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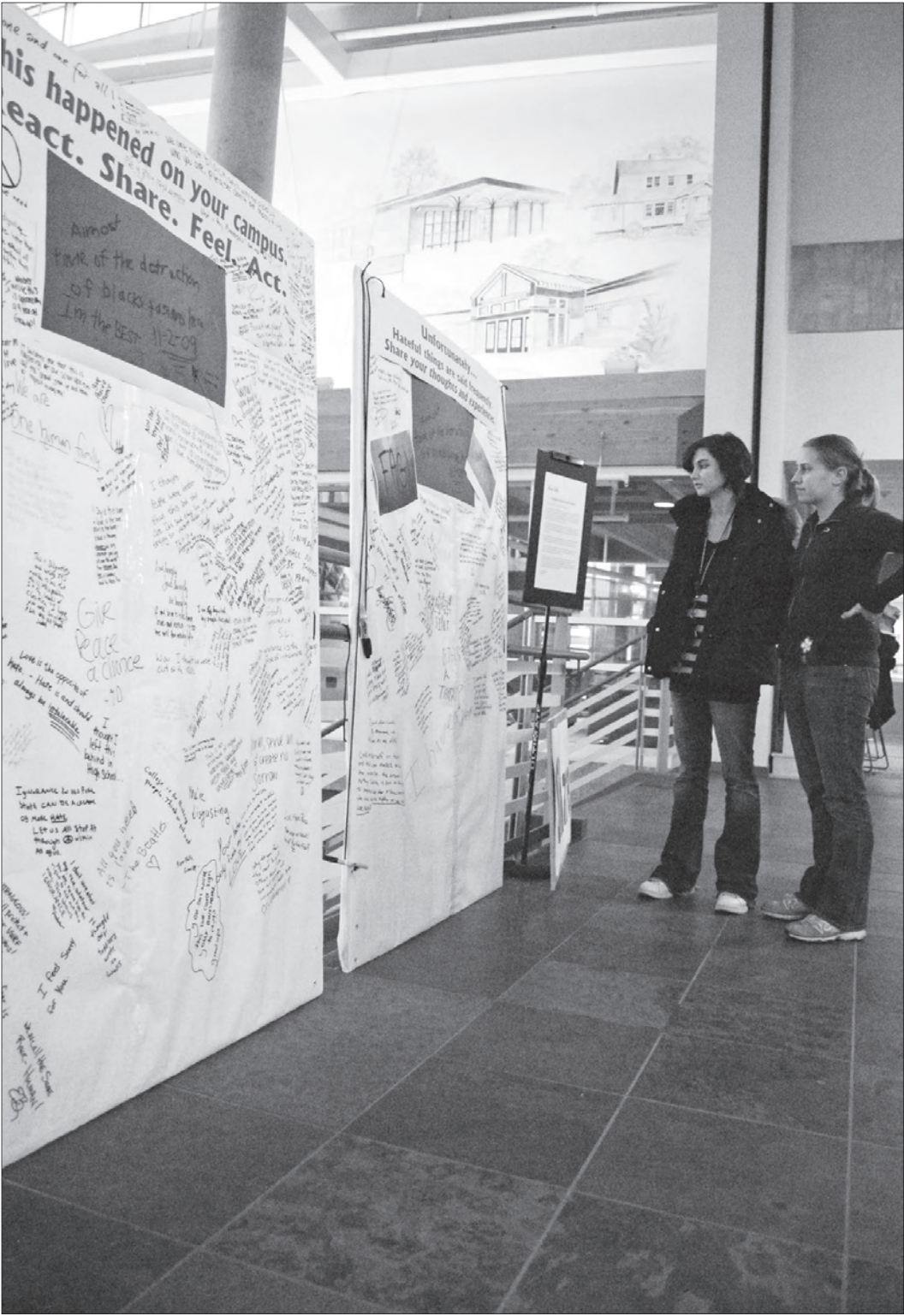
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# STUDENT VOICE

October 30, 2009 [www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com) Volume 97, Issue 7

## Racist, violent grafitti found in Davee Library



**UWRF students Katie Lance and Amber Rosenwinkel read the signs regarding reactions and feelings against grafitti found in the Chalmer Davee Library. The signs not only display the written grafitti, but also students to write their feelings about racism.**

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A racist graffiti message threatening black and Asian students was found in a men’s restroom in the Chalmer Davee Library at UW-River Falls.

The vandalism threatened that violence against these two groups of the campus population would occur on Nov 2. It was found by a library user Sunday evening, who then reported it directly to UWRF police, according to Library Director Valerie Malzacher.

In a special edition of the Falcon Daily, UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen said he encouraged students to post an “I Pledge to Speak Up” sign, found on the UWRF Inclusiveness Web site and to show support for the campus.

“This commitment to respond to bias and prejudice is an important step towards ensuring UWRF is a University where individuals can learn, live and work in an environment of mutual respect,” he said.

UWRF student Nikki Shonoiki said she found out about the graffiti incident Monday night when she received an e-mail before attending a Black Student Union meeting.

“My initial reaction was one of ‘I told you so’ and ‘not another one,’ because I’ve always felt that it takes something like this—a serious threat of bodily harm—for people to start taking prejudice and discrimination seriously,” she said. “I have to admit I am very surprised and appreciative of the level of seriousness that this incident has been given by administration, staff, faculty and students. No one is taking this lightly and I really hope this person is caught.”

Upon hearing of the incident, Shonoiki created a Facebook event called “Hate is Not Tolerated at UWRF—Demonstration/Protest.” The event’s description encourages students to wear red clothing on Nov. 2 to show support of diversity on campus. As of Wednesday evening, nearly 1,300 people had confirmed their attendance to the event.

“The reason students should speak out about not only this incident but all hate related events targeted at people who are different is because hate doesn’t just affect the targets and the victims—it affects the loved ones, the classmates [and] the professors [of

the victims],” Shonoiki said. “Also, weapons, although aimed at one type of person or group [of people] don’t discriminate. If there is an attack on our campus everyone will become the target. This is our chance to speak up against violence, against the people who think that they can use violence to persuade those [who] they don’t like to leave.”

Shonoiki also said the racist graffiti can have effects on prospective students deciding whether or not to attend the University.

“This incident is a direct example of ‘one step forward and two steps back,’” she said. “Three years ago, we put up signs on campus and in our community and wrote in our strategic plan that we are committed to including everyone, and now we must go back to square one. Depending on how the campus reacts to this threat within the next couple of weeks can determine the future decisions of students of color currently attending UWRF and prospective students of color.”

Malzacher said she was disheartened to learn of the racist graffiti message in the library.

“The library is a campus gathering place that provides an intellectual haven for our students, faculty, staff and community users,” she said. “It is a place where ideas can be explored in a safe and welcoming atmosphere. It saddens me when an individual, though a hateful act, can bring anger and distrust into a community that cherishes inclusiveness and respect for all individuals.”

Though Malzacher said that this is the first incident of graffiti in the library, it is not the first incident of graffiti on campus. Last September, racist graffiti was found by a professor on a bulletin board in the Ag Science building.

A special edition of the Falcon Daily on Thursday said “the campus will conduct normal business and all scheduled classes and events will be held” on Nov. 2, and students who do not wish to attend class that day are excused, though they must notify their instructors in advance.

The incident is currently under investigation by the UWRF Police Department. Students with any information are encouraged to call 715-425-3133.

*Sally King/Student Voice*

## UWRF volunteers spread help across the world

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Through the direction of the Student Life office, UW-River Falls students, faculty and staff are coming to the aid of those in need locally and abroad.

The Student Life office acts as a campus organizer in planning and conducting service activities. It provides an avenue for contacts for anyone affiliated with UWRF who wishes to join a volunteer driven organization.

Amy Lloyd, leadership and service coordinator for the office, said Student Life works to get people from UWRF who want to volunteer involved in a wide range of programs.

“We’ll get [UWRF volunteers] connected if they want help doing something,” she said.

To better organize the local and area-wide opportunities for those who wish to participate, Lloyd said the Student Life office has separated the programs into two groups. “Service on the Kinni” is made up of volunteer opportunities in River Falls, and “Service off the Kinni,” includes opportunities area-wide, many of which are in the Twin Cities.

“Online you can find all the contact

information to the nonprofits in the area,” she said.

Though “Service on the Kinni” is thriving, getting involved in the surrounding area has proved to be more difficult.

“Getting students to commit to showing up is hard,” Lloyd said. “Reliable transportation has also been an issue.”

Because of these factors in-part, Student Life has focused on needs in River Falls, Lloyd said. This includes raising awareness for a Relay for Life event, which takes place at River Falls High School each year, to volunteering time at local long-term care facilities, or simply reading to children at the public library.

UWRF sophomore Grace Adofoli carried her work with American Cancer Society in high school over to volunteering for the Relay for Life fundraiser walk.

“It’s great that our age group is dealing with this problem,” she said. “Everybody can make a difference, even if it’s just showing up to walk.”

Grace Adofoli  
UWRF sophomore

The 2010 fundraiser will be held

See Student Life page 3

## Vacancies in substance free dorms cause problems for Residence Life

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UW-River Falls’ Residence Life is experiencing difficulties filling the substance free halls on campus, causing the department to rethink the program.

UWRF has given students living on campus the option to live in a substance free environment since the fall of 2007.

“If [someone] has grown up in an alcoholic family then it might be refreshing to be in an environment that does not have it [alcohol] around,” UWRF student Kelly Jacobs said.

This year there were problems filling these spaces. Students are not assigned to a substance free floor unless they requested or said they were willing to live there, which is why there continues to be some vacancies, according to Julie Phelps, assistant director for Residence Life-facilities and administration.

“The first year we offered a substance free wing was in the fall of 2007,” Kristie Feist, assistant director-community development and education department of Residence Life, said in an e-mail. “We offered one floor in Johnson Hall for first year students. Since then we have added two more floors.”

A former staff member introduced the option during the spring of 2007 after having worked with a similar program at another institution, Feist said.

“We researched what other institutions in the region were doing with substance free and felt like it would be a

good option for our students,” she said. “Students who choose to live in a substance free community agree to not engage in use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs in or around their residence hall.”

If a student is found responsible for using alcohol or tobacco or other drugs, and they have signed the substance free contract, they may be moved to another location on campus for housing, according to Feist.

“It doesn’t happen often, but it has,” she said. “We have had to remove students from the environment for choices they made to use alcohol or other drugs and have negatively impacted the community.”

Currently there are three floors in Johnson Hall

See Residence Life page 3

*Lindsey Rykal/Student Voice*

**UWRF student Angie Drennen reads in a substance free wing in Johnson Hall. Residence Life has experienced difficulties filling the substance free wings this semester.**





# SAAS gives students an incentive to speak up

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On Nov. 10, the Student Affairs and Academic Services (SAAS) committee of the Student Senate will be hosting an event for all UW-River Falls students to attend. The event will be held in the Falcons Nest of the University Center at 6:30 p.m. The event will provide free entertainment, food and drinks, and raffle prizes to be won. The Student Senate is also using this event as a way to provide the students of UWRF with a chance to fill out a student survey. The student survey focuses on everyday college life. Questions include: how successful is the campus media in keeping students updated? Is there good circulation? Do students well utilize campus programs, offers and discounts? The survey will also provide students with a chance to tell the Student Senate if they feel they are doing a good job of representing the UWRF population. Kayla Godes, director of Student Affairs and Academic Services, has been organizing the event for weeks and said she finally feels like it will be a success. “I just don’t want students to feel like it’s an event just so we can get feedback from them,” Godes said. “I want the event to be entertaining and comfortable. The survey

is just another thing amongst all the events that will take place.” The survey will also be responsible for picking the raffle winners. Students who fill out the survey will get their name put in to win multiple prizes. Most of the prizes will consist of gift cards to various businesses around River Falls and Hudson, but there will also be two special prizes: free pizza for a year from Dominos and a one-night Jacuzzi suite at the Countryside Inn. Godes, along with SAAS and Ethics Chair and Parliamentarian Katy Van Putten, has planned plenty of entertainment for students attending the event. There will be performances by Mike Casey and the band Sepia Tone. During the event the Student Senate will also give out the new Student Savings cards for the first time. “[Van Putten] and I went to many businesses to ask if they would like to take part in the Student Savings cards,” said Godes. “Most were generous and happy to help.” The savings cards will work a lot like booster cards where students who present them will get certain discounts on certain items at businesses in River Falls and Hudson. “Overall I think the event will be a success, I just hope students will think so also,” Godes said. “A lot of work was put into this event and I hope it shows.”

## 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.

**October 10**  
-Matthew J. Longworth, 22, was cited for possession of an open container at 129 S. Main Street.  
-Peter J. Thome, 21, was cited for possession of an open container at 129 S. Main Street.

**October 19**  
-Alysha C. Schroeder, 21, was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia in the South Fork Suites.

**October 23**  
-Aleksey G. Ostrovski, 19, was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption in Hathorn Hall.  
-Brad L. Sullivan, 19, was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption at Hunt Arena.  
-Olivia T. Sherman, 18, was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption at Hunt Arena.  
-Melisa M. Beres, 20, was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption at Hunt Arena.  
-Sarah L. Freiling, 19, was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption at Hunt Arena.

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Visit the new and improved [uwrfvoice.com](http://uwrfvoice.com)

# New Cascade will ensure safety

Angela Lutz  
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Safety issues on the crosswalks of Cascade Avenue have been a problem in the past, but so far this year there have been no pedestrian injuries. “[Pedestrians] need to be defensive and presume that drivers do not see them when crossing the street,” Richard Trende, chief of police, said. “Drivers also need to be respectful of pedestrians.” “We can’t expect drivers to be aware of all pedestrians at all times,” Reid Wronski, city engineer, said. “Sometimes they can’t always see you,” which is why the city will be dividing the street with a wide median so pedestrians can cross one lane at a time. Roundabouts are being incorporated causing vehicles to reduce their speed. On-street parking will also be removed in order to keep people from crossing the street straight from their vehicles.

“The City of River Falls, UW-River Falls and citizens have long been concerned over Cascade Avenue...many concerns relative to traffic operations and pedestrian movements along and across the corridor have been expressed,” according to the City of River Falls Web site. The components of the plan are to implement three roundabouts at Wasson Lane, Sixth Street and Second Street. “The roundabouts will control the speed of traffic, allow freedom of movement from cross street traffic and maintain flow of traffic along Cascade Avenue,” according to the City of River Falls Web site. “[Roundabouts] are designed to make people drive slower,” Wronski said. The streets will also be changing to single lanes divided by a wide median. According to the City of River Falls Web site, “the section between Second Street and Sixth Street would consist of a single lane in each direction with a wider median. The section of Cascade Avenue between Sixth Street and Wasson Lane will be modified significantly. The overall concept is continued with a median section wide enough for landscaping through most of the area. The median will have left turn lanes at several intersections. Access will be via an entrance from the eastbound roadway just east of the Sixth Street roundabout.” “[The single lanes and median] will get pedestrians to cross where we want them to cross,” Wronski said. “The crosswalks will also have flashers above them with a system that detects when a pedestrian is crossing. Another benefit for pedestrians is removing parking from the street. This will help drivers to see pedestrians and prevent people from getting out of their vehicles and crossing the street without using the crosswalks.” New parking will be provided by reconstructing the parking lots west of North Hall between Second Street, Third Street, Cascade Avenue and Spring Street into a single efficient lot and a new parking bay located west of Birchcrest Lane to east



Sarah Schneider/Student Voice  
Current crosswalks will be replaced to prevent accidents involving pedestrians.

of Sixth Street. Alexis D’Aquistio, a junior majoring in English, is aware of the redesign and said she usually does not have trouble crossing Cascade Avenue. “I look both ways and if I see a car flying down the street, I am hesitant to cross,” D’Aquistio said. She also said she is not looking forward to losing the on-street parking. “It’s frustrating to know we will be losing parking on Cascade Avenue,” she said. Just how many parking spaces will UWRF lose? According to the City of River Falls Web site, “under existing conditions, the number of vehicles parked in the areas impacted by the concept include 232 on-street and 221 off-street spaces for a total of 453. In the recommended concept, these are replaced by 42 on-street and 403 off-street spaces for a total of 451 or a net loss of two spaces. However, the number of on-street spaces interfering with traffic was reduced from 232 to 48. The concept therefore provides virtually the same number of parking spaces but removes a number of those which are hazardous and places them in a better defined parking area. Access to both of the parking areas is possible without accessing Cascade Avenue between Second Street and Sixth Street.” “I’ve never had any big problems [when crossing Cascade Avenue],” Erin Mulliner, a junior majoring in social work, said. “I’m usually okay if I use the crosswalks. I check both ways and see whether or not the vehicle is slowing down. Sometimes, you’ve got to take your chances and hopefully they slow down.” “There have been some close calls,” Trende said. He recommends pedestrians refrain from using their cell phones when using the crosswalks in heavy traffic and to always be aware of vehicles. Pedestrians who do not practice crosswalk safety “are putting themselves at risk.”

# DoTS addresses phishing, spam

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October is Cyber Security Awareness month, an event put on by Division of Technology Services (DoTS) during which students are better informed on what to do if they experience technological attacks such as phishing or spam. “We had probably the largest-scale phishing attack against campus last week,” Student Support Coordinator Steven Meads said. “I want to say we had about 80 compromised accounts.” Phishing is the harvesting of information by e-mail and websites.



Christie Lauer/Student Voice  
UWRF student Anna Gushue works on her laptop in the University Center.

According to Microsoft online safety, phishing e-mail messages are designed to steal the user’s identity. They ask for personal data, or direct users to Web sites or phone numbers to call where they ask for personal data. “Potentially, they could access all of your information,” Meads said. “Say they got into your eSiS account, then they have your birthday, your address . . . all kinds of things that can assist in identity fraud. The phishing attack happened during a week of Cyber Security, hosted by DoTS. “We are trying to help students out by setting up a booth in the University Center where they can come and bring their computers,” member of the tech support group John Hunchar said. “We can then look at the computers and see if anything

is wrong with them, or figure out any problems they might be having with them free of charge.” Tech support is also handing out bookmarks and have posters displayed to make students more aware of technology related attacks and how to avoid them. “Misspelled words or poor grammar are some things that you can look for,” Meads said. “One of the [e-mails] we got had a lower cased “f” in Falcon Account. Things like that are definitely something to watch out for.” The University is not taking these attacks without fighting back according to Meads. “We are looking for ways within our department to implement some strategies to help protect what we have now,” he said. “We are monitoring log files and watching for large amounts of e-mails going out.” Student Tess Lardie expressed frustration with the attacks. “I got one of the e-mails, and it told me that I had to respond within 24 hours or my account wouldn’t work anymore,” she said. “I didn’t respond to it, but it’s really frustrating when you think you might lose all your information.” DoTS wants to help students avoid these situations, which is why Cyber Security Awareness month is very important, according to Meads and Hunchar. “Educating people on things like phishing is a big goal,” Meads said. “We would like to get the information out there and be proactive about it. We don’t want to give the information after the attack; we want people to know this so it doesn’t happen.” DoTS and Tech Support are helping those who get attacked by the phishing scam through e-mails of their own, telling students not to reply to these kinds of messages. “If a student gets [one of these] e-mails, we really want to impress upon them not to reply at all,” Meads said. “If you respond, they know if the account is active. DoTS will never ask for your account information, and that is something we really want the students to remember.” Tech support will have a booth up in the University Center where all students can bring their computers in to be looked at free of charge if they are experiencing problems. These booths will be open on Oct. 26, and 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Nov. 3 and 5 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Students are encouraged to come.



# Student Life: UWRF program provides opportunites to serve

from page 1

March 26 and 27.

A project that has been in the works for some time is Building Tomorrow, Lloyd said. Building Tomorrow is a coalition of 19 colleges and universities throughout the U.S. that raise money to build schools in Uganda. “This is a program that I think is about to explode,” Lloyd said.

Fifteen UWRF students have traveled to Ugandan village of Jomba to help in the effort since early 2007, according to the organization’s Web site.

Over the past three years UWRF volunteers have raised over \$14,000 through various fundraisers, Lloyd said.

Building Tomorrow teamed UWRF up with the City of Indianapolis to build the BT Academy of Jomba, according to an Aug. 17, press release by the organization. The school is expected to serve more than 300 students from Jomba and three surrounding villages.

The groundbreaking ceremony for construction was attended by the vice president of Uganda, Gilbert Bukenya, according to the release. The school is expected to open in the summer of 2010.

“We’re very much excited to bring a BT Academy to Jomba,” Building Tomorrow Director Joseph Kalisa said in the release. “There are no public primary schools here in this area and we’re excited to give [our students] the chance to receive a formal education.”

# Residence Life: UWRF students have option to live in substance free environment

from page 1

a long time or have bad connections with it, being around it can bring up strong emotions.”

The substance free community will continue to be a living option for students, but the number of substance free spaces offered will lessen based off the challenges Residence Life had in filling the halls, according to Phelps.

“I think if there are people that feel that living in a neutral environment where substances are not present, if that makes them more comfortable then the option should be available,” UWRF student Tyler Halverson said.

designated as substance free.

“Even though I am not substance free, if students want to be surrounded in a substance free environment then there is a need for it,” Jacobs said. “Sometimes, if people are around it for

# Porn Nation addresses different point of view

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National speaker and author of “Porn Nation,” Michael Leahy, spoke to over 400 students and staff on Tuesday in the UC Ballroom with his presentation entitled Porn Nation. Leahy tackled the issue of porn and how it is affecting our relationships.

Matt Warren said, “I liked it because he covered other stuff and other problems and you got to know his story and him as a person.”

Leahy, who has been featured on ABC’s 20/20, The View, CNN, Fox News, in USA Today and on Playboy Radio, among other national and local level news programs, incorporated his story of addiction and statistics on pornography, as well as video segments into his presentation. The video segments included testimonies from former sex addicts, former prostitutes, psychologists, counselors, an author and himself.

Porn Nation was broken into two halves. In the first half Leahy gave facts about porn that he had researched, as well as his life story on his addiction to porn and sex. The second half of the Porn Nation presentation focused on the spiritual side of overcoming porn. This section focused on Jesus Christ being the solution to addiction and the way to fulfill the need for love.

Leahy used several definitions of porn. One definition Leahy used to define porn was from the American Heritage dictionary, which defines pornography as, “Sexually explicit pictures, writing, or other material whose primary purpose is to cause sexual arousal.”

Leahy questioned whether or not consumers are truly free to choose if they want to view porn, or if consumers are being exposed to pornographic materials without knowing it. Anna Reynders said, “It really makes you think, because we are desensitized.”

Michael shared his story about how porn first entered his life. He was 11 years old at the playground at school when some boys on the playground had playing cards with pictures of nude women on the back. His immediate reaction was that he liked it. He didn’t understand it, but he liked it. He also had the opposite reaction, where he didn’t know if he should be looking at it. He decided the best decision was to keep it a secret.

Michael started seeing and dating women with the intent of having sex with them, as he viewed a good date one where his date had sex with him. To Michael, porn was normal, and he believed he would find the person who would meet all of his sexual needs and not need porn anymore, but he was wrong.

After college, Michael worked for IBM, and while at a bar after a work meeting, he met a girl, Patty, who became his wife. Soon, she wasn’t enough. Michael struggled walking in large groups of people and not giving women second glances and undressing them in his mind.

He soon began viewing pornography again, and after 13 years of marriage, he began having an affair. Due to his 30-year relationship with and addiction to porn, Michael lost his marriage to Patty. Mitchell Slind said it was full of good information and he [Michael Leahy] used his life story as an example.

Leahy said every addict has one thing in common, and that is buying into false beliefs. Leahy said that in order to overcome addiction, that lie has to be replaced with truth. Two main lies that addicts believe are that if anyone knew everything about me, they won’t love me. Michael stated the reality is that if you are with people you can trust, they will still love you.

The second lie is that sex is the greatest need, with the reality being that Christ’s love is the greatest need, and to fill that need you must accept Christ into your life. Three

important facts Michael wanted to stress about God was that God is real, God is just and God is love.

Michael Leahy said his motivation to start this presentation was after he started a ministry in 2002 that helped others struggling with porn to find resources, like a counselor, help group, etc. “My board of directors and I talked about how thousands to tens of thousands of people were heading to the cliff and they were sitting on the bottom and catching only a handful.” The Porn Nation presentation is a way for Michael to reach out and connect with many more people. Michael said his reason for speaking about his addiction was to share Christ.

Michael is now re-married to an amazing Christian woman, as he called his wife, named Christine, who is a sergeant in the Army. Michael and Christine live in Herndon, Va. near the Washington D.C. area. Michael said, “The audience was great and very respectful. I could tell from the reactions that there were a lot of non-believers.” He liked how many people still stayed after the break and the open and real responses he received.

Porn Nation was sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ which is a worldwide movement. The Twin Cities Metro Campus Crusade for Christ has staff members that work on campus here at River Falls.

Crusade for Christ staff Clay Harris, who works on campus, said Leahy was brought here because he had “seen it done on other campuses around the country and knew it had a pretty significant effect on other campuses and knew it would be very powerful here at River Falls. He [Michael Leahy] is also going to speak at the U of M.” Blake Borchardt, student leader for Campus Crusade for Christ at UWRF said, “Porn Nation successfully challenged students’ thoughts on not only a moral level, but a spiritual level.”

Don't forget Daylight-Saving Time.

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Find Freddy's Feather

Find the lost Freddy the Falcon Feather in this issue of the Voice!

E-mail the Voice at editor@uwrfvoice.com



Be the first person to report the find AFTER 10 a.m., Friday, Oct. 30, and win two free movie passes Last week's winner: Alex Block

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EDITORIAL

University acts swiftly to denounce racial intolerance

Last Sunday, race-related graffiti was discovered scrawled on the stall wall in one of the bathrooms in the Chalmer Davee Library that threatened violence against black and Asian UW-River Falls students to occur on Monday, Nov. 2. On a campus that values diversity and teaches inclusivity, this act of discrimination serves as a reminder that there are still lessons to be learned and ignorance to be battled.

Hateful graffiti is not new to UWRF. Just last September, a professor found racial remarks on a bulletin board in the Ag Science building. Unlike last September, however, when the act was hidden from students and quietly swept under the rug, this institution is now responding admirably. The Student Voice editorial board would like to commend UWRF for its response to the graffiti, and also urges students to become more aware and take an active part in becoming more inclusive.

Less than two days after the graffiti was discovered, Chancellor Van Galen drafted a direct response chastising the act that was sent to all students and faculty. Part of that message was a link to the Inclusiveness Web page ([www.uwrf.edu/inclusiveness](http://www.uwrf.edu/inclusiveness)) and a Pledge to Speak Up, a statement students can print and sign vowing to not tolerate hate-speak.

The same day the e-mail went out, response boards were placed near the IC desk in the University Center where students could express their feelings over the incident. The boards were full mere hours after their arrival.

Several student-created Facebook groups have sprung up as outlets for students to join voices and forces against racist action.

And on Monday, an event entitled “Hate will not be tolerated at UWRF” will take place. A protest of sorts, the event relies on students and faculty wearing red clothing as a symbolic act of our unity in fighting ignorance. All students and faculty should heed this call and wear at least one red item on Monday in support.

Although this University’s response is commendable, incidents such as this invariably spark a look into possible root causes. Obviously racism is still alive today, but it continues to survive because society is permeated with racial jokes and perpetuated stereotypes. Mainstream comics such as Chris Rock and Carlos Mencia use as punch lines negative stereotypes about their respective races, and jokes are exchanged among students that are based on ignorance or bigotry. Humor can no longer be a shield for hate-speak, and UWRF students must realize this so they may actively strive to cut derogatory dialogue out of daily speech.

There are signs on the border of River Falls that say “we are an inclusive campus” and “we are building an inclusive community.” It is not enough that students take an obligatory multi-cultural course; they must work to realize and reduce ignorance in themselves and colleagues, as well as support UWRF events that spread awareness and chastise racism. Students need to react, feel, share and act.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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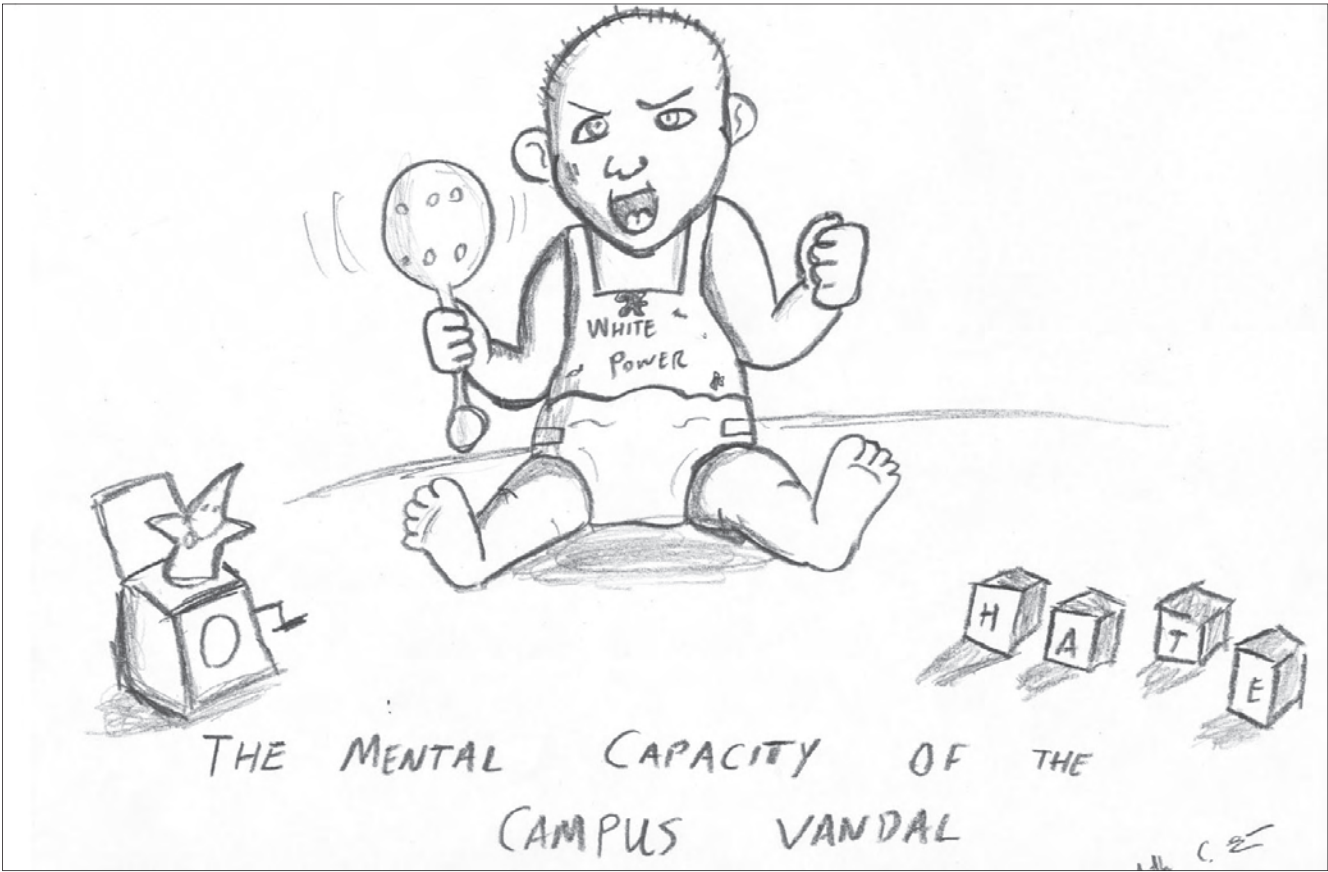
The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Thursdays during the regular school year.

All editorial content in the *Student Voice* is determined by the newspaper’s Editorial Board. The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper’s advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall, River Falls, WI, 54022 or to [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com).

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters. All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By Jon Lyksett

Hatch Amendment would impact healthcare

The healthcare reform debate is dominating the news right now. One thing we’re not hearing about is the Hatch Amendment, an amendment that would have a serious impact on our health education. Voted into the Senate Finance Committee’s version of healthcare reform 12-11, the Hatch Amendment lays out a \$50 million funding plan to get abstinence-only back into our classrooms.

We need to speak up. This piece of healthcare reform will directly impact our everyday lives and it’s key we show our legislators we want sex education grounded in fact instead of conservative ideology.

For the past eight years, federal funding for abstinence-only has failed to equip us with the information we need about sex and sexuality. A 2008 CDC study found that 1 in 4 young women between the ages of 14 and 19 in the United States is infected with an STI. Young people aged 13-29 accounted for 34% of new HIV infections in 2007, the largest share of any group.

Abstinence-only education assumes that we all have the same experience with sex and sexuality and disseminates misinformation about contraception, abortion, STIs and pregnancy. We need to make sure it doesn’t stay in our classrooms.

The President’s Budget eliminated all abstinence-only funding, and this past June, Congress allowed Title V money (one of the funding streams for ab-only programs) to expire. Democrats in the House and Senate have held firm on keeping it out of health care reform too. Let’s make sure 12 senators don’t successfully get bad sex education back into our classrooms!

Take five to call Senator Feingold and Senator Kohl and demand they strike the Hatch Amendment down. Call 1-888-423-5983 and talk to our Senators’ office. We have call-in scripts online at [www.choiceusa.org](http://www.choiceusa.org) if you need talking points!

Be a part of the fight to keep bad sex education out of our classrooms!

Nikki Shonoiki, Student and Activist

Hate speech not tolerated

We, the members of the UWRF Faculty Welfare & Personnel Policies Committee, strongly condemn racist

graffiti on our campus. We condemn all acts of intimidation and harassment. Our University embraces tolerance and rejects hate.

We respect the right to free speech and personal ideas. However, the right to free speech is balanced by the right to work, study and live in an environment free of harm, intimidation, threat, physical and verbal violence, oppression and discrimination.

We emphatically support our faculty, staff and students of color. We welcome and value all forms of diversity. We encourage our colleagues to support and reach out to our community members of color. We also encourage instructors to denounce acts of hate in class and to initiate conversations about the importance of diversity, inclusivity and mutual respect.

We also ask that every member of our campus complete the important Campus Climate Survey available at <http://uwrf.edu/campus-climate>.

Please understand that when part of our university suffers, we all suffer.

UWRF Faculty Welfare & Personnel Policies Committee

Keep faculty status intact

Thank you for this opportunity to update the University community on a recent petition that is proposing to remove faculty status for governance purposes from the non-teaching academic staff. Since the position was signed by the needed 10 percent, the proposal will now go to a referendum vote, which all academic staff—teaching and non-teaching—and faculty are eligible to vote. Because the petition addresses two distinctly different issues, hopefully there will be two referenda upon which to vote.

There are a variety of potential consequences that may result from this vote. If the referenda pass, non-teaching academic staff will no longer have any voice in the governance process of UWRF. There appears to be a misperception that the Academic Staff Council is more comparable to the Faculty Welfare Committee. To vote to remove faculty status for governance purposes from the non-teaching academic staff, a number of your colleagues will become disenfranchised from the governance process.

Prior to any vote on these referenda, I am asking that we have several listening and discussion sessions in order that we may discuss people’s thoughts

on issues of governance and perhaps, if this structure is not working, consider a new governance structure.

We have an opportunity before us to truly “Work Together and Stand Apart” and in the end, have a stronger, healthier campus.

Gretchen Link, senior counselor Chair, Academic Staff Council

Inclusiveness is key

A well known quote states that “hate anywhere is a threat to peace everywhere.” I fully believe it. None of us are so naive as to believe that racism doesn’t exist, but UWRF, along with most segments of our society, are working hard to eradicate its ugly institutional vestiges.

Many on this campus are contributing to a “climate of inclusiveness” every day, with their whole heart, soul and resources. Yet, there will always be the odd, disturbed individual whose ignorance is so deep that he or she uses a cowardly vent-graffiti- for frustration and unhappiness.

We know that we must work together, individually and institutionally, on a daily basis, to nurture our campus’ continued growth as a secure, encouraging and welcoming place to live, learn and develop our gifts to the max. It will continue to be our work, for the foreseeable future. My notion is that “ism’s” are tougher than viruses to eradicate because they, too, are as old as humankind. Education and awareness is the first stage of treatment for this societal malady.

But there is more that each of us can do to affect the cure. If any of you ever feel unsafe, please let someone know. So often we find ourselves ignoring the slights and odd moments, acutely aware of the fact that we simply can’t react to everything. For the sake of our energy levels, we have learned to choose our battles wisely. But, please, speak up when you see, hear or experience discrimination. Bias has no place at an institution of higher learning. Each and every one of you have every right to feel comfortable and secure at your university.

UWRF has never and will never condone prejudiced behavior or threats of violence. Those who are so ignorant to think so, will learn the lesson of solidarity over the next week. From then on, perhaps, they, too, will allow themselves to become educated. We are all in this together.

Linda Alvarez

Quality cologne brings out pheromones in men, worth cost

Weather can be a challenge to dress for sometimes. For sporadic days with extreme temperature changes, the best clothing style is layering. For a great look, layer a crewneck shirt with a button-up, long sleeve shirt.

This is a great, look especially when a white crew neck is paired with a black button-up with white strips. To make this look warmer, top it off with a zip-up sweater. Remember to always coordinate your tees with your button-up. This outfit is great for men with a little belly as it is a very



Priya Kailash

slimming and elongating outfit, making it a great date outfit.

**Item of the week: Cologne**

A well-chosen cologne can transform a man’s image.

Our sense of smell is one of the strongest senses tied to memory.

Here are some things to remember; you need

to think of cologne as an investment. Cheap cologne bought at the local Walgreens is going to reflect its poor quality.

Each person is unique and produces their unique scent. Pheromones are people’s unique chemical signals and scents that can actually trigger a response from another person. Quality cologne, when worn properly, will mix in with your natural pheromones and will intensify these responses without overpowering them.

Some I recommend are: Giorgio Code or Acqua Di Gio by Giorgio Armani, Tommy for Men by Tommy Hilfiger, or Versace Man by Versace. Please do not as-

sume that just because these brands sound expensive are out of your reach. You can find these products online for around \$35, or you could ask for some as a gift so you don’t have to take out of your pocket.

This week’s featured student is Junior Matt Rinnac, who has a great eye for fashion-complete with Swiss watches and designer shirts. His unique and professional look gives him a great advantage, making him stand out from the crowd. Visit [uwrfvoice.com](http://uwrfvoice.com) to check out a gallery of photos.

Priya Kailash is a biology major and chemistry minor. She enjoys playing ultimate frisbee, as well as wearing four-inch heels.



# Phones distract drivers

RIVER FALLS, WI - A man who wishes to remain anonymous became “irked” when he was cut off by another driver this past Thursday evening. The incident occurred just after 9 in the evening on the stretch of 35 just before the Main Street exit. The man, say Miles, was making his way home from a late night of work at his Hudson-based job, where he claimed he was putting in overtime, when he singled to move from the fast lane into the right lane in order to pull off what he referred to as “the old switcheroo.”

“My wife says my changing lanes so smoothly at sixty-five miles an hour is what turns her on the most,” Miles said before finishing the sentence with a crude, sexual connotation. As Miles veered his Saturn into the right lane, a second driver - the vehicle a baby-crap colored PT Cruiser - swerved in front of Miles. Miles was forced to continue past the Main Street Exit an extra two miles until he turned at the intersection with Cascade Avenue.

Miles noted the other driver, concealed by the darkness, was toting a glowing box that he or she held against their ear. “It was horrible,” Miles said. “It was unreal and unlike anything I’ve ever seen before - and it made me think about how inconsiderate some people are.” Miles was rushed to the nearby medical clinic for wounds to his feelings and self-esteem.

“A lot of cell phone-less drivers feel unwanted and useless when they see other, more talented drivers performing this multi-tasking while on the road. It’s pretty demoralizing,” says Crystal Johnston of the Psychologists for A Better World, an expert in the line of driving while calling. Investigators arrived at the scene of the crime just after three in the morning, and the lack of quick response time was blamed on the local RFPD’s claim that one of its own was celebrating a birthday. “We couldn’t just up and leave the station,” said Officer Bryan Schiller, a three-year veteran of the RFPD. “Old Officer David Smiths only turns fifty once,”

he finished. Once at the scene, detectives were bewildered at the lack of physical evidence. No trace could be found, probably due to the lack of light coming in around four in the morning when local law enforcement broke out their special, sciency gear. FBI agents soon found their way to the cold stretch of 35 and attempted to trace all phone calls made the previous night, but after two or three minutes of fishing around with their own tracking technology, a blue screen of death killed their equipment, rendering the Federal Bureau of Investigation useless and with no leads.

Meanwhile, Miles found little comfort in his home. With a screaming wife and upset children, Miles was coping with the horrific encounter. “I just don’t understand where people get the...audacity and arrogance to do such a thing,” he said. “But I’m getting over it I think.” Serial “Drexters,” have been spotted all over the United States since the mid-1990’s when cell phones are believed to have come into existence. The term “Drexter” refers to individuals who both operate their motor vehicles and text, or converse as if all a single action.

“Make no mistake. These perpetrators of injustice, arrogance, and a complete lack of self other awareness, will be brought to justice, held above a lawful court, and placed before a firing squad upon his or her apprehension,” Dwayne Matheson, the Minnesota district attorney who also leads the Prevention of Jackass Behavior Coalition.

Miles resides in River Falls with his family. He copes with his suspicious wife and frightened little twin girls. Authorities urge citizens to dial 911 if he or she runs into anyone not doing anything other than driving when operating a motor vehicle.

Brad Brookins is double majoring in digital TV & film and creative writing. He enjoys challenging people to games of full-contact checkers.

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# STUDENT VOICES

What do you think of the racist graffiti found in the library? Will you be wearing red on Nov. 2 to show support?

**Marwa Mohamed, junior**



“It’s sad. We should be in a generation that’s past all that. It’s sad and ignorant.”

**Alifa Momin, junior**



“It’s disgusting and sad that people still feel that way. Diversity is more important than your personal issues. Yes, I’m wearing red to show my support.”

**Nikki Shonoiki, senior**



“I think that this incident is an outrage, but the response is amazing, and I love being at UWRF where people care.”

**Courtney Miller, sophomore**



“It makes me sad to see this kind of hatred on this campus, and I hope whoever did this realizes how many people they are hurting.”

Student Voices compiled by Sarah Schneider

Something on your mind?  
Write a letter to the editor:  
Submit your letter to  
editor@uwrvoice.com or deliver it to  
the box outside 304 North Hall.

# Typeface helps bring expression to text

Times New Roman: a fourth grade research paper that I plunked out all by myself. Bubblegum: when I figured out what that little arrow next to “Times New Roman” does while plunking out my other fourth grade research paper. Calibri: the present default font that Microsoft Word feels is the best for me. Helvetica: a silent debate among the ages.

When it comes to typography, the furthest most of us explore is the list of fonts provided in the word processor we use. Times, with its little serif feet, still appears around us, while Arial and other sans serif fonts surround us like birds of prey. Moreover, we don’t even know it’s happening. We’ll read it, consider what it says, and perhaps enjoy the aesthetics—yet walk away without once even thanking the typeface that brought the experience to us. Graphic designers choose everything placed in their creations for a reason—font choices included. As readers we may not be aware of the little feet the “A” has or the smooth curvature of the sans serif “C.” However, we know how it makes us feel. A grand announcement that calls for respect will stomp its “feet” right in our face and maybe even twist its heel a bit, while a hip and simple Helvetica sign will convince us that if we play along, we will be allowed into the cool club alongside the Gap logo and the New York City subways.

Innovations in printing with movable type allowed typography to bloom during medieval times. Johannes Gutenberg introduced his printing press. Although Gutenberg died without much to his name, his machine finally allowed all of the medieval scribes in those droll monasteries to party down. Meticulous calligraphy, scrawled out by the monks, was the popular method prior to this

development, with hand-copied and bound books being more of a luxury than a common household item. While the western world was oooing and aaahing itself and its new invention, China continued using wooden

blocks and clay (developed by Pi-Sheng) to print documents and money since the ninth century. Jikji, the first known printed book, hit the ancient shelves 80 years before Gutenberg polished his press. It was found in a Korean Buddhist temple in 1377.

Since then, typography has evolved all the way onto this very newspaper.

The Helvetica typeface communicates a clean look that took the graphic world by storm in the 1950s and has been aggravating some designers ever since. The tones suggested by typography have boiled up its own debate. Some argue Microsoft’s Arial font is close to, but not as glorious, as Helvetica.

Therefore, it falls into the pit of the “poser” fonts...what a loser. Yet while some consider Helvetica a clean look that possesses the flexibility of any gymnast, others find it constricting—the ultimate murderer of artistic expression. When the potential for expression through typeface is considered constricted, even muddy and anti-progressive, someone has to get angry. In the surprisingly interesting documentary “Helvetica,” Gary Hustwit explores designers’ and typographers’ opinions on the phenomenon for one of the most common fonts in the world today. While the smooth Helvetica font can communicate a simple and clean image, other artists push the limits of typography, creating new fonts every moment. The world of typography is much bigger than is always noticed. But watch out, Helvetica may haunt you.

Laura Krawczyk is a junior majoring in marketing communications and communication studies. She enjoys the smell of gasoline.

# Real history of Halloween

From the copious amounts of candy after trick-or-treating, to annual television specials involving a “Great Pumpkin,” Halloween is celebrated numerous ways each and every year. It’s always a good time seeing what people come up with for costumes, no matter how perfectly or terribly done. I’ve seen everything from the Power Rangers and Mario Brothers, to some gentleman wrapped in blue yarn claiming that he was Bob Dylan’s “Tangled Up In Blue.” Out of pure curiosity, I wanted to know the “origins” of Halloween, and how/why people have celebrated Halloween for hundreds of years in comparison how our culture chooses to celebrate it today.

First, let’s start with the actual date of Oct. 31. Why is it significant? According to the History Channel, there was a group of people called “Celts” that lived in present day Ireland, England, and France, started their new year on November 1. The celebration of the “new year” prepared the Celts for a long and dark winter, which also was believed to coincide with human death. So on the eve of this day, Oct. 31, the Celts believed that the realms of the living and the dead were sort of merged together. They celebrated the “Samhain,” which were ghosts that would return to earth and actually help these Celtic priests predict the future as a way to hopefully comfort one another regarding the long dark months ahead. The Celts would dress up in numerous different costumes and attempt to predict/foretell each other’s futures, as well as for strictly celebratory reasons. I’m sure that history left out the part when the Celts would get a couple kegs of Beast Ice and give out prizes for best costume.

After numerous different influences from the Romans and various Christian cultures going into the 1000+ A.D. years, Oct. 31 eventually came to be known as “all hal-

lows eve,” and eventually, just Halloween. This was because it preceded the Christian holiday of “All Saints Day,” which is a day to honor all of the saints and martyrs of the Christian faith. Nov. 2 is known as “All Souls Day,” which is actu-

ally believed to be the reason why we have our current tradition of “trick-or-treating.” During the festivities of this day in England (first accounted for), poorer citizens would beg for food from more well-off neighbors. Usually, these neighbors would give the poor “soul cakes” which were pastries given out in exchange that the poor would pray for dead relatives of the rich. Sounds like a fair trade off, I guess. When I take my nephew trick-or-treating this year, I’ll look the homeowners in the eye and say “I’m praying for your dead relatives,” I’m sure that will go over well.

It’s not Halloween unless you carve up some pumpkins, right? The question is, where the hell did that tradition come from? According to LiveScience.com, it apparently has some “legendary” roots. There was supposedly an Irish farmer who had apparently had some run-ins with the devil himself. To the farmer’s dismay, he was turned away both from the gates of heaven and hell. Forced to wander his time between earth and purgatory, he hollowed out a turnip and lit it with some coal to guide his soul along on his quest. Hearing about this man’s spirit, residents all around Ireland would make their own pumpkin carvings in hopes that they would scare the farmer’s and other evil spirits away from their homes. When I carve my pumpkins, I’m not worried about farmer Gary wanting to come by and hang out-it probably wouldn’t bother me. If he ever shows up though, now I’ll know why.

There are so many fantastic ways that we celebrate this great holiday each and every year. I think it’s pretty crazy that we carve pumpkins to scare off some crazy farmer, or even go door to door asking for candy because beggars would get a special pastry in exchange for their prayers. Be safe kids, and enjoy your Halloween shenanigans!

Matt is a senior majoring in marketing communication. He loves playing piano in his free time. He often frequents bed and breakfasts, playing tunes for customers.



Hockey teams anticipate upcoming year



Forwards Jason Yuel and Justin Brossman celebrate a goal in the Falcons Oct. 23 win over Concordia University, 10-1. The team begins regular season conference play on Friday, Oct. 30 and Saturday, Oct. 31 at UW-Superior.

The men’s hockey team set its season in motion when they beat Concordia University 10-1.

Blaze Fugina  
blaze.fugina@uwrf.edu

The men’s hockey team started its season off on a high note with a 10-1 win over Concordia University Oct. 24, setting the tempo for the season.

With the men’s season started, and the women’s team scheduled to begin their season Nov. 6 at St. Thomas, the hockey season is upon UW-River Falls.

The men’s team is coming off a mediocre season, with a record of 10-15-2, which was the team’s first losing season since 1991-92, a 17-year span.

Head Coach Steve Freeman, the coach of the team since 1996, looks to put up the winning numbers that the

rest of his teams have seen.

“We would like to be one of the top teams in the NCHA,” he said. “That would get us good position in the playoffs.”

Though the team is a young team, it gained some needed experience from last year. The Falcons only lost eight players last year. They are also experiencing some help from some new players as well.

“We would like to be one of the top teams in the NCHA. That would get us good position in the playoffs.”

Steve Freeman  
men’s head coach

Horn helps on the power play, he said. Another player who should help offensively is Justin Brossman, a transfer from Alaska-Fairbanks.

The team expects some

“Our team should be good this year, but our biggest goal this year is to work hard and not let the rankings affect how we play.”

Stefanie Schmitz,  
co-captain

Freeman said he is looking for help from new players in every position on the team.

Defensively, Brady

the top teams will have their fair share of losses.”

In the Falcons’ first win, ten different players had goals in the game.

The women’s hockey team looks to start its season on the same note. After going to the frozen four last year, the team looks to continue its success into this season.

Women’s Head Coach Joe Cranston said that the team needs to take the season one game at a time.

“It’s easier to get to the top, then stay at the top,” he said. “Last year, we had an up and down, rollercoaster season.”

competition in the N C H A , the league that both the men and women play in outside the WIAC.

“The league is extremely tight,” Freeman said. “Even

Sally King/Student Voice

Co-captain Stefanie Schmitz also has similar logic with her coach.

“Our team should be good this year, but our biggest goal this year is to work hard and not let the rankings affect how we play,” she said.

The team is an experienced one, with only two players not returning from last year.

“Last year we had a learning curve,” Cranston said. “This year we are older and smarter.”

The team is also getting some new help this year from recruits.

Alyssa Jackson and Alyssa Black are two forwards that will “contribute right away,”

Cranston said. Overall, there are five players that are new to the team.

The other co-captain, Abby Sunderman, said she thinks highly of the new recruits.

“All five of them are really bright kids, and we’re lucky to have such a strong freshmen class,” she said.

The women look to perform strong in the NCHA this year; they were first in the conference a year ago.

“The conference is always tough, especially on the top three or four teams,” Cranston said.

The players know that the competition will be tough.

“Our competition is only getting harder, [and] this year we have a huge target on our back, so a lot of teams want to beat us,” Schmitz said.

The Falcons open NCHA play Nov. 20 against Superior.



Steve Freeman

Favre’s return: a game for the ages



Derek Johnson

The game of the season is finally here. For most of the people in the Minnesota and Wisconsin area, the date Nov. 1 has been circled for quite some time. Favre’s

returning to Lambeau Field has been talked about and hyped since Aug. 18 when he signed with the Vikings. I’m sure there were few who had this day circled when the rumors of Favre coming to the Vikings sprung up in the early summer days of May.

Brett Favre has played in roughly 130 games at Lambeau Field, starting in all but one of them. In the third week of the 1992 season, Favre replaced then-starter Don Majkowski who was suffered a severe injury in the game. He then became the starter for good. This covers a span of 16 years. This Sunday he’ll be seeking his 90th victory at Lambeau Field.

This could be the most viewed game ever that is not played as the two national spotlight games, Sunday Night Football and Monday Night Football.

The Monday Night game a few weeks back was a huge success in terms of entertainment value and viewership. The game this upcoming weekend was moved from a noon start to a 3:15 p.m. start because of the demand of people wanting to see this game across the nation. This could be the most-viewed game ever that is not played as the two national spotlight games, Sunday Night Football and Monday Night Football.

Favre and the Vikings won the first meeting between these two teams. Aaron Rodgers proved he could be on the same field as Favre, as he threw for 384 yards and two touchdowns and had a passer rating of 110.6. The offensive line didn’t help him out at all, as he was sacked eight times. Favre also had one of his better games this season against his former team, throwing for 271 yards and three touchdowns with a passer rating of 135.3.

Coming into week eight, the Vikings are 6-1, having suffered their first loss of the season to the Pittsburgh Steelers last week 27-17. Favre showed some vulnerability last week as he committed two turnovers late in a game, but the loss is not solely on him, as Adrian Peterson couldn’t get the run game started and the Vikings as a team committed eleven penalties.

The Packers come into this week 4-2. Last week they got to beat up on one of the league’s worst teams, the Cleveland Browns. The score was 31-3, and it wasn’t close from the very beginning. After a scoreless first quarter the Packers jumped out to a 21-3 halftime lead. They added ten points in the second half winning, 31-3. The running game came on last week for the

Playoff talk is starting to brew up... but for now, the talks this week will be favre returning to the place he used to call home for 16 seasons.

Packers, as Ryan Grant rushed for 148 yards and a touchdown.

This week has a lot more at stake than just Favre returning to Lambeau Field. If the Vikings win, they would jump out to a 7-1 record and give them the tiebreaker over second-place Green Bay. The Packers would then drop to 4-3 and be 3.5 games back behind the Vikings. If the Packers win, they would be tie the Vikings in the loss column, as the Packers would be 5-2 and the Vikings would be 6-2 and there wouldn’t be a head-to-head tiebreaker, seeing as both teams beat each other once.

This week is the halfway point in the season. Playoff talk is starting to brew up and both these teams are in the discussion. But for now, the talk this week will be Favre returning to the place he used to call home for 16 seasons. This time though, he’ll be running through the tunnel on the visiting side in a purple uniform.

Derek Johnson is a journalism major. His interests include: playing/watching sports and writing music. Derek also spends his time broadcasting sports for WRFW.

Tune in to WRFW 88.7 or visit pureradio887.com for local sports coverage

Friday, October 30  
Falcon men’s hockey at UW-Superior  
7:00 p.m.

Commentators: Chris Schad and Derek Johnson

Saturday, October 31  
Falcon football vs. UW-Platteville  
3:00 p.m.

Commentators: Steven Linzmeier, Chris Schad and Rob Silvers

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# Aviatrix biopic crash lands

Everyone knows about the tragic disappearance of Amelia Earhart, the American aviatrix who mysteriously vanished somewhere over

the Pacific in 1937 while attempting to become the first female to aeronautically circumnavigate the

globe. With the ending already spoiled, it seems common sense that a big screen biopic chronicling the life of this pioneer, both in aviation and women’s rights, would spend its time building to that forgone conclusion with some amount of emotion, development, hell maybe even a little story. Alas, director Mira Nair presents little more than an overly polished rundown of Earhart’s greatest accomplishments. That might do for mandatory 7th grade viewing during the ‘History of Flight’ unit, but it’s quite inexcusable on the silver screen.

“Amelia” starts out promisingly enough - it looks gorgeous. There is not a dent in the period cars, not a wrinkle on the pressed suits and skirts. The characters, all bathed in a near majestic golden yellow, seem to personify the very image of hope and prosperity. Watching the film, one could never tell that it takes place during the Great Depression.

But then the characters open their mouths. The script, penned by Ron Bass (“Rain Man”) and Anna Hamilton Phelan, stands as a testament to ‘Capra-corn’ cheesiness and sickening sentimentality. The ideas that “dreams do come true” and “the sky is the limit” are

force-fed to us, crammed down our throats with little support other than Hillary Swank’s all-too-perfect, canned smile; if nothing

Ken Weigend



else, the film is a shining example of the seductive power of quality dentistry. In stereotypical Hollywood fashion, Nair runs down Amelia’s adult life - her childhood is barely hinted at - like she is checking events off a bulleted list. Amelia flies. Amelia gets famous. Amelia flies again. Amelia marries G.P. Putnam. And so on and so forth. The requisite period-defining details - grainy newsreel footage and jazz music - do liven the film a bit, but “Amelia” is quickly and permanently grounded in its stubbornly singular focus on Earhart’s marriage to GP. Much as “Walk the Line” did with Johnny Cash and June Carter, “Amelia” attempts to breathe emotional depth into its leads by chronicling the ups and downs of their relationship set against a backdrop of historical events. But unlike other, successful biopics, “Amelia” tries to hard to force some sort of tension out of an otherwise banal marriage, and inadvertently domesticates Earhart to the point of boredom.

Amelia did, briefly, have an affair with aviation entrepreneur Gene Vidal, but as that sinfully intriguing subplot registers as far too interesting, and would otherwise mar Nair’s hero-worship, the adulterous fling is quickly glazed over.

Sadly, not even the acting can salvage some sense of

dignity. Otherwise brilliant Swank and Richard Gere look pretty, if not a little fake, but never quite find their stride. Their accents, either over- or under-practiced, sound artificial, even forced at times. And there are far too many shots of both just looking off in the distance - perhaps they are searching for a better script, one without so many gag reflex-tugging, Hallmark-denied love lines.

To be fair, “Amelia” is far from the worst movie to (crash) land in theaters this year. Aviation enthusiasts and Earhart admirers will no doubt walk away satisfied with the pedestal Nair has placed their hero up on, but it does stand as a weak, disappointing opener to the Oscar-bait season.

*Ken Weigend is a senior marketing communications and journalism double major. His minor in film studies gives him the authority to arbitrarily assign star rankings to represent film quality, but statistical analysis has shown him to be 99.9 percent accurate.*

When it comes to the retelling of history, it seems that, as far as memories go, we can swing one of two ways. We can either vie for

the attention by regaling others with times and events that rattle our thoughts and bones (exaggerated or not), or we can travel

by conventional route, repeating names, dates and actions as though we were the textbook ourselves. Depending on audience and topic, both methods seem to have their time and place. Unless of course, you’re Hollywood, in which the facts don’t really seem to matter as long as you play up the information you have enough to cash in. Generally, I would think this would be pretty easy for

the Paramounts and the Fox Searchlights of the industry, especially when it comes to the biographies of history (I mean, they are renowned for

Katie Heaton



a reason). It seems, however, that even the most infamous of characters through-out time

can’t always catch the right break, or in this case the right wind. Hollywood’s newest attempt at recounting a historical life is Mira Nair’s “Amelia,” which examines the life of aviatrix Amelia Earhart. Opening with her last and final flight, the story travels back through her own memories to recount her life and stardom. The plot jumps from memory to reality quickly and focuses on not only our heroine’s aviation and skill, but also her personal and romantic life.

Though individually I’m sure the facts that made up this remarkable woman were interesting, sadly, when put together, they created a loose and disjointed plot that would put anyone into a tailspin. While Nair tries desperately to cover every angle that made up the woman behind the wings, the audience is stuck watching Ms. Earhart jump from a plane, to the bedroom of her manager, to a dinner table with Eleanor Roosevelt, to the bedroom of her business

partner, and then back into a plane again. This along with the completely forced and mechanical performances of Hillary Swank and Richard Gere leave you coming out of the theatre with not only the disappointment that you already knew the ending but also with the frustration that you still hardly knew the beginning. While these aspects definitely overshadowed most of the positives of the film, fear not, some good did shine through. Though painful to watch on screen, Swank’s performance off-screen, as a narrator, was done quite well, especially in moments

of pure flight, when she read the thoughts and emotions Amelia herself actually had when flying over the Atlantic. The music and scenery too, were both composed classically and shot beautifully, giving you a planet earth-esque impression of how the world once was, and the hope it gave to people with a dream of flight.

And while I wish I could say that these traits fixed what otherwise was lost amid poor dialogue, ill-fitting plot and horrible accents, I regret to say I simply can’t. While a noble attempt, it seems Hollywood just doesn’t have the talent or the time to truly capture the heart and life that made up such a momentously historical woman. Indeed, it seems that some parts of history are just better left unsaid and better left off screen.

*Katie Heaton is a junior with a major in psychology and a minor in women’s studies. Dreams of Hollywood stardom fell to earth when Audrey Hepburn hit the scene, but still hopes for that second marriage to George Clooney.*



# UWRF students compete in logging events

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Two UW-River Falls students recently traveled to Ohio to compete in the National Game of Logging Competition.

According to the Game of Logging (GOL) Web site, the GOL is widely acknowledged as the premier timber harvesting training program in the country, offering hands-on training in a competitive environment. Top instructors across the country combine demonstration with participation to teach safety, productivity, conservation and cutting techniques. There are currently 16 training organizations that cover 30 states. Regional competitions are held annually by each training organization followed by a national competition for professional loggers as well as collegiate and landowner participants.

Students Rebecca Doro and Steven Wielgosh participated in the competition, held at the Guernsey County fairgrounds in Lore City, Ohio, as part of the annual Paul Bunyan Days. The competition focused on safety, control and precision handling of the chainsaw.

Wielgosh, a senior at UWRF, said preparation for competition depends mainly on practice.

“Practice is very important, as is becoming comfortable with the saws and understanding the reactive forces of the saw and the wood being cut,” he said.

According to Wielgosh, competition events included the speed cut (making a timed up-cut), the face cut or “notch,” (establishes the felling direction of a tree), the bore (used to safely establish the hinge that will assist in placing a tree safely on the ground), the precision bore (used when a tree diameter is larger than the bar of the saw), precision bucking (cutting a log without cutting surrounding timber), the spring pole (safely releasing tension of a smaller sapling tree that gets bent over when other trees are felled), and the final event of felling a tree (takes all skills and combines them in the process of identifying hazards, lean, hinge information, escape route and cutting plan).

Wielgosh said that he has been using a chainsaw for quite some time, and that his interest mainly came from years spent cutting firewood with his father and uncle.

“They’ve been a large influence on my skills today and my understanding of chainsaws,” he said. “The class on campus interested me greatly and I was more than willing to take the opportunity to compete at the competition.”

Doro said she had different reasons for taking the class.

“I wasn’t really interested in competing at all when I took the class; it was more of a ‘see if I could do it’ thing,” she said.

Wielgosh and Doro both took the preparatory course ESM-191, chainsaw training, last September under the instruction of Professor Mike Kaltenberg. Competitors are selected from that class to participate in the following year competition. According to the eSIS course description, the course provides the basics of chainsaw operation, maintenance, directional felling and safety. It is based on the “Game of Log-



Sally King / Student Voice  
Students Steven Wielgosh and Rebecca Doro participated in the logging competition representing UWRF.

ging” chainsaw training program. Wielgosh and Doro assisted Kaltenberg with the class this fall.

In the competition Wielgosh went from third place to first in the final event of felling the tree.

“I was the only competitor to hit the target. A 4x4 foot target is attached to the tree top and the goal is to measure the height of the tree and place a spike where that target will hit the ground,” he said. “I was dead on for height, but approximately two feet to the left. I had over compensated for the wind that calmed as I released my tree.”

Kaltenberg said the competition had only five competitors this year, while there are usually 15-20.

Prizes were given to the top three finishers in the collegiate division. First place received a prize of \$1,000 while second place received \$500 and third received \$250.

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# Students rally for 350 Initiative

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350.org is an international campaign dedicated to building a movement to unite the world around solutions to the climate crisis, and on Oct. 23, UW-River Falls joined in this movement with a rally in the Falcon’s Nest.

Nikki Shonoiki, co-chair of Rise Up for Women’s Rights, had a big part in organizing the event on campus. Greta Gaard, faculty advisor for Rise Up for Women’s Rights, said she met with Shonoiki earlier this fall and they agreed this issue was an ideal opportunity for coalition-building.

“Student organization representatives were invited to a coalition planning meeting and the [rally] took shape,” Gaard said.

The event for 350.org is co-sponsored by Rise Up in coalition with ECO club, College Democrats, Union of Democratic Progressives and the Gay Straight Alliance.

At Friday’s rally, students wore white t-shirts and painted headbands and their arms and faces with blacklight face paint. The students formed a large “350” and a photograph was taken which will be sent to 350.org and will be displayed on the large TV screens in Times Square.

Events like this were happening in 158 countries around the world and each will send in a photograph to 350. After the photographs are displayed in Times Square, they will be hand delivered to diplomats and delegates and United Nations headquarters in New York City, according

to the 350.org Web site.

Fourth year student Christine Bronk attended the rally and said she thinks it is an important issue to support on a campus.

“Events like this will draw more attention,” Bronk said. “It is no longer a debate about the need to make changes in the atmosphere. It is too late to prevent, so now it is time to demand action.”

350 is important because it’s the number that scientists say is the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide, measured in parts per million in our atmosphere, according to 350.org.

“Currently we are at 390ppm and although our planet isn’t doomed immediately, if we don’t get back down to 350, our climate will continue to change at rapid speeds and we will continue to experience extreme weather when we don’t have to,” Shonoiki said.

The 350 event takes place at this time because it is just six weeks before the UN Climate Convention meets in Copenhagen, Denmark, Gaard said.

“This ‘conference of the parties’ to the UN Convention on Climate Change will draw up an agreement that will replace the Kyoto Protocol,” Gaard said. “The United States produces twenty percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, yet our nation did not even sign the Kyoto Agreement. Without our cooperation, global warming cannot be significantly reduced.”

The Kyoto Agreement was developed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and participating countries have



Above, April Huseby (left) and Christine Bronk paint a “350” banner in special paint so it will show up in the UC black lights. In the bottom left, freshman Kirby Tebeje paints black light paint onto an armband. The bottom right picture shows a finished sign for the event in the front of the Falcon’s Nest as Bronk and Huseby continue to work on the black light banner.



committed to cut emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases including methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride.

Global Warming is a huge issue, according to Bill McKibben, who was one of the first to write a book examin-

ing this issue. In 1989 McKibben wrote a book, “The End of Nature,” and has continued to write essays to bring up the issue. He was joined by many well-known sources including the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and through a series of reports has stated the human-produced causes

of global warming, according to information from Gaard.

“Their reports are taken up by policy-makers who may or may not be happy with the news that we need to cut our global emissions,” Gaard said. “And that most industrialized nations are the ones who need to make the most drastic reductions.”

# College readiness ranks high for Wis.

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A new report published by ACT (American College Testing) profiling each state’s future workforce and readiness for college shows that UW-River Falls’ had 39 percent of ACT scores in the 20-23 range, 25 percent in the 16-19 range and 24 percent in the 24-27 range.

Of this year’s incoming freshman, 63 percent were female and 37 percent were male.

The average ACT composite score in Wisconsin was 22.5 for females and 22.7 for males. The national average was 21.1.

ACT, which has been tracking career interest for over 50 years, compiled the data based on career interest and skill preparation of the 2009 ACT-tested high school graduates.

The results of readiness for Wisconsin indicate that 77 percent of students are prepared for college English composition, 53 percent for college algebra, 62 for college social sciences and 37 percent for college biology.

All four of these percentages are above the national average with around 10 percent more for each category.

The number of students meeting college readiness benchmarks decreased in the state of Wisconsin this year, going from 46,990 to 46,658.

According to the ACT Profile Report, “A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher or above a 75 percent change of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses.”

Fifty-four percent of the graduating students in Wisconsin are female and 46 percent are male. Thirty percent of Wisconsin graduates met all four of the of the ACT benchmark scores.

This is higher than the twenty-three percent of national 2009 high school graduates that met all four of the ACT’s college readiness benchmarks. This is up one percent from 2008.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, based on the 2006-2016 annual projected job openings, the nation’s five fastest-growing career fields are education, computer/information specialties, community services, management and marketing/sales.

For each of the 2016 projected five fastest-growing career fields, more than half of the nation’s 2009 ACT-tested high school graduates interested in these fields did not meet the college readiness benchmarks in mathematics or science.

As a result, many students are not on the right path to take advantage of career opportunities in these high-growth fields.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services Alan Tuchtenhagen believes there is huge disconnect between K-12 education and college course work.

“There is often a disconnect between college and high school,” he said. “Students are not always prepared coming out of high school and as a result, may struggle in the early parts of their college curriculum.”

UWRF junior Kurtis Burton, a Menomonie High School graduate, had a different experience with the disconnect between college and high school course work.

“I felt like I was not prepared for college life based on what I learned in high school. I was wrong; it is just one step up from high school when it comes to most subjects. Yes, we may have fewer hours of class than in high school, but the hours we put in outside of class are greater than in high school. So in my opinion, it balances everything out very nicely and the work between high school and college is about the same,” Burton said.

The average student at UWRF carries about 14 credits per semester. This leaves students with a total of 9-10 semesters to complete before graduating. This can prove a challenge when students take on a double major.

It is these challenges that cause Tuchtenhagen to believe that UWRF freshman need to get ahead early on.

“We need to encourage freshman students to take as rigorous

courses as possible,” Tuchtenhagen said.

UWRF junior Mae Booth experienced these challenges at the beginning of her college career.

“It was a major transition. The course work was larger and more vigorous. I really had to take responsibility by making sure I managed my time well so I could finish all of the tasks that were assigned. After a semester or so I was able to get use to being in college,” Booth said.

Enrollment at UWRF went down in 2008 from 1345 to 1336. However, the retention rate is increasing from years past, according to Tuchtenhagen.

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