair do receive a “modest compensation” for their teaching. Instead, Hanson said she does public relations activities and fundraising for the university, as well as assisting with creating a “comprehensive approach to the teaching of English.”

Engel, who graduated from UWRF in 2008 with a degree in political science and international studies, said his decision to go to Bolivia was due to a desire to “do something valuable” and work with the poor.

“I found out about UAC-CP because of Brent Greene [of the Global Connections office] who knew about the connection between the two universities,” he said in an e-mail interview. “Bolivia made a lot of sense to me because it’s so poor and there is still so much racial injustice here.”

Clair, a May 2008 graduate of UWRF with a degree in history, said Greene also helped him discover and take advantage of this opportunity.

“Not having any experience in teaching, and only minor knowledge of Spanish, I felt I had perhaps bitten off more than I could handle,” he said in an e-mail interview. “However, I was already looking for a fast way to learn Spanish, and wanted experience in a classroom...for me, I simply fell into a situation that could not have worked more perfectly.”



UWRF graduates Sam Clair and Andy Engel (second row) pose with a group of tourism students.



Submitted
Andy Engel joins in a haircutting ceremony in Bolivia. The ceremony is a tradition when a child’s hair is cut for the first time.



Submitted
Andy Engel attempts an adventure ride created by the Eco-Tourism students at the University in Bolivia.

Engel said he, Clair and the other English teachers get paid about \$100 per month, “which is enough to simply live on.” However, he also noted that a lot of what he does goes unpaid, including planning, extra English classes and project management.

“The money I’m paid roughly equals that of a day-laborer in Bolivia,” Clair said.

Daily life in Bolivia

For Hanson, a typical day in Bolivia consists of eating breakfast with the nuns that live in the convent near the university. She then writes and pitches story ideas to mainstream media back in the U.S., and reaches out to potential donors.

The rest of her day is usually spent doing an array of administrative duties. She also shops and helps students practice their English speaking skills. Every night, one of the volunteers or teachers is responsible for cooking dinner. In the evening, she said, there is not much to do.

“After dinner we might sit in the living room—all huddled around a laptop—watching a movie or TV series,” she said.

Engel said that his schedule is not much different in Bolivia than it was in the U.S.—“wake up and shower, make breakfast, go to work, come home, relax, go to sleep,” he said.

However, the details are quite different. The shower is heated by an electric coil on the end of the faucet. Cooking is on small gas stoves. His travel relies on mini buses called “movilidad” to the nearby town of Coroico.

“They cost about 50 cents and don’t operate on a schedule, leaving only when full,” he said. “As you can imagine, sometimes we have to wait hours and hours.”

Clair said that when buses are not available, he has a one kilometer walk up the mountain to reach the university.

“It is after this ‘commute’ I can begin to work,” he said. “My favorite mornings are those spent in the school’s garden...I am helping out there this semester where work begins between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m.”

Engel also said he agreed with Hanson that nights can be somewhat dull without a TV or telephone.

“The students spend most of the night kicking around a soccer ball, sometimes Sam and I join in,” he said. “The barracks [like dorms] lock down at 11 p.m. so the town gets pretty quiet...there are no bars and using the term ‘restaurant’ with anything around here is being pretty liberal.”

Challenges

One of the greatest challenges that Hanson has faced since her time in Bolivia is the fact that “three years into our partnership with this school we still don’t have a comprehensive approach to the teaching of English,” she said. “But we’re working on it.”

Engel said that the slow, laid back

lifestyles prominent in Bolivia have been hard to adjust to.

“Coming from the U.S. it seemed relaxing at first [slow pace of life] but it’s also horribly frustrating at times,” he said. “It’s all hard but it builds patience, something I have always lacked...coming back to the States I’ll be absolutely ‘unfrustratable.’”

Clair said the greatest challenge he has faced so far has been not having a lot of teaching experience or Spanish language abilities.

“These are classes to learn English, but still a certain amount of instruction has to be done in the students’ native language,” he said. “Apart from this, I had zero materials to work with. With just a blackboard and piece of chalk, lesson plans were dependent solely on me.”

A rewarding experience

Though she will leave Bolivia in mid-May, Hanson said she has had many memorable experiences so far. One of her favorite experiences was a haircutting ceremony that took place in a nearby village two weeks ago. She explained that in Bolivia, there is a ceremony when a child’s hair is cut for the first time.

“We all cut a lock of the child’s hair and placed it on a plate with whatever amount of money we were comfortable contributing to the child’s welfare,” Hanson said.

Engel and Clair have both been in Bolivia since last July and plan on staying until this July, although Engel said he has been thinking about staying an extra six months.

“I could keep working here at the UAC or find something else in the country,” he said. “I left our fine UWRF with some loans that I have to come home to pay off, otherwise I could see myself spending a long time here. One year felt like a long time before I came, [but] I’m already afraid to leave.”

Hanson said the most rewarding part of the job, however, is “watching the young UWRF grads make a contribution.” She also noted that Engel and Clair are the fourth and fifth UWRF students to come here.

“All have taught English,” she said. “All have been extremely well received.”

For Engel, the most rewarding experiences have come from getting to know the students better.

“They all have heartbreaking stories,” he said. “You don’t have to look for inspiration here; anytime I have been foolish enough to think that I am special in any way I meet someone who has accomplished so much coming from so little that I feel like a Senator’s son.”

ALCOHOL: KNOW YOUR LIMITS

1 Drink =



1.5 oz of liquor

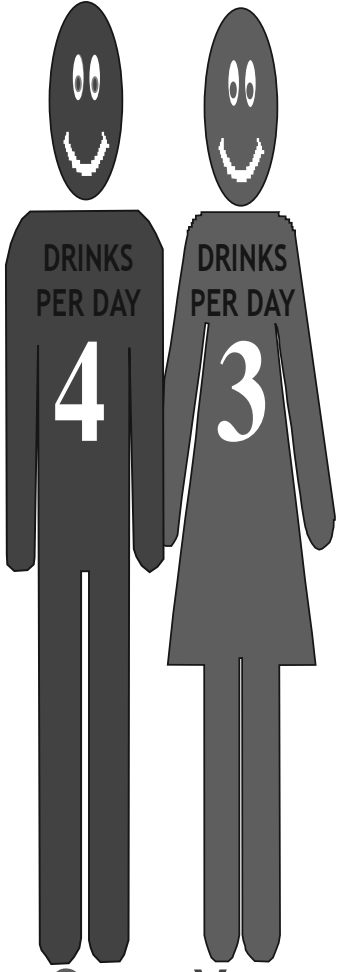


5 oz glass of wine



12 oz of beer

To Avoid Binge Drinking



Count Your Drinks!



Counseling and Student Health Services
715-425-3293/3884

Student Affairs