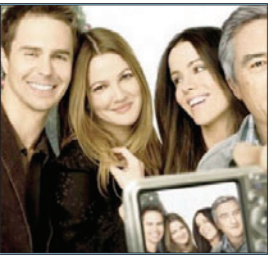




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# STUDENT VOICE

December 11, 2009 [www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com) Volume 97, Issue 12

## UWRF student dies in horseback riding accident

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A UW-River Falls junior died Dec. 4 after a horseback riding accident Nov. 21 on campus. Cayla Ann Hankwitz-Jenss, 22, originally of Appleton, Wis., was flown immediately to Regions Hospital in St. Paul after a trail riding accident where she was thrown from her horse which then landed on her. Hankwitz-Jenss was a pre-veterinary medicine major and chemistry minor. She earned straight A's in high school and was on the Dean's List at UWRF. She joined the U.S. Army Reserves at age 17, and was deployed on a mission to Kuwait during the 2007-08 school year as a Supply Sergeant. She married her husband, Steven Jenss, on Jan. 2. Steven was also in the army,

serving in Kuwait at the time of her accident. Danelle Dernovsek, one of Hankwitz-Jenss' good friends, said she was an extremely thoughtful, caring person. "She touched so many people's lives if even for a brief moment," Dernovsek said. "She was always willing to help others out and she is going to be missed by so many." Steve Kelm, who was Hankwitz-Jenss' academic advisor, said she had many great attributes. "She had the ability to multi-task but in a very calm, focused manner," he said. "She was not easily frazzled - she understood what needed to be done and set about accomplishing the task." Rellen Hardtke, an associate professor in the physics department, taught Hankwitz-Jenss in her Physics 151 course this semes-


ter. She said she was both an extraordinary person and student. "Cayla was an extremely hard worker," she said. "In a way, she was the prototypical UWRF student: one of the first in her family to go to college, handling multiple life demands simultaneously, bright, extremely hard-working, dedicated, kind [and] likable." Hankwitz-Jenss' superb academic achievements did not go unnoticed by her oth-

See Hankwitz-Jenss page 3



Submitted photo  
**UWRF student Cayla Hankwitz-Jenss died Dec. 4 after she was thrown from her horse during a trail ride. Hankwitz-Jenss was 22-years old.**

## Winter storms in



*Sally King/Student Voice*

**UW-River Falls closed its campus Wednesday due to excessive amounts of snow and wind. This marked the first blizzard that River Falls had had for the season. Wisconsin's Governor Jim Doyle made the decision to shut down all state offices because of the severity of the weather.**

## Org sponsors drive to collect school supplies for orphans

Cristy Brusoe  
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Kenyan and Peruvian orphans will be receiving school supplies for Christmas this year from River Falls residents and students who wish to donate. Tomorrow's Educators, a student group in the College of Education and Professional Studies at UWRF, and Pambazuko Partners are sponsoring the drive to collect school supplies from Dec. 1-15. Advisor for Tomorrow's Educators Florence Monsour has received help from her students as well as the organization. "I have solicited help from students in my sections of Educational Psychology. Kylene Kopka and Laura Krenz will be working with the Kenya Pen Pal Project. Both students are in my Educational Psychology classes and are members of Tomorrow's Educators," Monsour said. This is the third annual drive that Tomorrow's Educators has held for orphans and poverty affected children overseas. Each year, Tomorrow's Educators members have participated in pen-pal projects, the start of school libraries, and fund raising for classroom supplies to support educational efforts for HIV/AIDS affected children in Kenya. This year, Peru has been added. "You simply can't imagine the joy that a child in a developing nation feels when they receive a pencil or a softcover book of their own," Linda Alvarez, a UWRF study abroad advisor said. One can donate by placing an item in the designated boxes around River Falls and the University. "If UWRF students are cleaning their rooms in preparation for winter break, they can donate pencils, pens, rulers, scissors, soaps, anything that could assist a child," Alvarez said. The boxes will be located at the front desk of every residence hall on campus, in the staff room or main lobby in the Wyman Education Building, in Tomorrow's Educators Mailbox #134 in the University Center, at the St. Croix

See Orphans page 3

## University student produces, presents 'House of Yes'

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With a cast of five, a student-based production team and director, the Masquers Club is presenting "House of Yes" in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building at UW-River Falls. Unlike "Urinetown," the University's musical production earlier this year, "House of Yes" is a single act play put on entirely by students. Rachel Hafele, a theatre major, Masquers Club member and senior at the University, serves as the production's director. The Masquers Club is a student-based theatre organization on campus. Every year, it puts on one student produced show. Members of the Masquers Club have the opportunity to present an idea and then members discuss the ideas and decide which show to perform. "Ever since I started school at UWRF in 2006, I have wanted to bring this show to the main stage," Hafele said. "I'm so excited. I've loved this show for so long and now finally getting to do this and put it on my resume is

really exciting for me." "House of Yes," is a play originally produced in 1997 by Wendy MacLeod. The story's plot is about a mentally unbalanced woman who flips into a murderous rage when her brother returns home to reveal his engagement. Hafele chose the entire cast, which is made up of five characters, with the help of her production team. "With a small cast it can be hard. You feel like you need to do a better job because there's only a small number of people that you can rely on," actor Beth Van Kampen, who plays Lesly, said. "You need to work extra hard to make the show great." The cast and crew were all very close from the beginning, which presented challenges at times, according to Van Kampen. "Rachel is one of my friends and the entire cast is friends, so it's interesting going from a friend environment to a theatre environment," she said. "It can be challenging with such a close cast because you feel like sometimes you can't be completely honest because you

don't want to ruin friendships." The play includes adult content such as sexual references and dirty humor, giving it a very different feel than "Urinetown," according to Stage Manager Karen Biedermann. "[ 'House of Yes' ] is definitely geared towards adults. There is some adult content that would be inappropriate for children," she said. "If you can keep an open mind and realize this is just a play, I think anyone can enjoy it." Laura Kehl, a student at the University, said she kept an open mind while watching the play. "A friend of mine who had seen the play gave me a feel of what it was about and so I knew I'd be keeping an open mind when going into it," she said. "I definitely enjoyed it though. I didn't think it was inappropriate compared to most other things you see. I thought it was actually very funny and well put together." The play deals with family dysfunctions with a sense of craziness added into it. When a member from outside the home enters, she

invites the craziness to take a part of her. "I think that if I really entered this house, I would have run away screaming," Van Kampen said. "But families are always dysfunctional in one way or another." Biedermann, who was also in the cast of "Urinetown," discussed the advantages of a small production, explaining the experience she has now gained. "I think for production team this has been a lot more of a growing experience," she said. "For me it has really been a growing experience and a good way to learn how to become a leader." Because of a later start to this school year, the production team had only four weeks to put the show together. Typically, they have five to six weeks of preparation. "It has been busy and stressful, but a lot of fun," Hafele said. "I was nervous about it at first, but honestly we probably were ready about a week ago."

See Play page 3



# Local skaters showcase talent

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Students and coaches who are part of the Hunt Arena Skating School (HASS) will be performing in the school’s annual ice show Saturday, Dec. 19, at 5 p.m. in Hunt Arena on the UW-River Falls campus.

This year’s theme is “Billboard Top 20,” and audience members can expect to hear mostly upbeat music as skaters perform to some of their favorite songs. The show is styled after a radio program, right down to a “long-distance phone call,” as this year’s guest skater, Kayla Johnson, is showcased. A senior (the highest possible) level skater, Johnson is a freshman at Northwestern College in Roseville, Minn.

The HASS skaters each wrote their top three favorite songs on a piece of paper and the coaches’ selection of music for the programs went from there.

“We kind of just picked out the songs that would fit the personality of the people who were skating, so the groups that we made we kind of fit the song to their personality and their skating abilities,” Katie Bauer, a HASS coach and UWRF senior who is majoring in animal science, said. Bauer coaches along with four other UWRF students: Alyssa Smith, Eric Pringle, Christina Harstad and Stacy Asp.

“The audience is going to look at the songs in a different way. People listen to songs, but I think this gives a fun feel to it, when you can dance to a song and there are costumes, it makes it more meaningful,” Bauer added.

Preparation for the ice show began in October, which means those involved have had only three months to pull together every detail, right down to the sequins on the costumes.

“We have to think of all the different groups we are going to have,” HASS Director Leah Flanagan said. “[We have to plan] all the music, all the ice times and the coaching numbers and the costumes—basically everything you can think of. It’s very, very busy.”

Bauer said she agrees that much planning goes into pulling off a show of its caliber.

“A lot of time goes into the ice show,



Sally King/Student Voice  
**Victoria Wahlquist, Emily Cox, Alyssa Larsen, Elisabeth Oberlin and Elizabeth Wahlquist practice for Hunt Arena Skating School’s upcoming annual ice show.**

and a lot of creative ideas,” she said. “In order for an ice show to be really good, you have to have creative ideas so that people are interested in it. A lot of teamwork [is necessary] between the coaches because one person can’t do it [on their own]. It has to be all the coaches together.”

But it’s not all work and no play. Emily Cox is a senior at River Falls High School who plans to attend UW-Eau Claire next fall. She is a Freestyle 5 level skater, and with the schedule of a high school senior, she said she enjoys the time she can spend on the ice.

**“In order for an ice show to be really good, you have to have creative ideas so that people are interested in it. A lot of teamwork [is necessary] between the coaches because one person can’t do it [on their own]. It has to be all the coaches together.”**

Leah Flanagan,  
HASS director

“It’s super fun and we all have a good time,” Cox said. “I know one of my teachers went last year and she really liked it—she brought her daughter.”

Though it will not have as dynamic of lighting it’s seen in years past due to the UWRF Fall commencement taking place the day after the show, Flanagan said the ice show will more than make up for that in other ways.

“[The audience can expect] lots of fun costumes,” she said. “This is our first year actually having professional costumes. We only have two slow songs [both solos], so there’s a lot of fun, upbeat music.”

Admission to the ice show is free for students with an ID card, \$4 for children and seniors and \$6 for adults.

## CAFES dean elected to ag association

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Dale Gallenberg, dean of College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES), has been elected to a two-year term with the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources (AASCARR).

AASCARR is an organization of non-land grant universities offering degree programs in agriculture and renewable resources with 45 member organizations in 13 states, according to an October 2009 news release.



Sally King/Student Voice  
**CAFES Dean, Dale Gallenberg, has been elected to a two-year term with the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources (AASCARR).**

According to the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Web site, AASCARR’s mission is to be a forum and unifying force for all faculty, students, staff and administrators of agriculture, food and renewable resource programs at AASCARR state funded public colleges and universities. Members of AASCARR value and promote excellence in science-based teaching with hands on experience, in conducting responsive and issue-based research and in communicating findings to

stakeholders and the general public.

“As dean of CAFES, I have been attending the AASCARR Annual Meeting for the past three years,” Gallenberg said. He said the members of AASCARR who represent the several colleges are usually deans, associate deans, directors or department chairs.

Last year, Gallenberg volunteered to be a member of AASCARR’s Legislative Committee and Public Relations Committee.

“This year I was asked to consider being on the Board of Directors,” Gallenberg said. “I agreed to do so and was formally elected at the meeting.”

His duties entail “working with the officers of AASCARR and other board members on various items of business within the organization,” Gallenberg said. “This includes keeping our member institutions informed of what is going on at other institutions as well as legislative activities in our states and at the federal level.”

“We try to keep folks aware of federal funding opportunities that may exist,” he said. “Overall we are trying to raise the profile of AASCARR institutions within our individual states and across the U.S. by sharing information on our programs and activities.”

According to the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Web site, AASCARR’s Priorities and Goals are to strengthen the influence and impact of AASCARR as an organization, enhance the educational, research and outreach programs at AASCARR institutions and increase participation, collaboration, and support capabilities among AASCARR institutions.

“Our main project this year is trying to secure federal appropriated funding for the Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture as authorizes in the current U.S. Farm Bill,” Gallenberg said. “We will be working with the members of the U.S. Senate and House on getting this appropriation included in their respective bills. The primary thrust of this funding is to provide capacity-building within institutions such as UW-River Falls in our teaching, research and extension/outreach programs to become more competitive with Land Grant universities and other institutions for other federal funding sources that currently exist.”

**“Overall we are trying to raise the profile of AASCARR institutions within our individual states and across the U.S. by sharing information on our programs and activities.”**

Dale Gallenberg,  
CAFES dean

## VOICE SHORTS

### Swimming and Diving program will remain active

UWRF’s intercollegiate Swimming and Diving program will be retained for the 2010-2011 academic year.

The program’s fate was in question due to the lack of a swimming facility on UWRF’s campus.

In his statement on the the Swimming and Diving program, Chancellor Dean Van Galen said he does not expect the program to encounter future challenge, and Van Galen said he is “grateful to everyone who participated in this review, which I believe to have been a fair and transparent process.”

### UWRF to put on first ever ‘Freeze Fest’

Falcon Programs will kick off the first ever “Freeze Fest” spring semester 2010 from Jan. 25-30.

Different events will be held every night of the week. Attendees can expect events ranging from open mic night and sled racing to singer/songwriters and comedians.

For more information, email [fptraditions@uwrf.edu](mailto:fptraditions@uwrf.edu).

### Fall Commencement approaches

The Commencement for fall 2009 graduates will occur at 2 p.m. on Dec. 20 in the Robert P. Knowles Center.

For more information about Commencement, visit <http://www.uwrf.edu/commencement/welcome.html>.

## UWRF signs new machinery contract

Christina Lindstrom  
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Many UW-River Falls students on or around the lab farms, and even some on campus will be seeing more red over the next few years.

“It’s wonderful that your [Case IH] and our colors match,” Chancellor Dean Van Galen said Dec. 2 in his opening remarks at the ceremony held on campus to sign a contract with Case IH.

UW-River Falls, specifically the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science, signed a 10-year rolling agreement with Case IH, based out of Racine, Wis. The agreement will allow the UWRF lab farms and facilities management to receive brand new Case IH machinery each year for the next 10 years. The same agreement was made between UW-Platteville and Case IH in May. The agreement was proposed by Case IH.

“It took some time to convince the University (both Platteville and River Falls) that we were sincere and real in this offer,” Manager of Government Sales Patricia Lardie said.

She said Case IH also has agreements with North Dakota State University, Texas A&M, Utah State and the University of Ontario. They’re also working out an agreement with North-central Technical College in Wausau for their dairy program. Lardie said this agreement allows a great partnership between UWRF, Value Implement, Case IH and the community, and allows the universities to be exposed to going forward. It allows an opportunity to experience equipment every year.

Jeff Rohrscheib, manager of the Osseo Value Implement, agreed that the agreement will help build the relationship between the school and ag community.

The chancellor spoke of the University’s commitment to education, and said he believes that this opportunity will fuel that commitment. UWRF lab farm directory Bill Connolly also spoke, saying that this is all about education for UWRF. The school’s mission is to support the education of students, and the agreement with Case IH will enhance the mission. CAFES Dean Dale Gallenberg added that this agreement will expose students and staff on campus to technology.

Senior ag engineering major William Pettis said he wishes the opportunity had risen about four years ago.

“It would have been fun working with the new equipment in class. I believe that this will give the students more real world problems to solve,” he said.

Any machinery the University currently owns that Case

IH manufactures will be replaced with brand new equipment, and the University will be able to create a wish list of machinery it would like to receive, but may not necessarily need.

According to Connolly, the University’s priority list for the lab farms includes a 180 PTO horse power front wheel drive tractor, a disc chisel plow, disc with spike tooth harrow attachment, a combine with yield mapping and skid steers. He said the approach to receiving the equipment would be seasonal; for example, the combine will arrive in early fall.

Unfortunately, construction machinery will not be available to the University, but according to Gallenberg, Case will provide accessories to tractors, such as grappling hooks, to allow work to be done. Facilities management will have access to tractor mounted mowers, skid steers, and other equipment such as pay loaders to push snow and move fuel for the power generator. The complete line of machinery is not yet put together.

One piece of equipment Gallenberg specifically mentioned was the combine with GPS technology. The University has not been able to afford equipment such as this in the past, but with it will be able to utilize the GPS technology for yield mapping and field mapping.

Chair of the ag engineering technology department, Dean Olson, said that agriculture will have to increase food production by seven percent in the near future. He said that when he was younger, those involved in ag production had to work long, hard hours and be a “jack of all trades.” He said he feels the same holds true today. The agreement with Case IH will give UWRF a state-of-the-art, living laboratory on the lab farm.

Gallenberg said that though the contract is currently effective, most of the new equipment will not arrive until next cropping season. The University is receiving the equipment under normal lease terms, brand new and under warranty, for a very nominal fee. The University will be responsible for maintenance and repair costs, but compared to the cost being saved by not having to purchase the equipment, the budget will not suffer.

According to Gallenberg, the cost to the University is one cent per piece of equipment per year. The machinery will be replaced at the end of every year, giving the University access to new equipment technology on an ongoing basis.

“Each new season is a new year with new equipment,” Gallenberg said.



# Program bridges relationship between professors, students

Katie Herr  
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First year students have the opportunity to get to know their professors better with the First Year Experience “Out to Lunch” program.

The program was created to give students a way to become more connected with their professors.

“The program gives students a chance to interact with their professor outside of class,” FYE Student Manager Mike Vanselow said.

A few students have taken advantage of the new program, but FYE hopes that more will participate.

FYE Director Sarah Egerstrom said that less than a dozen students have taken advantage of the program. She said she encourages others to not be afraid to approach their professors.

“The students who have done it had enjoyable experiences,” she said. “They said they now feel more comfortable asking questions in class and approaching their professor for help.”

The program offers a unique situation where students are able to share a meal and conversation with professors outside of the classroom setting.

FYE New Student and Family Program Coordinator Maggie Funk said the purpose of this program is to promote faculty

and students interacting outside the classroom.

“This program provides students and faculty with an opportunity to connect and discuss topics from class,” she said. “It also gives the students a chance to learn about careers in that field of study and future internships and employment.”

First year student Nene Eze has participated in this program and said she had a great experience.

“I took my advisor out to lunch and we had a lot to discuss,” she said. “It was really nice having at least one hour of her time devoted to answering my questions.”

Suzy Rogers was taken out to lunch by one of her business law students and said she really enjoyed the event.

“It was a good opportunity to learn more about her life and experiences,” she said. “I also discovered that the cafeteria has much better food than we got when I was in college.”

Psychology professor Todd Wilkinson had the opportunity to go out to lunch with his entire first-year learning community class.

“It was a good opportunity to spend time with the students,” he said. “It was unstructured and we were able to talk about things other than school.”

He said he liked their energy and enthusiasm and was happy to have the experience outside of class to engage with them.

Egerstrom said most of the students who have participated in this program are connected to the FYE office.

“We want to get more students informed of this program so they are able to take advantage of it,” she said.

First-year student Jessica Peterson said she did not want to participate at first but is glad that she did. She added that the program would be very beneficial if more students knew it existed.

Peterson also suggested that each first-year student should be required to participate in the program.

Eze added that professors should be made more aware of this program so they will not be surprised when a student approaches and asks them out to lunch.

Some students may be a bit intimidated at the idea of asking a professor out to lunch, but students who have participated said it was not as bad as they thought.

Eze said she would suggest students take the bold step and ask.

“It doesn’t hurt to try,” she said, “and you will be glad that you did.”



Maggie Funk

## Hankwitz-Jenss: UWRF student received military honors after funeral

from page 1

er professors either.

“She is one of the only people to get 100’s on my Zoology exams, and I used to tease her about being an overachiever,” Biology Professor Betsy Gerbec said. “She would laugh, but it made her determined to get high A’s on the rest of them.”

Hardtke said several members of the campus community met Monday to discuss the University’s response to Hankwitz-Jenss’ death. The meeting included a number of her professors, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Gregg Heinselmann, the UWRF Behavior Intervention Team, and Gretchen Link and Mark Huttemeier, both counselors from UWRF Counseling Services.

As of Tuesday night, a Facebook support group entitled “Prayers for Cayla Hankwitz-Jenss” had more than 680 members, many of which shared inspirational quotes and personal stories involving Hankwitz-Jenss. The group also contained a link to her Caring Bridge Web site.

“It is obvious that Cayla had a big heart, welcoming others into her life yet demanding nothing in return,” Kelm said. “For someone who was 22 years old, she had a clear view of the ‘big picture,’ [and] a very mature, grounded personality.”

Gerbec said losing Hankwitz-Jenss, her Zoology student assistant, has been a difficult experience for her to deal with.

“It was so easy to believe that she’d pull through, that eventually everything would be fine, and as the news got worse we had to swallow hard and admit that everything wasn’t going to be fine,” she said. “It was hard to see such a young person, full of life and energy and promise, go through this and then not come out of it in the end.”

Hankwitz-Jenss’ funeral was held at 4 p.m. Thursday at Christ the Rock Community Church in Menasha, Wis. She received full military honors after the service. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund was established in her name.



Submitted photo  
UWRF student Cayla Hankwitz-Jenss was awarded military honors after her death for serving in Kuwait.

For UWRF students who were unable to attend the funeral, an on-campus memorial in her honor will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday in Ballroom D of the University Center. UWRF Counselor Gretchen Link said counselors will be on hand at the event to talk with and help students who may be having a hard time dealing with Hankwitz-Jenss’ death. Additionally, Link said counselors are currently available - and will be during J-term and next semester - to assist students if needed.

Hankwitz-Jenss is survived by her husband, Steven Jenss; mother, Sherry Walker; father, Dennis Hankwitz; sisters, Cara and Candice Hankwitz; brother, Cory Hankwitz; and her in-laws and two grandmothers, Shirley Herbst and Lila Strong.

Dernovsek said donations are being accepted to help Steven Jenss pay for medical costs. Any donations are accepted, with \$2 being the minimum donation amount. A ribbon in memory of Hankwitz-Jenss will be provided to those who donate, Dernovsek said.

## Orphans: Tomorrow’s Educators to send donated items to Kenya, Peru

from page 1

Bowling Alley and outside of Econo Foods.

Those who would like to give can donate anything used for writing or coloring, paper, notebooks, children’s paperback books and cash donations (placed in an envelope and in mailbox #134).

According to Andrea Turek, Tomorrow’s Educators president, the donated items will be sent through the mail just before Christmas time.

“They will be delivered to the main coordinator in the Kenya slum, where we are sending this,” Turek said.

According to the flyer put out by Tomorrow’s Educators, a pencil in Kenya is 30 cents and the average monthly income is \$30.00. Uniforms must be worn in order to attend school and the average classroom ratio is 100 students per one teacher.

In Peru, the school districts are growing quickly with little funds to support the change. Children between the ages six and 15 have a teacher-student ratio of three to 150.

“The poor children in Peru and Kenya make up a large portion of citizens for the future,” Alvarez said.

“Therefore, if we want developing nations to advance, they must have an educated population.”

Linda Alvarez  
Study abroad advisor

“The poor children in Peru and Kenya make up a large portion of citizens for the future. Therefore, if we want developing nations to advance, they must have an educated population.”

## Play: Student production portrays family dysfunction, utilizes comedy

from page 1

It felt like a family environment. That’s not something you usually feel, and it was nice because we were very close to each other and it was nice to have that family feeling,” Hafele said. “You usually have that within the cast but to have that with your director and production team as well is a huge thing.”

The show opened last weekend and continues Friday, Saturday and Sunday, starting each night at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for students and \$8.00 for adults.

With finals week approaching, Beidermann said she found the play more helpful than stressful.

“‘House of Yes’ has definitely been a stress reliever,” she said. “It’s nice not to think about class and exams, and just focus on this.”

Overall the experience was memorable and educational, according to Van Kampen, Hafele and Biedermann.

“With this show, since we’re all students,

“‘House of Yes’ has definitely been a stress reliever.”  
Karen Beidermann  
Stage manager

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Offer Expires: December 22, 2009

## 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](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com)

Be the first person to report the find and win two free movie passes

Last week's winner: Tracie Gillund

We will be returning next semester.



EDITORIAL

Winter weather requires drivers to be prepared

Although his arrival was a little later than usual, Old Man Winter has descended on UW-River Falls. And in a big way. Wednesday’s severe winter weather, which closed down the state of Wisconsin, served as more than just a school-canceling blizzard, it was a harsh reminder to all students that winter in this state can be brutal. The Student Voice Editorial Board wants to urge all students to take the time to make sure they are prepared for the season.

Now that there is accumulated snow on the ground, and temperatures have dropped to below freezing, it is important to practice safe driving practices. Although it is important to be a defensive and aware driver year-round, there are new hazards that students need to watch out for when they get behind the wheel - packed down snow, black ice, white-out conditions and out-of-control vehicles, just to name a few. Students need to slow down while driving and be extremely cognoscent of the weather conditions and other drivers and pedestrians. One never knows when a car will roll through an intersection or stop sign because their breaks have locked up, for example. This means that if you need to give yourself a little extra time to get somewhere, than you must plan for that and leave early. Ignoring the road conditions and driving as if on warm, dry roads can have fatal repercussions.

It is also crucial for students to prepare emergency kits that can be kept in the back seats and trunks of cars. These kits should include a blanket, gloves, some edible provisions, cat litter, a flashlight, hand warmers and jumper cables. These items could save you time, money, an appendage or your life. Beyond having an emergency kit, make sure to also have a list of emergency contacts that live close enough that they can offer some assistance if the situation should arise. Along with those names and numbers, have a few numbers to call for towing services, as well, just in case.

But it is not enough to simply call someone to help. What if the person who arrives to give aid doesn’t have jumper cables, or the basic know-how to use them? Take your winter safety into your own hands. Buy a set of jumper cables that never leave your car, and fully understand how to use them.

With winter break approaching, a lot of students will be driving home for the holidays. Make sure to be prepared when driving home, or when driving anywhere. The moderate amount of time and money required to become prepared pales in comparison to your life.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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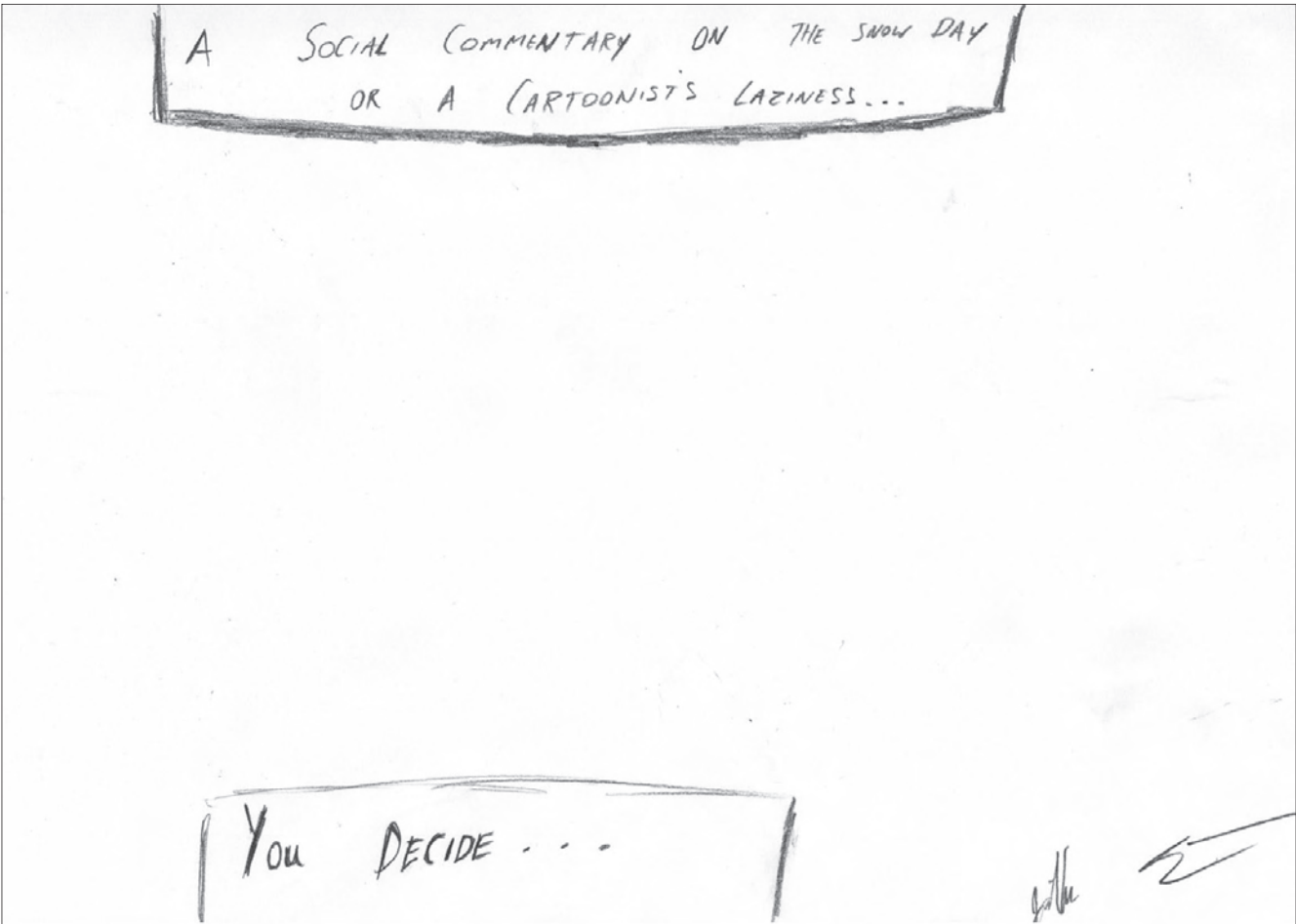
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**WNA**

**WISCONSIN**

**NEWSPAPER**

**ASSOCIATION**



By Jon Lyksett

Holiday decorations lacking inclusiveness

Walking into the University Center today, we were greeted with the welcoming sound of the melody “Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire” floating through the air. Glancing around, we noted the snowflakes that descended gently from the rafters, the garland wrapped around every banister, and the wreath that was jauntily placed near the stairway. It is clear that we are in the “holiday” season. And by holiday, we mean to say that we, as an institution, are stuck – “holiday” has

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

somehow become synonymous with “Christmas” at UWRF, excluding all other celebrations that occur during these months.

It’s not even just the decorations that signify a lack of awareness of holidays that fall outside the realm of Christianity. This obliviousness is evident in the planning of the academic calendar. Finals week this year starts and ends at the same time as Hanukah, preventing students from being with their families to observe this significant celebration.

While there is no consideration of these holidays during scheduling, there is also sparse acknowledgement of these holidays in other capacities. The sole representation of an assortment of

holidays lies only in the margins of the official UWRF planner. The celebration of Hanukah, Kwanzaa, Eid al-Fitr, and Pancha Ganapti are all overlooked and passed by entirely unacknowledged.

Don’t get us wrong, we are not a couple of Grinches trying to erase Christmas. We think it should be recognized. We are, however, asking this institution, and the people it serves, to move past the “Christmas” season and begin to embrace the recognition of other holidays that exist outside the scope of Christianity.

Brad Kerschner  
Jenn Lambert

Faith can take unexpected journey

Nothing had ever felt so close to paralysis like this moment before me. I didn’t cry. I couldn’t breathe. It was as though I had stepped outside my own life and could only play the part of a silent onlooker.

As I watched the ambulance crew lift my dad onto a stretcher, I barely noticed the woman crying. I paid no attention to the impatient helicopter. I hardly recognized the now-mangled symbol of my dad’s passion: his Harley. I could feel my emotions abandoning me as everything that surrounded me faded away.

And then I am five years old again. My dad

in the waiting room, prayers were whispered and Bible verses were recited. The moment the doctor walked in the room, I felt as though we were in the middle of a cliché scene of a movie. Everyone played their part effortlessly. My sister and mother held hands, bracing themselves for a life change. The doctor cleared his throat uncomfortably.

My confidence grew as he explained the series of injuries my father had sustained. As serious as they sounded, I was confident of not only my faith, but of my father’s strength. I tried to



Jenna Nelson

reached 60. The number 60 meant fatality.

For the first time that day, I felt hope leaving me behind. One medical test later, the brain dead diagnosis shattered any illusion of faith that I was clinging to.

I felt betrayed. I wanted to scream in the midst of tears and hugs, to accuse God of leading me on with false promises.

And then I’m five years old again. My dad promises me he won’t let anything happen to me as I ride my bike for the first time. Upon falling, I demand to know why my dad lied, why he let me fall. He explains how if I don’t fall, I’ll never learn. And this is where I learn everything I will need to know about faith.

Months after my dad’s death, I recognized my misconception about faith. I read somewhere once that God had three answers to prayer: “Yes. Not yet. Or I have something better in mind.” Faith was trusting in a plan that I had yet to see. Faith was not a guarantee that my prayers would be answered my

As [my dad] prays, I find my five year old skepticism questioning how he knows this will work, how he knows God is listening. “I have faith,” is always his reply.

are clasped tightly together, just like he taught me. As he prays, I find my five year old skepticism questioning how he knows this will work, how he knows God is listening.

“I have faith,” is always his reply. For a five year old, a simple answer always felt unfairly unsatisfying.

“But why?” I persist. He explains how he trusts God without knowing His plan or understanding His reasons. And this is where I learn everything I needed to know about faith.

As I welcomed myself back into reality, I felt an overwhelming sense of comfort. I had faith. I found myself wanting to comfort the people around me—to reassure them that ever—thing would be fine—that with a faith as unshakeable as mine was that day, nothing could hurt us.

As my boyfriend drove me to the hospital, words had no place in the car.

I was too preoccupied with preparing my contract with God. I bargained. I pleaded. I promised promises that would have been impossible to keep.

The hospital greeted us with the smell of sterility and the feeling of tension. As family and friends gathered

ignore the words “severe head trauma” and “no helmet.” And then it came... the word that stole my breath and left me choking for air: “Insurvivable.”

My heart refused to connect to those words. I disregarded those and instead held on to the doctor’s next words with all my might: “...miracles do happen.” I refused to listen to anyone who didn’t believe we would witness a miracle that day. When my dad’s brain pressure displayed shocking numbers, I blamed the machine. I shook everything off as a test of faith.

Then my dad’s brain pressure increased. As stated

My heart refused to connect to those words. I disregarded those and instead held onto the doctor’s next words with all my might: “...miracles do happen.”

For the first time that day, I felt hope leaving me behind. One medical test later, the brain dead diagnosis shattered any illusion of faith that I was clinging to.

in the Web site [braininjury.com](http://braininjury.com), a healthy brain’s intracranial pressure should be between zero and 10. Anything more than 40 would lead to neurological dysfunction.

The pressure of my dad’s brain had

way.

Hebrews 11:1 states this about faith: “Having faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” I began to trust once more that God had His reasons, and although they were unknown to me, they served their purpose.

When my family heard from the hospital, we found out that my dad had saved six lives.

God put my prayers on hold in order to answer the prayers of six other people awaiting a transplant. My dad didn’t want it any other way.

He always said when it’s his time to go he wanted to die on his Harley and to save someone’s life. His prayers were answered.

Jenna Nelson is a senior journalism major who is the front page editor of the Student Voice. She enjoys dogs, One Tree Hill and spending time with her family.



# Celebrities falling from grace reminds fans they are human

I’m sure the last thing you might want to read about is Tiger Woods, and the events that have taken place in the past two weeks. Since my good pal Derek Johnson is covering my beloved sports team this week, I thought I might examine how people admire “famous persons,” from professional athletes to Hollywood celebrities. There is nothing wrong with looking up to these people as role models, but it seems all too often people damn near worship the ground they walk on.

Admittedly, it’s sad when someone you look up to does something disappointing (winner for obvious statement of the month), whether it’s breaking the law, or something people might consider immoral and wrong.

A lot of these people think that they are above the law and un-touchable. Quite often they don’t even have to break the law to show that they think so highly of themselves.

Look at Tiger Woods’ situation. I’ve always greatly respected Tiger Woods as an athlete and person, and I think a lot of people, before these last few weeks, would have agreed that he is the prime example of a “perfect role model.”

All his situation has shown, or should have shown us, is that truly everyone makes mistakes, and no one, despite their image, is perfect. Some people think his actions should end his career, while others think that it should be soon forgotten. The only thing that his “situation” makes me think/feel, is just straight up confusion and frustration.

Honestly, man, you have quite literally everything. Not only are

one of the most beloved athletes of our time, but you have the wife, kids, house, career, fame, and not to mention, millions upon millions of dollars.

Why would you risk it all on these “alleged” impulses to do something that, considering what’s at stake, clearly isn’t worth the risk?

On the other hand, there is no way I’m going to smack the gavel on Tiger. I feel that the media is re-

ally, really good at making people incredibly judgmental and negative. Seriously, can you imagine having everyone in the nation keeping an eye on every little significant

thing you do? There’d be nothing to worry about, right? We’re all innocent and have never done anything wrong that’s news worthy.

I can’t imagine the feeling of frustration and anger with someone trying to weasel their way in to your life, tweaking every detail in hopes that it might be the next big story. Sure, there are media outlets out there that are objective about the whole thing, but it’s not really objective when you have a “television news show” that has a split screen four ways discussing their “opinions” on how and why you’re a bad person.

Why do people care so much about what these “celebrities” are doing? Why would you invest so much emotion and care into what someone else does with their life? If it’s a charitable ordeal, or something like that, then that’s obviously different.

Curiosity isn’t a bad thing, but when someone else’s life becomes an obsession, and sadly, in today’s paparazzi world, a living, I personally think it’s wrong on many

levels.

This mentality of “I’m untouchable” can be seen all over the place. Look at Chad (Johnson) Ochocinco. Week in and week out he’s engaging in “shocking” behavior.

As an NFL fan, it ticks me off when he does these publicity stunts because I feel that it damages the integrity of the game, but what’s it saying to young athletes and people that look so highly upon these superstars? Ochocinco is being fined week after week for tens of thousands of dollars, but still continues to engage in the same behaviors. I feel like this sends a message of “go ahead and do whatever you want, because if you’re good at something, no one will care what you do, right or wrong.”

I’m not saying that’s what everyone is going to get/take from someone like Ochocinco’s actions, but that doesn’t take away from fact that continues violate the different conduct rules of the NFL without a care in the world, and all he gets is a slap on the wrist.

To say that young minds aren’t affected, consciously or subliminally, by something like this would be ignorant considering all the exposure and merchandise the “youth” today are involved with anything from clothing to video games.

In the end it’s a big debate that will always have many sides about how certain actions should be viewed, punished and dealt with. Obviously, I think certain situations with these celebrities should be dealt with accordingly regarding the severity of the situation.

However, some people might consider Tiger’s actions worse than Michael Vick’s years ago. All of a sudden, we’re back to square one of the argument.

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

# Winter fashion advice



Priya Kailash

Hello River Falls, the last edition of the Student Voice is here, along with the realization that there are only a few days of lectures and labs left for this semester.

However, this does mean that finals are fast approaching and it is important to start planning ahead and to

exercise proper time management skills to avoid feeling too overwhelmed later on.

This semester, there have been many discussions on fashion, styles, accessories, and ways for men and women to express their fashion sense in a unique way around campus. The people who were weekly features offered a large variety of different personalities and styles.

As the holidays approach and we are once again safely home, surrounded by warm, delicious cooking, it is important to keep your waist-line in mind.

It is easy to pack away the pounds during the colder months. What is more inviting—steamy hot cocoa under the fire or going outside in the freezing cold for a run?

That is why joining a gym or buying yourself personal treadmill/weights becomes all the more essential in the winter. When I go home, I find it easier just to talk to my local fitness club about my short-term stay and together figure out the best plan for me to join. Informing fitness clubs that you’re a college student doesn’t hurt either; there are many discounts for younger adults that we should be taking advantage of.

I decided to finish off the semester-long fashion column with general advice and a really versatile item.

## Item of the week: Accessories

When people think of accessories, it is important not to limit your thinking. Don’t be under the assumption that only fancy jewelry and

## Cartilage and earlobe piercings are a nice touch when kept tasteful.

expensive rings can be considered accessories. Accessories can include everything from scarves to jewelry to headbands. They are the simple things one can use to liven up an outfit that would otherwise lack character.

A brightly-colored scarf can be combined with a neutral top to instantly add more color and interest to the outfit.

If you are planning on wearing a V-neck dress or a low-cut nice shirt, try pairing it with a small O-shaped necklace that could delicately lay on your décolleté – a most flattering and elegant of looks.

Accessories are not limited anymore. People even consider piercings and tattoos part of their accessories. However, I recommended you think long and hard before committing yourself to a tattoo, as it is a permanent procedure that can only be removed by expensive laser treatments.

Cartilage and earlobe piercings are a nice touch when kept—don’t get carried away. Little studs or pearl earrings look great with any outfit and is a classic look for many women. But if you have the personality and the willingness, gauges and large earrings can add a lot of interest and uniqueness.

Graduating seniors, keep up with UWRF by visiting the “Student Voice” website at [www.uwrfvoice.com](http://www.uwrfvoice.com). Be sure to check the website for a look at this week’s feature, Joe McMahon, a junior with a sophisticated and preppy style. He has a personality that makes him stand out from the crowd. Read up on his style and looks by visiting the website and clicking on the “Fashion Tab.”

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

# As finals near, columnist offers ways to relieve stress



Laura Krawczyk

As college students we all know the world of stress. Along with the holidays and summertime, we anticipate (with much

less enthusiasm) finals, papers, projects and for some, graduation. Deadlines create “dead” students: the zombie-like people who forget why they attend class in the first place, what day it is, and if they should eat or write...or is there a difference? Our heads go numb, we might drool a little, and we often cannot be startled no matter the circumstances.

I accidentally dropped a textbook next to this guy’s desk the other day-he didn’t even hear me apologize for the noise. Yet somehow, being the warriors we are, we survive this time of the semester and continue the cycle until graduation. That’s stamina.

We each have our own little arsenal of techniques to deal with the stress we encounter, personalized for that superhero within. I decided to see what interesting (and appropriate) stress-relieving techniques some students use and share these tools. We are all in this together.

One of the first techniques I discovered as a favorite among students was to simply take a walk. While the recent brisk weather makes a walk an epic battle of wind and ice, just think of that stress becoming the least of your worries when you can’t feel your toes anymore.

## While the recent brisk weather makes a walk an epic battle of wind and ice, just think of that stress becoming the least of your worries when you can’t feel your toes anymore.

We always miss things when they’re gone. Yet once a student gets bundled up, a walk on campus can be very beneficial. A mind can be completely cleared on the many paths throughout campus. Perhaps while strolling the campus grounds, a student could unwind

even more whilst sipping green tea. Tea has benefits that are worth looking up, and green tea in particular has the ability to sooth stress and repair some damage with its many antioxidants.

A walk may work for others, but there are the rest of us who prefer warmth this time of year. Stretching in the shower is another technique to calm down. In the shower, the warm water relaxes muscles and makes the stretches easier to perform. Just remember to keep balance in mind. Its embarrassing trying to explain a black eye acquired from a Pantene bottle.

The next technique is commonly used but worth mentioning. Listen to music! We have our mp3 players and a few stubborn Walkmen filled with hand-picked

## We have our mp3 players and a few stubborn Walkmen filled with hand-picked music. This is a great resource for reducing stress. Music is as diverse as the human species and as customizable as coffee.

music. This is a great resource for reducing stress. Music is as diverse as the human species and as customizable as coffee.

Often we turn to our earphones when we’ve had a bad day—why not try it for stress? If music isn’t your thing, laugh instead. Laughter works to reduce anxiety and distract from worry. Think about what is funny to you and seek it out. Watch a funny clip online, listen to a favorite comedian, or joke around with your friends. If the laughs won’t start, just try to smile. The action triggers our brain to act a bit happier. And while you’re smiling don’t forget to breathe—blue’s not your color. Deep breaths calm the body, reducing tension, and therefore, stress.

Good luck with finals. It is a rough, long ride, but remember there is an end. Walk, breathe, listen—while these seem like obvious tasks, in the bustle they sometimes get left behind. And shower. Hygiene’s sometimes a simple matter of public service.

While you’re sitting with your studies, smile. If you don’t feel a little better, at least everyone else will leave you alone in peace and quiet.

*Laura Krawczyk is a junior majoring in marketing communications and communications studies.*

# STUDENT VOICES

## What are your plans for winter break?

### Mary Ann Hoffelt, sophomore

“I’m going to prepare for studying abroad in Scotland.”



### Alex Nichols, sophomore

“I’m going home and celebrating Christmas with family, heading to Chicago and then to South Carolina for a vacation.”

### Shadow Lysdahl, senior

“I’m attending military school and going back home for Christmas.”



### Bryan Bodrog, senior

“I’m taking a trip to California and relaxing.”



# Men’s hockey handles St. Mary’s University, prepares for UW-Stout

Blaze Fugina  
blaze.fugina@uwrf.edu

The 10th-ranked UW-River Falls men’s hockey team shut out non-conference opponent St Mary’s and scored seven goals at Hunt Arena Dec. 4.

The seven goals came off 32 shots on the Cardinals’ goaltender, while the Falcons’ Bo Storozuk saved all 16 shots put on goal in the game.

The game was played on a Friday evening at 7 p.m. in front of 875 fans.

After the first period, the Falcons were still in a close game, with only a one goal lead. The lone goal in the first period was scored by Ben Beaudoin, his fifth on the season. The goal was assisted by Justin Brossman.

The Falcons put up a larger lead in the second period, however, with four goals. Two of the goals were scored by Jamie Ruff, his first and second of the season. Nolan Craner and Josh Calleja scored the other two goals of the period.

Ryan Goodman, Ruff, Tad Norris and Tyler Czuba all received assists in the period.

In the third period, two Falcon players also put shots in the back of the net. Czuba scored a goal assisted by Calleja, and Andy Inderieden also scored unassisted.

Fans in attendance also received tickets for free cookies, as happens when the Falcons score at least seven goals in a home game.

The team noted that good play and strong defense were the keys to the victory.

“We had real good structure defensively,” Head Coach Steve Freeman said. “We moved the puck well.”

The Falcons said that the strong defense helped the team perform on offense.

“We tightened up on defense, which helped our offense,” Norris said.

Assistant Coach Bob Ritzer also said that the Falcons “executed well, played well defensively, and the goalie played well.”

Beaudoin said the team skated hard to make sure they did not overlook St. Mary’s.

“We lost to them in overtime last year.”

Even though the game was against a non-conference opponent, the team still said

that the win was an important one.

“By the end [of the season], every game counts,” Freeman said. “You need to notch wins.”

Freeman also said every win is important so the team can build its case to play in the NCAA tournament.

“Our goal is to qualify for the NCAA tournament,” Freeman said. “We need to get in to win big.”

Steve Freeman men’s hockey head coach

“Our goal is to qualify for the NCAA tournament. We need to get in to win big.”

Steve Freeman men’s hockey head coach


# Women’s basketball ranked No. 23



Sally King/Student Voice

**Falcon guard Jenna Hanson (24) watches as Tiffany Gregorich (23) battles UWSP guard Josi Schultz (5) in the Falcon’s victory over the then-ranked No. 15 Pointers. The victory advances UWRF to 6-0 overall, 2-0 in WIAC play.**

# Packers hitting stride at right time, seeing potential for playoffs



Derek Johnson

After an up and down first half of the season and two consecutive losses to the division-leading Minnesota Vikings and last place NFC team the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Packers sat at 4-4 and far from the playoff conversation. Four weeks and four wins later, the Packers sit at 8-4 and hold the sixth spot in the NFC playoffs.

The Packers are quietly putting together a successful season with the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints getting the most media attention, as they are still undefeated this late in the season. The 40-year -old Favre-led Minnesota Vikings are getting media attention as well, as they are 10-2 with the third-best record in the NFL.

Signs are pointing to the Packers being one of the more dangerous teams when the playoffs roll around. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers is having a Pro Bowl season, and could even be considered in the MVP discussion. He has the fourth-best passer rating and ranks in the top five in passing yards, touchdowns, and interceptions given up among quarterbacks with at least 200 passing attempts. The Packers rushing offense ranks 13th of the 32 NFL teams, but running back Ryan Grant ranks 8th in rushing yards, 18th in touchdowns, and hasn’t fumbled the ball once this year. On the other side of the ball, the Packers rank first in total defense, giving up the least amount of yards and ranking eighth in points given up. Add that up with having the best turnover ratio (plus 18) gives the Packers and their defense a lot of credibility should they take one of the two wild-card spots in the playoffs.

Now, before we hand the Packers a wild-card spot, keep in mind there are four weeks left in the season and anything can happen. The Packers are a heavily-penalized team, and the nation saw it last Monday against the Baltimore Ravens. Also, the Packers only hold a one-game lead over the New York Giants and two games over the Atlanta Falcons. It is possible to lose two, three, or even all four and lose one of the wild-card spots.

However, the Packers have a manageable rest of the season as they go on the road the next two weeks to face the struggling Chicago Bears and Pittsburgh Steelers. The Packers will host the Seattle Seahawks in week 16 and will go on the road to close out the regular season against the Arizona Cardinals. The way the Packers are peaking right now, a reasonable prediction is that they could win three of their last four games. This could result in a possible scenario for Packer and Viking fans to have the teams play each other for the third time this season in the playoffs. In 2004, the Packers swept the Vikings in the regular season and the Vikings got revenge in the wild-card round of the playoffs, knocking the Packers out of the playoffs. Could it be vice versa this year? It should be a fun and exciting last four weeks of the 2009 NFL season.

Signs are pointing to the Packers being one of the more dangerous teams when the playoffs roll around.

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

# Weekly sports wrap

**Men’s basketball**

-The Falcons continued their losing streak, falling to UW-Stevens Point, 73-61, on Dec. 5. Jontae Koonkaew led the team with 17 points and four assists, while Brady Hanigan accumulated 12 points and one assist. Other top Falcon scorers included Wade Guerin with nine points and Aaron Anderson with eight. The loss gives the team a 2-5 record on the season.

**Women’s basketball**

-Tiffany Gregorich finished with 19 points and her sister Brittany Gregorich had 14 points as the Falcon women defeated No. 15 UW-Stevens Point, 72-61, on Dec. 5. Tiffany also had a team-high three steals. Maranda Dohrn led the team in rebounds with seven. With the victory, the team improved their record to 6-0 overall, and also lead the conference at 2-0.

-Tiffany Gregorich was named the WIAC Player of the Week. She currently leads the Falcons in scoring, averaging 16.5 points a game. She has also been averaging 2.7 rebounds per game, and also has 13 assists and 12 steals on the season.



Tiffany Gregorich

**Men’s swimming and diving**

-The UWRF swimming and diving team hosted its Falcon Invitational Dec. 4 and 5 at the University of Minnesota. Kevin O’Brien took 14th place in the 100 free with a time of 50.25,

and 12th in the 200 butterfly with a time of 2:08.66. Ray Carlos finished 11th in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:24.46, and Anthony Orlando was 23rd in the mile swim with 20:03.83. The men’s team finished eighth overall.

**Women’s swimming and diving**

-Hannah Wiseman was eighth in the mile swim with a time of 19:12.32. In the women’s 200 freestyle, Emily Stein was first with a time of 2:06.26, and Victoria Jambretz and Randdi Tutor finished first and third, respectively, in the 50 yard freestyle event. The women finished 10th overall as a team. Full meet results can be found at uwrf.edu/sports.

**Women’s hockey**

-The No. 4 UWRF women’s hockey team lost to Adrian Bulldogs 3-2 Dec. 6. Jamie Briski scored her fifth goal of the season while Alyssa Jackson scored her third on the season. Falcon Goaltender Melissa Deardorff made 25 saves in the game but recorded her first loss of

For additional coverage of Falcon athletics, tune in to WRFW 88.7 or listen live at pureradio887.com.

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**The UWRF fall '09 Student Voice Staff**  
**Top Row:**  
 Renee Thony,  
 Kevin Duzynski,  
 Ken Weigend,  
 Alayne Hockman,  
 Aaron Billingsley,  
 Andy Phelps.

**Bottom Row:**  
 Eric Pringle,  
 Jenna Nelson,  
 Sally King,  
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