



# STUDENT VOICE

October 29, 2010

www.uwrvoice.com

Volume 97, Issue 7

## Master Plan dictates UWRF's future

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Moving the sciences to one building location and having Centennial Science Hall converted into regular classrooms was one of the recurring ideas brought up at the UW-River Falls Campus Master Plan feedback sessions on Oct. 11 and 12.

Approximately 110 students, faculty, staff and community members attended the open feedback sessions.

These sessions, hosted by the hired consulting company JJR Inc. from Madison Wis., were held to answer questions about the campus master plan alternatives and receive input regarding the proposed ideas within the alternatives, according to JJR Consultant Jon Hoffman.

"Participants represented the general campus population. Some campus groups were well represented, including science, technology, engineering and math faculty, CAFES faculty and students, enrollment services, and facilities," Hoffman said in an e-mail.

Participants shared their concerns with the consultants and suggested possible solutions.

"Participants provided considerable and thoughtful input on the alternatives, major decision points, including how the sciences should grow, how to link the core campus to HHP and campus lab farm's, determining site for future residence halls, how campus should connect to Cascade Avenue and downtown River Falls and other critical issues," Hoffman said. "Participants provided clear preferences among alternative choices on some issues and provided mixed and diffuse

support on other issues."

Many of the participants felt that the sciences should be grouped in one location, as a sort of "big tent" idea.

"Many felt that the sciences at UWRF should be broad - integrating the STEM sciences and the applied sciences of ag science, food science and ag engineering," Hoffman said.

Professor of Soil Sciences Don Taylor thinks that having the sciences in one location would be an excellent idea.

"[Being in the same building] would foster more interaction between environmental studies, chemistry, soil science and physics. We all have a lot in common," Taylor said.

There was also a lot of discussion on which direction the campus should grow.

"There was a lot of discussion but no clear

consensus on if the campus should grow to the north (crossing Cascade Avenue with more University buildings), grow to the south (crossing the South Fork with a bridge and locating parking or buildings south of the river), or if Cascade Avenue and the river should remain the boundaries of the campus core," Hoffman said.

The Campus Plan is currently in the review period, according to UWRF Campus Planner Dale Braun. On Sept. 27 UWRF was presented by JJR with three alternative plans for the campus. UWRF has until Nov. 1 to provide feedback to the consultants, according to Braun. Then JJR will take November, December and January to take all the feedback and create one preliminary master plan that will

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## Class Technology fosters learning

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The availability of technology across campus has encouraged faculty to teach differently in their classrooms, said Assistant Dean of College of Education and Professional Studies Mary Wright.

All over campus, PowerPoint presentations have been utilized by professors. It is effective because it adequately presents course material, said sophomore Leeann Hitsman.

"I think that PowerPoints benefit everyone's learning style," said senior Joseph Saugstad.

English Professor David Furniss, said that his students make more use of PowerPoint presentations than himself. Desire2Learn, however, has become essential to his teaching method.

From posted video material to holding online discussions, Furniss said that D2L has proven to have important interactive learning functions.

"I make more use of D2L by generating discussions and now I have considered incorporating the use of a blog into my classes," said sociology Professor Paige Miller.

Wright said that some professors in her department have included podcasting into their classes and have had the chance to teach their classes with interactive white boards.

Departments are trying to improve lessons with technology because students are comfortable with it, said Teaching and Learning Technology Student Assistant Daniel Reed.

"There is this idea that students may be more inclined to the teaching methods if they are amplified by the use of technology," Reed said.

Specific programs have been established to help faculty members enhance the teaching and learning that goes on in the classroom, Information Processing Consultant Scott Wojtanowski said.

He added that he works with professors by way of the Online Teaching Institute which is a course review process. A faculty member review course is also made available. During the faculty member review, proper technology assessments are identified and recommended for the individual course.

These technological uses are made possible by a behind the scenes campus-wide initiative known as goal eight. UW-River Falls established this goal to further enhance the use of technology throughout campus, said Steve Reed, chief information officer and member of the Information and Instructional Technology Council.

UWRF has 10 goals established in an effort to further allocate the resources available on the campus.

See Technology page 3

## Minnesota senator Klobuchar visits UWRF



Senator Amy Klobuchar speaks at a Russ Feingold Vote Rally at 3 p.m., October 26 at the Falcon Nest of the University Center. About 55 people attended the rally, said College Democrats co-chair Avery Hildebrand.

Sally King/Student Voice

## Faculty proposes possible pay increase for summer, J-Term

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Faculty may have a greater incentive to teach summer and J-Term courses due to a proposal the Faculty Compensation Committee has been working on.

If the proposal is approved, faculty would see an increase in pay for teaching summer and J-Term courses, said Director of Outreach Katrina Larsen. Faculty would be paid based on a percentage of tuition generated from the course, added Larsen.

The current administration policy — referred to as AP 43 — determines how much faculty members are paid for teaching summer and J-Term courses. The pay is dependent upon the number of students enrolled in a particular class. Faculty teaching a three-credit undergraduate course with 20 students enrolled would be paid around \$4,290, according to AP 43.

The current policy has a salary plateau from 18 to 25 students, which means a faculty member is paid \$4,290 even though they have additional students. If a course has less than 18 students, the minimum class size, faculty are paid a fraction of \$4,290.

Most summer and J-Term classes do not have 18 students enrolled, so many faculty members are paid less than \$4,290, said Larsen. Also, AP 43 pay rate is generally much lower than what the average faculty members receive for their academic year contract, added Larsen.

If the policy is approved, a full Professor would see a 25 percent pay increase for teaching a three-credit undergraduate course with 20 students enrolled, said Stephen Olsen, chair of the compensation committee and head of the marketing communications program.

AP 43 was created in 2003 during a budget crunch and was never brought before the Faculty Senate, and was a move out of desperation, said Olsen. As a need to tighten up the budget, the policy reduced the pay faculty earned for teaching summer and J-Term courses. Prior to 2003, faculty was paid up to two-ninths of their nine-month academic year salary, said Olsen.

This was a severe cut in pay and many faculty members decided not to teach summer and J-Term courses, said History Professor Betty Bergland.

If the proposed policy is approved then faculty may teach

more summer and J-Term courses.

"One of the primary objectives is to hopefully, over time, create a more robust summer session with a greater mix of course offerings and increased student enrollment, which would benefit students, faculty and the campus as a whole," said Biology Professor and primary writer of the new proposal Brad Mogen.

The new proposal also has the chance to be self-sustaining, said Olsen.

"If the proposal is approved and there is an increase in student enrollment during the summer and J-Term, it could become a source of increased revenue for the institution that could off-set the additional salary costs," said Director of Integrated Planning Kristen Hendrickson.

The compensation committee is fine-tuning the policy, and it should reach the Senate Nov. 17. If approved, Chancellor Dean Van Galen can either approve it or veto it.

"It is time to change AP 43, and [the] current proposal will give pay increases to faculty that match the annual increase in tuition," Larson said.

## SENATE SHORTS

From the Tuesday, Oct. 19 Student Senate Meeting:

- Student Senate President Monson presented the following timeline for election revision to be implemented by an ad hoc committee:
  - Step 1: Identify problems – Oct. 19
  - Step 2: Discuss solutions – Oct. 26
  - Step 3: Draft Solutions – Nov. 9
  - Step 4: Revise Solutions – Nov. 23
  - Step 5: Implement solutions – Dec. 14

Appointments:

- Senator Charlotte Evans was appointed to the Student Senate Club Sports Allocation Board.
- Brittany Williams, Lisa Colburn and Brittany Johnson were appointed to the Student Senate Inclusivity and Diversity Issues Committee.
- Veronique Swensen was appointed to Faculty Senate Audit and Review Committee.
- Nikki Shonoiki and Brad Kerschner were appointed to Faculty Senate Inclusivity and Diversity Committee.
- Chair Tyler Halverson was appointed to Faculty Senate Parking Committee.
- Chelsey Muenster, Megan McGivern, Brandon Meyer and Jonathan Lyksett were appointed to the University Center Committee.

## OrgSync gets mixed reviews from students

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“It’s like Facebook for grown-ups,” said Hall Manager for Parker Hall Grady Stehr, regarding OrgSync organizational software.

Approximately one quarter of the campus community are registered users of OrgSync, Director of Student Life Paul Shepherd said.

A three-year contract for the software program was purchased last fall by Student Senate for \$24,900 which allows for up to 300 group pages (or portals), Shepherd said. The price is also locked at that for an additional three years should Student Senate choose to renew the contract.

While providing portals for student organizations is one focus of OrgSync, UWRF also has portals for each of the residence halls and a “New Students 2010” group said Shepherd.

Further demographic portals including commuting or non-traditional students could also be a future possibility.

It is a requirement for student organizations to have an OrgSync account.

OrgSync provides a central forum for student organizations and its leaders, a website and unlimited file storage which makes it easy to pass information on from past student organization leaders onto new leaders as there is turnover from semester to semester. OrgSync has also provided Residence Life staff an easy way to communicate with their residents by hall.

“I use it to communicate with members of the hall about upcoming programs,” said Stehr. “It is also a great means for communicating with my Hall Council members. Some HM’s also use it to reserve space in their building, and next month, it will be used to streamline the RA and HM application process.”

OrgSync hosts 185 UWRF portals including approximately 165 active student organizations and several others. As of Oct. 19, OrgSync had 2,825 UWRF users: 931 freshmen, 541 sophomores, 487 juniors, 462 seniors, 58 graduate students, 31 alumni, 120 faculty plus others that did not specify a classification.

Not all students feel that OrgSync was worth the money.

“I personally don’t like it just because we have so many other forms of communication in our organization,” said member of the Phi Mu sorority Rachel Mencheski. “We just use it because we have to, otherwise we wouldn’t use it at all.”

However, Mencheski did say that OrgSync did make filling out forms easier, like registering for homecoming. She also said Phi Mu was contacted by one student over the summer who claimed they learned about Phi Mu through OrgSync and was interested in joining.

While some students don’t think OrgSync is worth it, others have found it very helpful.

“If you break it down, a dollar per student per year doesn’t seem too out of control,” Stehr said. “It is up to the students to get their money’s worth out of OrgSync. It can do a lot of great things.”

Promotions for the software from Student Life could be a reason why there was a huge surge in new registrations earlier this month. Some tactics to promote use of the program have been placing the logo on event publicity, holding training sessions for using the system, using the program as a paperless way for organizations to submit forms, and by including information in orientation packets for new students.

“Our best strategy has probably just been talking it up,” Shepherd said. “Our goal has really been to make [OrgSync] part of the fabric of the institution — so students think, ‘If I want to know what’s going on, I need to look at OrgSync.’”

Student Life will be hosting an OrgSync basic training session Nov. 3, a basic web development session Nov. 17 and an Advanced Web Development session Dec. 1 all from 7:15-9:45 p.m. in the Chalmer Davee Library Blue Lab.

“[OrgSync] certainly helps us provide a much greater level of support for our student organizations,” Shepherd said. “I feel like I could talk for hours on its benefits.”

# Falcon Foods prepares for holidays

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With the holiday season quickly approaching, Falcon Foods is preparing for their busiest time of the year when their cheese gift boxes are in highest demand.

Students at UW-River Falls produce Falcon Foods in the university plant, which has been in operation since 1983. Students work under the direction of Plant Manager Steve Watters and produce a variety of products including ice cream, meat and cheese.

The upcoming holidays have those at Falcon Foods getting ready for the rush of orders for cheese gift boxes. This year the Falcon Foods cheese gift boxes are being offered with 14 varieties of cheese to choose from.

According to the Falcon Foods Store website, the 14 varieties of cheese produced at Falcon Foods includes: mild golden cheddar, aged golden cheddar, mild white cheddar, aged white cheddar, cheese curds, colby, smoked colby, colby with Cajun spice, colby-Jack, Monterey-Jack, Monterey Jack with dill, pepper Jack, Swiss and cobblestone red.

“The cheese gift boxes are a great gift students can give to family members,” said Dairy Food Manager Ranece May. “The price is right and students can choose which varieties of cheese they want to give.”

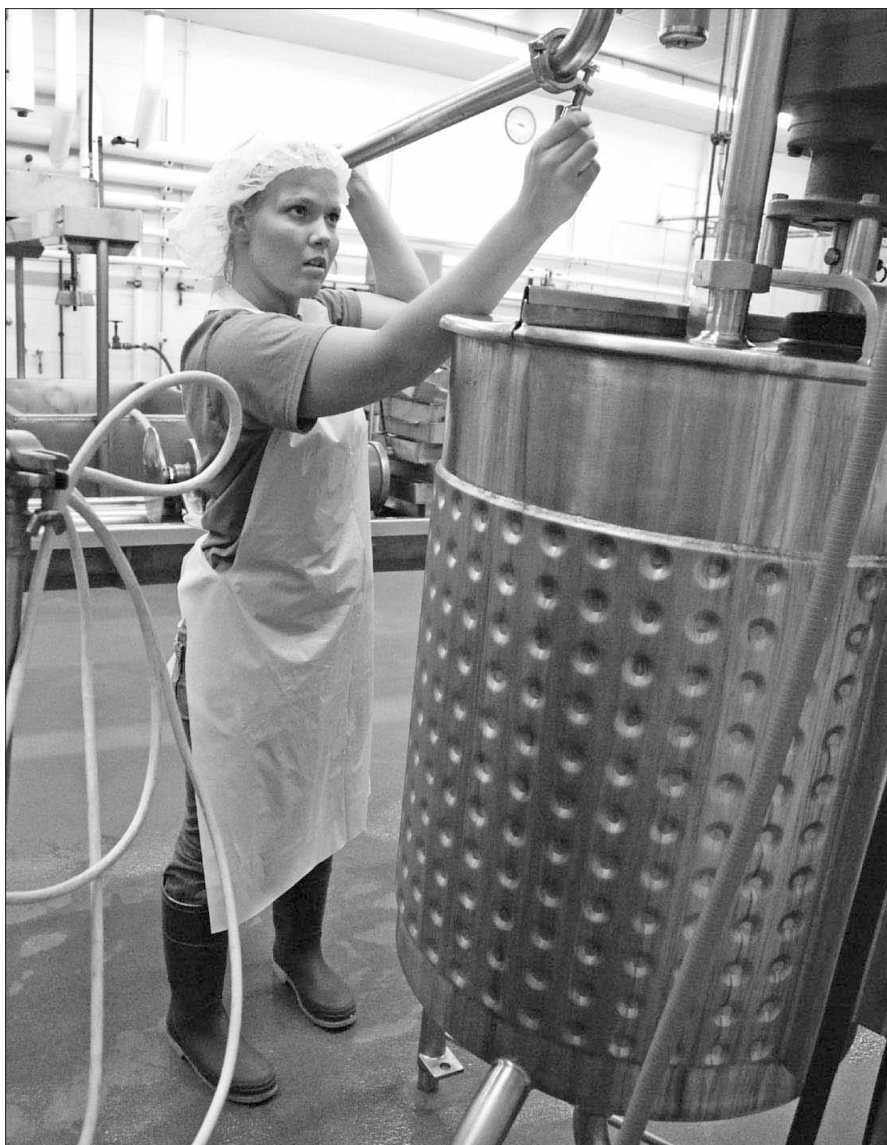
The cheeses are made on campus in the cheese processing plant using raw milk from the University dairy farm. Approximately 3,500 pounds of milk is used every time cheese is made in the processing plant.

Ice cream is also made by students in the cheese processing plant. Chocolate, strawberry and vanilla are the flavors that are made on a regular basis, but there are 30 flavors that are made in the plant throughout the year.

Both Falcon Foods cheese and ice cream are used in the University Center’s Riverside Commons. Every week, 220 pounds of shredded cheese and 75 gallons of hard pack ice cream are used in Riverside Commons.

At Falcon Foods, meat snack sticks and some retail cuts of meats are also made by students. The students slaughter and butcher the animals themselves under the supervision of the plant manager.

According to the Falcon Foods website, “Its main existence is to educate students in every aspect of



Sally King/Student Voice

**Angela Kusilek prepares cheese for Falcon Foods, a UWRF food plant that allows students to process, prepare and sell meat and dairy.**

meat processing from sanitation and meat fabrication to sausage production and sales. Operations of this facility produces many products that are offered for sale to the general public.”

It is common for the students who are making Falcon Foods to be in a UWRF class. Some livestock, meat processing and agricultural engineering classes work with the University plant and make various foods. According to May, much of what is produced in Falcon Foods is based on class needs.

“Ice cream, cheese and meat are all sold at the Falcon Foods Store. Ice cream cups and cheese curds are also sold at Freddy’s Convenience Store in the University Center,” said May. “During the summer we sell some products at

the farmer’s market and products are also sold at local events like Art on the Kinni.”

All cheese gift boxes are available for immediate delivery; however, boxes for Christmas delivery must be ordered by Dec. 10 and Christmas gift box shipping will begin Dec. 1. Each box will contain a greeting card with the sender’s name. Arrangements for personal pickup can also be made.

To order a gift box, visit the Falcon Foods Store page on UWRF’s website or visit the Falcon Foods Store in the Food Science Addition, room 149. The store’s hours are 1:00-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 425-3702 or email ranece.j.may@uwrf.edu.

## VOICE SHORTS

**UWRF theatre shows ‘The Man Who Came to Dinner’**

“The Man Who Came to Dinner” opened Oct. 21 and will be playing at 7:30 p.m. today and tomorrow in the Davis Theatre of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The play was written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart and directed by James A. Zimmerman. It’s the golden age of radio, and the acerbic wit, critic, and radio star Sheridan Whiteside has slipped on the front steps of a provincial Ohio businessman’s home and broken his hip. So, he and his entourage simply take over the house indefinitely! Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. For more information call (715) 425-3114.

**Semester Abroad: Europe holds fall meetings**

An informational meetings for a Fall 2011 Semester Abroad: Europe study program will be held Nov. 1, in room 152 of the Centennial Science Hall. Contact Magdalena Pala at magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu or Dennis Cooper at dennis.p.cooper@uwrf.edu for more information.

**UWRF chancellor to host Broomstick Gala**

The Broomstick Gala will be held from 6-10 p.m. tomorrow night in the Falcon’s Nest of the University Center. Co-hosts include Chancellor Van Galen and River Falls’ Superintendent Tom Westerhaus. Gourmet hors d’oeuvres, door prizes, silent auction and live music will make this a fun night! Tickets are on sale at the Dish and Spoon Cafe, Curves, Lund’s and Earth Angels. This event is being co-sponsored by CEPS and the Renaissance Academy. All proceeds will go to support technology needs of the Renaissance Academy. For more infor-

mation, contact Faye Perkins at 425-3774 or faye.j.perkins@uwrf.edu.

**Deadlines set for holiday mail to deployed troops**

Family and friends have just under one month to get those holiday care packages mailed out to ensure they reach deployed service members before Christmas. According to the U.S. Postal Service, Nov. 12 is the recommended deadline for packages addressed to Army/Air Force Post Office and Fleet Post Office ZIP codes, if those packages are sent by regular mail, or parcel post. The deadline extends to Dec. 4 for packages sent by priority mail to APO addresses in contingency areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan, and Dec. 11 for all other APO addresses. First-class mail cards and letters must be sent no later than Dec. 18 to be received by Dec. 25. For more information, contact Lt. Col. Jackie Guthrie at 608-242-3050 or 608-516-1777.

**Mock interview day offers help with job search**

Career Services will have a mock interview day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 3 in the Ballroom of the University Center. This event will allow students to polish their interviewing skills by practicing interviewing with real employers in their field of interest. The interview will last 30 minutes, which will provide enough time for the employer to ask 10-12 interview questions and provide advice on how to improve for the real thing. Pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Nancy Pace at 425-3572 or nancy.i.pace@uwrf.edu.

## 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.

**Oct. 22**

- A wallet was reported stolen from the Nelson Physical Education Center.

**Oct. 23**

- Isaac Wirtz, 19, was cited for underage consumption at May Hall.

**Oct. 24**

- Kody Kramer, 18, was cited for deposit of human waste at Main Street and Cascade Ave.
- Logan Schlosser, 19, was cited for deposit of human waste at Main Street and Cascade Ave.
- Zachary Dorn, 18, was cited for possession of marijuana

and paraphernalia at Johnson Hall.

- Dylan Engelland, 18, was cited for underage consumption at Johnson Hall.
- Brianna Hayes, 18, was cited for underage consumption at Johnson Hall.

**Oct. 25**

- A laptop was reported stolen from the Nelson Physical Education Center.

**Oct. 26**

- A wallet containing \$35 was reported stolen at the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building.

Apply for an on-air position with

**88.7 FM**

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Pick up an application outside of 306 North Hall

Remember... look for Freddy’s lost feather in this issue of the Student Voice.

# Master: Stakeholders provide feedback for future plan

from page 1

be presented to the campus in late January, according to Braun.

There is no cost figure for this plan yet; it is typically not calculated, according to Braun. The master plan is broken up into three sections: near-term, mid-term and long-term. UWRF will figure out what parts of the plan

are top priority and then estimate those costs of the near-term, which is the initial six years of the plan, according to Braun. The cost for the initial six years will probably be close to \$100 million, according to Braun.

A master plan was last developed in 1968, according to Braun. There was a similar attempt for a master plan made in 1997 but it never came to a conclusion.

"This plan is a good management tool to

have. It casts a vision for the campus, to see how it all fits into a coherent whole. It is what needs to be done to get the best value out of our money," Braun said.

Braun also mentioned that the state cannot approve UWRF to undertake big remodeling projects unless they see a master plan.

Students, faculty and staff can become involved with this process by going to the integrated planning website and looking at the

alternatives presented. Braun also encourages students to look at the facebook page ("Future of UWRF Campus") dedicated to the master plan or to contact him personally.

"Anyone can send me an e-mail with their comments, good or bad, regarding the plans. I then collect all of these comments and send them to JJR Inc. on a weekly basis."

## Tech: Goal eight promotes engagement

from page 1

These efforts are part of a strategic plan, meaning they receive special attention towards achievement, said Dean of College of Education and Professional Studies and member of the Academic Standards Committee Faye Perkins.

Currently under review, Faculty Senate has been charged with carrying out Goal 8, said Reed.

The Institutional and Learning Technology Committee is powered by the Technology Council. The Committee addresses these issues and provides feedback on how best to implement Goal 8. They also collaborate with technology services, said Wojtanowski.

The Technology Committee is working on infusing technology into classrooms Perkins said.

"We have made an effort to standardize the classroom technology so that it is seamless," Steve Reed said.

The purpose of creating a seamless learning environment is to ensure that there is a consistency of technology between classrooms. Changes have been made to have a more universal computer system throughout the campus, Reed said.

Over the summer, room controllers were installed in some of the classrooms. Although different in appearance, these all-purpose remotes create ease for those using the given computer system, Wojtanowski said. One of the primary concerns for a professor with regards to the technology available in a classroom, is ensuring that everything works.

"We want to make sure that it works well, and it is what the faculty members are looking for," Wojtanowski said.

The technology services that are made available at UWRF extend beyond the actual campus grounds. Services are extended over to the University's farms, online programs and the Scotland study abroad program, Reed said.

Perkins said that the Division of Technology Services has been developed to oversee much of the efforts made to further enhance the use of technology at UWRF, which includes updating classrooms.

There is an active involvement in part for the student population. At present, there are 72 students working for DoTS, said Student Support Coordinator Steve Meads.

Within DoTS, there are a variety of divisions that span from Customer Technology Services to TLT, Meads said.

"Keeping up with the technology is an extraordinary amount of money," Perkins said.

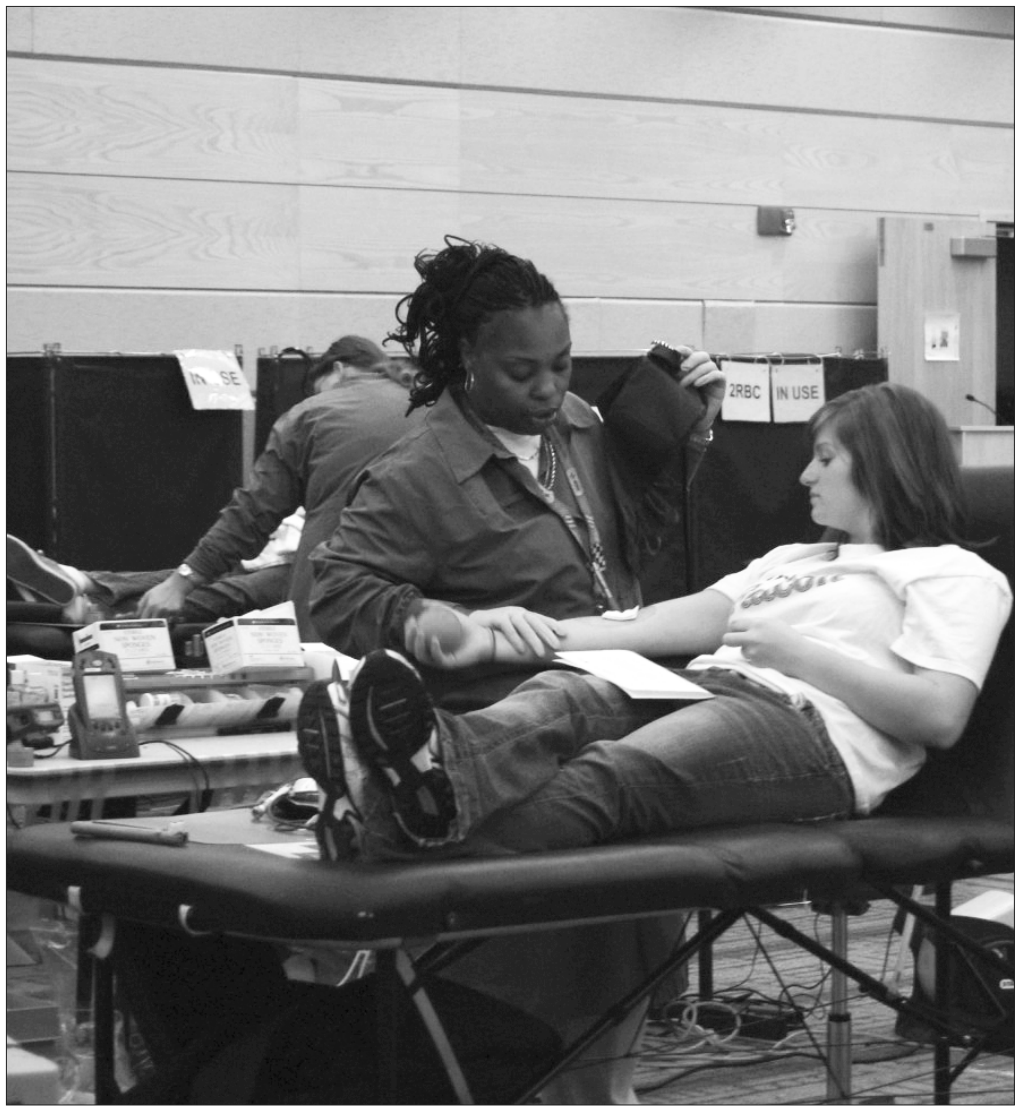
According to the Spring 2010 Campus Update, \$392,000 had been designated towards Goal 8. This amount of money, however, has still required budgeting.

"We have to balance what we identify as critical, even though we are going through tough times," Steve Reed said.

Technology services has to determine what is most important in regards to general resources, including access to D2L, public safety and dining. Without this support, learning is affected, Reed said.

"Everything we do, we have to think about the impact of technology," Perkins said.

## Red Cross collects blood from UWRF



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice

The American Red Cross gives the opportunity for students to donate blood to help those in need. The drive took place Oct. 27 and 28 in the University Center ballroom.

### WRFW's Fall 2010



### Schedule

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2-6 a.m.	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC
6 a.m.-1 p.m.	WPR	WPR	WPR	WPR	WPR	WPR	WPR
1-3 p.m.	Erik Altman	WPR	Aaron Bergman	WPR	Pat Okan Jeff S.	Sarah Hellier Bleeker Ayers	Ashley Goettl
3-5 p.m.	WPR	Elliot Novak	Rob Silvers James Scott	Adam Lee	Jack Chien	Katie H. Laura K.	WPR
5-6 p.m.	WPR	Jordan Simm	Rob Silvers	ACT on AG	Amy Graham	Amanda Leeman	WPR
6-8 p.m.	Ryan Kleiser	Brian Wegner	Cory H. Jon L.	Jon L.	Matt T. Kevin D.	Ben Lee Jon Heeden	Briana Samson
8-10 p.m.	Jessie Behrman	Jacob Boet Dan Adams	Greg Klim	Jason K.	Natalie Conrad	Nathan King	Nathan King
10 p.m.-Midnight	Megan Bohoren	Mike Svoboda	Joe Kelly Jared Fritz	Andrew H. Erik G.	Kim Tri	Abel J.	Collin Bendt
Midnight-2 a.m.	Jennifer Hageman	Kyle McGinn	Casey Wolford	WPR	WPR	Ali H.	Jordan Gamache

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EDITORIALS

## Halloween festivities should be safe, fun

This Halloween be smart, safe and have fun! The Student Voice encourages those living in the residence halls to participate in passing out candy to trick-or-treaters or to at least be aware that the kids will be walking through. This means minding F-bombs and your dress when they are visiting. Not only are small children adorable but the tradition portrays a good image to the community.

After trick-or-treaters come through and you begin your own night of tricks and treats, remember to be safe. If drinking, be careful not to make yourself vulnerable to predators and use the buddy system. Walk home with someone or have a designated driver. Also be mindful to never leave drinks unattended.

## Advisors should meet with advisees before providing them PINs

Spring class registration is here and shockingly some students are clueless to the process. Some are even unaware of who their advisors are. Here's a tip: Each student's eSIS home page has the name of their advisor on the right-hand side as well as directly on their Degree Progress Report. Throughout their college career students need to be proactive about where they are headed rather than expect someone to approach them, take them by the hand and walk them into success. That means studying their DPR, signing up with advisors and working out a plan for the years leading to graduation.

Disappointingly, some advisors don't meet one-on-one with their advisees prior to registration. Some distribute PIN numbers without first meeting with the students who may or may not have a clue about what they are doing. Four years later the clueless student could walk in to meet their advisor hoping to graduate and be told they didn't fill their requirements.

Students, please note you must be your own advocate when it comes to planning your future.

Advisors, be aware that some advisees don't know what is going on and as their advisor it is your duty to make sure they know how to read their DPR and they understand the steps they need to take to graduate.

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

# STUDENT VOICE

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Sam Powell/Student Voice

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Student encourages voting in upcoming midterm elections

As I talk to people about the voting process and participation, a great deal of reasons are given to why they choose not to be partakers of such a unique experience, considering the midterm elections are upon us. A friend and I were discussing that by voting, one is projecting power. One can also argue that by not voting, you can be projecting power, depending on the contextual situation and the circumstances around that situation. I later realized my error in judgment because I thought that by not voting, you are not exercising your power. Both arguments, it turns out, are conditionally plausible. When November greets us soon, you could decide for yourself what strategy works for you.

The midterm elections are very important to many people not only in our municipalities, counties, districts and states, but also in our country and the world. The people that are elected on Nov. 2 will be people who represent us and make effectually powerful decisions that have impacts on every aspect of our life. It is important to know who is running for what position and what they promise to accomplish.

Some may even argue that many people have become apathetic or indifferent towards approaching the political realm. If you want to be a part of the political process then this next week will be very interesting for you if you are reading this today. One week from today, tabulation of votes will be dominating the headlines in the world of mainstream media. You have no need to wait until Election Day because the new laws, with respect to voting, offer you a new window of time.

River Falls' City Hall is using your tax dollars to operate. If you are busy on Election Day, simply pay them a visit and cast your vote early. Registering takes no more time than going to the restroom. If you are a resident of Minnesota who lives in a dorm on campus, you can register to vote in Wisconsin, as long as you don't vote in Minnesota, because that would be a felony. I hope you make the right decision on or before Nov. 2.

**Ali A. Haifawi**  
student

#### Student inspires environmentally conscious voting

I'm voting for the Democrats this election because I am concerned that those who are in power are both socially and environmentally aware. It is important that we select those who are socially aware so that those who are historically marginalized are sure to be served by our government and known by our citizens. It is important that we select someone who is environmentally aware so that decisions are made to protect our limited resources. With these two elements, there is a chance for an efficient and ethical decision that can be quite productive for this society.

**Lauren Evans**  
student

#### Student motivates voting in favor of Democratic Party

This election season is absolutely crucial. It astounds me that there is so much apathy amongst the students. We had eight years of failed policies under former President Bush, and now that President Obama has taken office, people are beginning to blame our woes on the Democrats. The Republican Party has continuously blocked progressive policies brought forth by the Democrats. We need to elect Democrats on Nov. 2. Let's continue this fight for change and keep Wisconsin blue on Nov. 2.

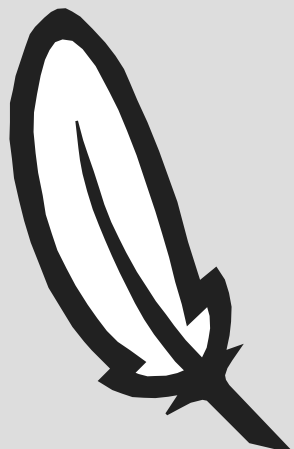
**Lianna Wagner**  
student

## Find Freddy's Feather!

Be the first person to find the lost Freddy the Falcon Feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes!

The first person to report the find to [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com) AFTER 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29 wins.

*Last week's winner:*  
**Ryan Eckert**



## College refashions Halloween costumes from spooky to skanky



Sarah Hellier

With Halloween approaching, one of the best ways to embrace your chills is to watch a couple scary movies or hit up a haunted house. However, since I've been at college Halloween seems to have become more about the provocative costumes than anything else. When I was a freshman, I had this great plan to be the wicked witch from the Wizard of Oz. I found some green body paint and looked up a costume that I was going to order online. Although, when I asked my friends about the idea (thank God I did) they informed me that they were being characters such as a slutty nurse, a naughty baseball player, or one of my friends just decided to get straight to the point and dressed as a stripper. Basically, I realized that if I decided to go ahead with the witch idea, I would end up in a Lindsay Lohan situation from the movie Mean Girls. I might as well have just dressed up as a slutty Dorothy than going as something scary.

I ended up falling to peer pressure, but I'm glad I did. When I got to the party, even the boys were showing skin. One boy was a UPS man with disturbingly short shorts and a cut off top, another was wearing nothing but a Speedo and holding a paper bong. Any guesses to whom he claimed to be? Anyway, I was terrified. For girls, I knew Halloween had turned into the day where

it was socially acceptable to dress up as a skank, but I didn't know it would go as far as guys in Speedos.

According to the History Channel, Halloween is a mix of "ancient Celtic practices, Catholic and Roman religious rituals and European folk traditions that blended together over time to create the holiday we know." Halloween is a day of celebration and also superstition. It has commonly been thought of as a day when the dead can return to the earth. So where did the costumes originate? "The ancient Celts would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off the roaming ghosts." I don't think the slutty baseball player costume would have made the cut. "Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6.9 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's second largest commercial holiday." I wonder how much the Speedo and paper bong costume costs? Maybe I'll look into it.

This year, I decided to get a consensus of what costumes my friends are wearing. (God forbid two people show up to a party with the same one) there were actually some very creative ones such as: a group of people being a rainbow with a pot of gold and a leprechaun, Thing One and Thing Two (Dr. Seuss), and, my personal favorite, a pizza box (the guy explained to me he is actually wearing nothing but a pizza box). I asked a girl sitting in the University Center what she planned on being. She replied, "I would like to be a witch... you know like the witch from that play, Wicked."

I sure hope this girl has kind enough friends to explain to her what college Halloween is actually all about.

*Sarah is a journalism major who plays lacrosse for UW-River Falls. She is involved with 88.7 FM WRFW, and she enjoys long walks on the beach.*

## UWRF officer addresses underage drinking issue, cautions students

Patricia Forsberg

I am going to assume that every student on campus here at UW-River Falls is aware that the legal drinking age in Wisconsin is 21. It was raised from 19 to 21 in 1986, which means a number of students were not born yet. Even though the majority of us cannot remember when the drinking age was under 21, we still have a high number of underage drinking incidents at UWRF. I do not assume that every student on campus drinks, but our University Police Department would be naive if we believed it is not an issue. In fact, you probably know someone who has received a ticket. A first offense citation costs \$263.50 and the fines only increase with each subsequent one after. If you were to get four underage citations in one year, your fines (total) would amount to \$1,936.

As officers, we understand that the students are finally on your own. If you are underage and found drinking and/or intoxicated, you will be cited. As officers, we are not on a mission to "bust" as many underage drinkers as we can but it is part of the job. If you are breaking the law, you should not be surprised when you are caught.

After issuing a number of citations already this year, you should know a few things as students and residents at UWRF. The first is the only way to guarantee you will not receive a citation is to abstain from underage drinking. If you are unwilling to choose

that option, understand that you are at risk of being caught.

Sometimes after a student is caught drinking underage, the first thing he or she states is "I don't have an ID." If you are in the dorms and that happens, we are automatically called. Hall staff needs to know who is in the room during these incidents. If you decide to lie about your identity, especially to police officers, not only are you guilty of the infraction we are called for, you are also guilty of obstruction. An obstruction charge (UWS 18.10[7]) stays with you. It does not look good when you are applying for jobs and you have an obstruction charge in your criminal history. When issuing a citation, I have been asked not to tell the parents of the person cited. Sorry to break it to you, but the majority of students on campus are legal adults. The only time we contact parents are if the person cited is 16-years-old or under. You have the responsibility of telling your parents; we do not.

I do not feel it necessary to quote statistics about the dangers of drinking; we have all heard and seen them. What I do want you to take from this column is that a couple of beers in a friend's room are not as appealing with a \$263.50 fee attached. A number of tickets I have issued have had a preliminary breath test result of under .05, which means you can get a ticket for having "just a couple." I do not advise against fun. Please enjoy this time in your life to the fullest. Know, though, that if you choose to take part in underage drinking, as an adult, you are responsible for any repercussions that come with that act.

*Patricia has been a law enforcement officer for three years and an officer with UW-River Falls for a little over a year. She is also a student at UWRF, majoring in sociology with a criminal justice minor.*

## STUDENT VOICES

Do you use OrgSync, and do you think it was worth the \$24,900 contract?

Sean Duffey, sophomore

"We could have definitely created something similar, even though I don't use OrgSync."



Timothy Wucherer, senior

"OrgSync? What is that? And I really don't think it was worth it, since I don't know what it is."



Chloe Haag, junior

"I've heard of it, but don't have it. It is possible that it would be worth it because it helps for organizations to be organized."



Diana Vang, senior

"Yes, I use it religiously and I think that everyone should use it since we spent \$25,000 for it."

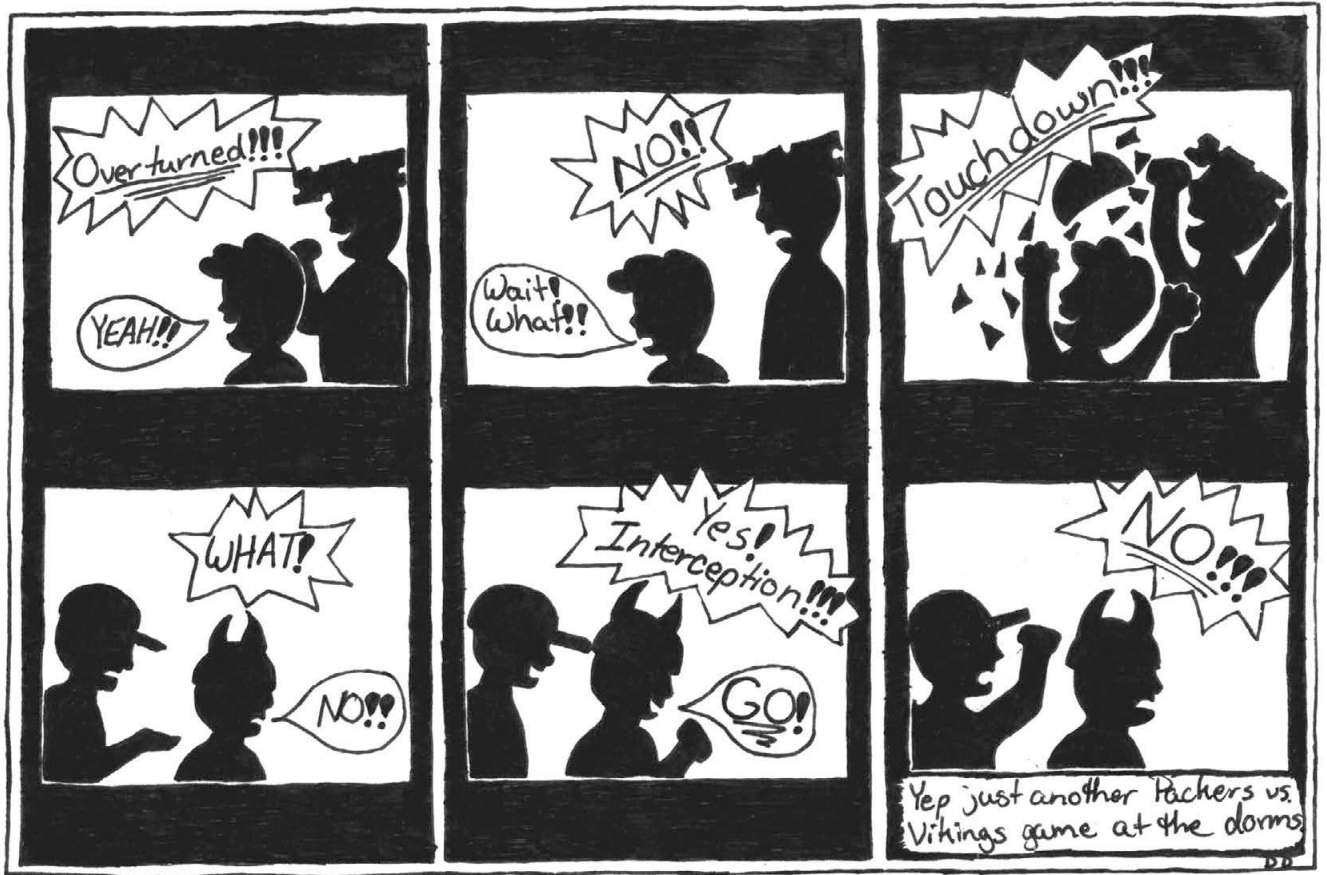


Bre Klaras, senior

"Yes, and maybe not worth the \$25,000. I think Facebook works just as good. Maybe people are just shy about it still."



Student Voices compiled by Hannah Lenius



Darielle Dahnke/Student Voice

## Columnist challenges peers to resist Facebook



Ashley Cress

After sitting down to think of a clever topic to cover in this week's column, I will admit, I have checked my Facebook at least ten or more times. Not only is Facebook continuously pulled up on students' laptops, but just when you thought the person next to you in class was texting, they're actually one of the 150 million users currently posting their status with the not so new Facebook application for cell phones.

Facebook presently has over 500 million users: are you one of them? These facts provided by the Facebook Press Room are none too surprising when you realize that in the one dorm room you're sitting next to five of your friends with Facebook pulled up on their laptops.

More research psychologists are finding that Facebook is being used by people to escape current life problems, procrastinate on homework or even to talk "face-to-face" with someone online. Although Facebook can be used for not so good things, it also can be constructively used to talk with friends and share photos. However, I think Facebook has

become slightly irritating.

Last week, my chemistry partner and I were in the library looking for a computer to use to type up our lab reports for the week. While looking for a computer we found that four of them were being used by students on Facebook. We waited a good hour before getting a computer to do homework! The best part is, my chemistry partner and I ended up using a computer from a student who finished their homework before the other students on Facebook.

Facebook has become an addiction that most people don't realize they have until five hours of looking through pictures and chatting has taken place. For me, Facebook became such an addiction that I gave it up for Lent last year just to see how much I would miss it. Forty days without Facebook opened up a ton of time for homework and more time spent hanging out with friends, not to mention a few extra hours of sleep per night. It was one of the best ideas I have ever had!

I would challenge every person involved with Facebook to try to stay clear of it for a week. It's a fun challenge that will help open up time to get other things done. It's once again no surprise to know that Facebook is a close second to Google on the internet.

*Ashley is a history major who loves to travel, but has yet to leave the country.*

Visit the Student Voice website at [uwrfvoice.com](http://uwrfvoice.com)

Do you have something to say?  
Send in a letter to the editor at [editoruwrfvoice.com](mailto:editoruwrfvoice.com)

# Recreation director pitches championship ring concept

# Favre deserves credit for legendary performances

Andy Moran  
andrew.moran@uwrf.edu

Amidst the changes and improvements being made to the Campus Recreation department, Ryan McCallum, assistant director, said that the implementation of championship rings is an idea that could be in place in the next two years.

A championship ring is an award presented to each athlete on a winning team at the end of the season.

Similar to the championship rings worn by professional athletes, McCallum said that he is trying to bring the feel of the sports world to students who may have not had the opportunity to possess such a thing.

"I am a competitive guy, a sports guy," McCallum said. "For my whole life I wanted that championship ring."

McCallum said that he came up with the idea when he was attending Grand Valley State in Michigan. After chasing a ring for his whole life, McCallum won consecutive indoor track titles, giving him that elusive championship ring.

"I finally earned one," McCallum said. "So I thought it would be pretty cool to pass this feeling on to the intramural participants."

Finally, McCallum arrived at Sacramento State, where he said the idea was still fresh in his mind.

"I got there eventually, and it took me three years to get it off of

the ground," McCallum said.

McCallum said that by implementing this into the various intramural sports on campus, UW-River Falls would be gaining national recognition; even if it is a minimal amount.

"When I pitched this to Sacramento State, we were the only school in the nation doing it," McCallum said. "So if we did it here, we would be one of two schools in the whole country to have this."

Similar to the improvements being made to the campus recreation department at UWRF, McCallum stressed that the ring idea was a slow process, and something that he knew would take time.

"I was so determined to make this happen," McCallum said. "I knew it would happen, it was just going to take time, and I think it's the same deal here."

McCallum said that the idea is something that requires funding and support both from the campus recreation department as well as the student body.

"We need to prioritize right now," McCallum said. "Right now I don't know where it stands, to be honest, there is not a whole lot of room in the budget, so even though I may think it's awesome, it may just be something that has to be put on hold."

The rings would be purchased from a national organization called MTM Recognition. McCallum said that while at Sacramento State he developed a close rela-

tionship with the company.

"They were great to us," McCallum said. "They were on top of it, responsive, and really treated us like they cared so that's huge when taking into consideration who would provide these rings for us."

The first and second place shirts that are awarded at the end of each intramural season are a UWRF tradition according to students.

While students said tradition weighs heavy on the mind, reactions were mixed when it came to the implementation of rings.

"The past however many years have been shirts," said senior Mike Savage. "So having something new to play for should boost the competition."

"They should just stick to shirts," said sophomore Ariel Rygwalski. "We really don't want to pay for anything, especially clothes."

Still, other students feel that championship rings would be something to treasure for a lifetime.

"A shirt is something that you can wear for a couple of years before you either lose it or grow out of it," said sophomore Dan Miller. "A ring is something that you can have forever."

McCallum said that the idea is a continuous topic of conversation and something that will hopefully be in place sometime in the next two years.



Ashley Goettl

Whether it is a text message or an ankle injury that puts an end to Brett Favre's legendary career, there is one thing that has been neglected: the unprecedented accomplishments of Favre's career. Sure he may have the most interceptions, and they always seem to come at the worst possible times. Let's put aside our geographical differences and respect the legend, Brett Favre. We may never see another quarterback of his stature.

Favre first came into the league after being selected in the second round as the 33rd overall pick by the Atlanta Falcons. He was then traded to the Packers on Feb. 10, 1992, for the 19th pick in the 1992 draft. The trade, as the story goes, ended up working out great for the Packers.

Maybe the Packer fans need a reminder of just how good they had it. Favre has led his team to eight division championships, five NFC championships and two Super Bowl appearances, winning one in 1997. He is the only player to have won MVP three consecutive times.

He holds seven prominent NFL records, including most career touchdown passes, most career passing yards, most career pass completions, most career pass attempts, most consecutive starts, most consecutive starts by a QB and most career victo-

ries as a starting quarterback.

Considering the gruel and grind of an NFL season, Favre's consecutive start streak may be his most impressive. Starting with his first career start on Sept. 27, 1992, Favre has played in 314 consecutive games, including his 24 playoff appearances.

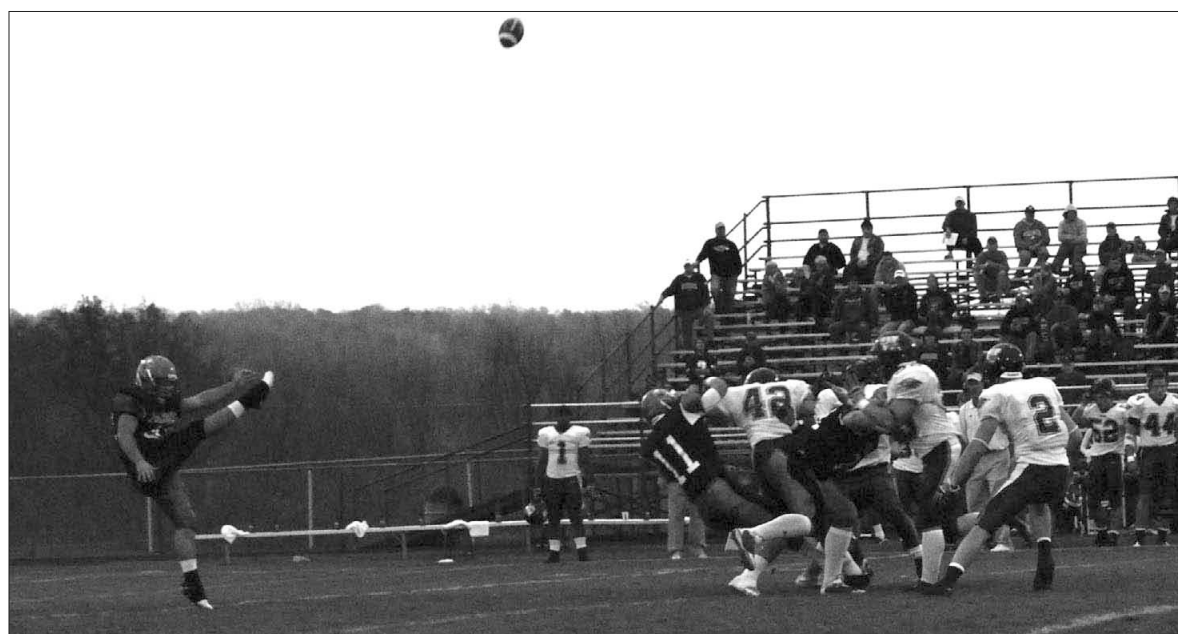
Favre is the only quarterback to throw for 70,000 yards and 500 touchdown passes. That would be the equivalent of Favre throwing for over 40 miles. Favre also has the most wins as a quarterback with 183.

While it is easy to compliment Favre on his statistical achievements, I believe he deserves more credit for his awe-inspiring performances. After his father died, Favre decided to play in the Monday Night Football game against the Oakland Raiders. He passed for four touchdowns in the first half and 399 total yards in a 41-7 victory. This performance is known to have made grown men cry and is considered to be one of the greatest individual performances by any professional athlete.

So while it is easy to criticize Favre when things are going rough. It is heart-wrenching to watch this legend be torn down. Yes, players deserve to be criticized when things aren't going well, or when they are playing the enemy, but remember what he has done for the Green and Gold. Respect his past. Respect his love for the game. Respect his passion, and above all, respect that we may never witness anything like him again.

Ashley is a sophomore double majoring in journalism and digital film and television with a political science minor. She enjoys watching the Twins and Vikings, and she is a member of UW-River Falls' softball team.

## Falcon football pursues first victory



Sally King/Student Voice

Falcons quarterback Ryan Luessenheide punts the ball in the first half of Saturday's game. UW-River Falls lost to No. 1 ranked UW-Whitewater 14-63. UWRF remains defeated with seven losses.

## WRFW expands coverage



Robert Silvers

Besides being a sports columnist for the Student Voice, I am also the assistant sports director at 88.7 FM WRFW where I am privileged to bring Falcon athletics to life for fans through their radios and internet.

In the last three and a half years, WRFW has expanded its sports coverage to include the softball team's spring break games and women's hockey games. This Saturday, WRFW expands its coverage to include UWRF volleyball

The volleyball team is hosting their annual UWRF Trick-or-Treat Classic at the Karges Center Friday and

Saturday. The tournament field consists of six teams. Each team will play four matches in the tournament.

The Falcons look to rebound after having dropped four of their last five matches including the Dig for the Cure match last Wednesday, Oct. 20. This weekend's tournament marks the final regular season matches for the Falcons as they will open up WIAC Tournament play on Tuesday. The semi-finals and finals will be held at UW-Eau Claire Nov. 5-6.

WRFW will continue to expand its sports coverage heading into the winter sports season. This year WRFW has beefed up its women's hockey schedule to include ten regular season games up from just a few regular season games last year.

Rob is a senior majoring in communication studies-digital film and television with a journalism minor. He is the assistant sports director at 88.7 FM WRFW and covers River Falls High School football, Falcon football and Falcon men's hockey and women's hockey. Rob also hosts a weekly sports talk show, "Just a Bit Outside," from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays on WRFW.

## Weekly Sports Wrap

### Men's Hockey

The Falcons got off to a hot start in their season opener defeating Concordia 8-1 last Saturday. The Falcons were propelled by the top line of Justin Brossman, Josh Calleja and Ben Beaudoin who combined for 6 goals and 12 points in the game. The Falcons host UW-Superior in a two-game set starting at 7:05 tonight.

### Soccer

The UWRF Soccer team went to overtime in their game against St. Scholastica Tuesday at Ramer Field. The two teams played to a 2-2 tie despite the poor weather conditions. The Falcons wrap up the regular season against UW-Oshkosh at 2 p.m. Saturday.

### Football

The Falcons fell 14-63 against UW-Whitewater last Saturday at Ramer Field. Falcon Greg Klingelhutetz set a WIAC record for kick return. The Falcons travel to UW-Platteville to take on the Pioneers at 2 p.m. Saturday.

### Women's Hockey

The women's hockey team opens up their season at 2:05 p.m. Saturday against Pembina Valley at Hunt Arena. The Falcons are coming off their second straight O'Brien Cup Championship looking to make a deep run in NCAA Tournament.

## WIAC Standings

Football			Women's Volleyball		
School	WIAC	Overall	School	WIAC	Overall
UW-Whitewater	4-0	7-0	UW-Oshkosh	7-1	24-7
UW-Stevens Point	3-1	5-2	UW-Eau Claire	7-1	19-8
UW-Oshkosh	3-1	4-3	UW-Whitewater	6-2	22-7
UW-Platteville	2-2	4-3	UW-Platteville	5-2	24-3
UW-Stout	2-2	4-3	UW-Stevens Point	3-4	19-11
UW-Eau Claire	1-3	3-4	<b>UW-River Falls</b>	<b>3-5</b>	<b>16-13</b>
UW-La Crosse	1-3	1-6	UW-La Crosse	3-5	11-14
<b>UW-River Falls</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>0-7</b>	UW-Stout	1-7	4-22
			UW-Superior	0-8	9-23

Women's Soccer			Women's Tennis		
School	WIAC	Overall	School	WIAC	Overall
UW-Stevens Point	7-0-0	14-1-1	UW-Whitewater	6-0	11-1
UW-Whitewater	6-1	9-6	UW-La Crosse	5-1	10-2
UW-Eau Claire	5-1-1	11-5-1	UW-Eau Claire	4-2	6-4
<b>UW-River Falls</b>	<b>4-3-0</b>	<b>10-7-1</b>	UW-Oshkosh	3-3	7-3
UW-Platteville	3-4-1	11-8-1	<b>UW-River Falls</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>3-9</b>
UW-La Crosse	2-3-2	8-5-2	UW-Stevens Point	1-5	4-7
UW-Oshkosh	2-4-1	7-7-1	UW-Stout	0-6	3-9
UW-Stout	0-6-1	6-11-1			
UW-Superior	0-7	3-16			

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# 'Paranormal' sequel instills doubt, uncertainty



Michael Brun

A follow-up to last year's polarizing horror mega-hit, "Paranormal Activity 2" stays true to the style and tone of the original. If you snored through the first one, then you should probably avoid the sequel. If the first one scared you senseless, then you too should think twice about seeing it. Not because it is an inferior movie; rather, it might be too intense for you to handle.

Following the "Saw" formula for horror sequels, the plot of "Activity 2" is heavily intertwined with the events of its predecessor. The scares can stand on their own, but the plot is really designed for those who are familiar with the story thus far. As both a sequel and a prequel, it not only progresses the narrative of the series, but also revisits and further develops the plot of the original.

So what made "Paranormal Activity" such

an instant classic? Aside from its groundbreaking and innovative advertising, there are two reasons it resonated so strongly with audiences: it felt believable, and it hit close to home. "Activity 2" does this just as well, if not better. Realism and believability are still the focus this time around. The cast is devoid of recognizable stars, helping to maintain the illusion that the movie is made from real home video footage. The dialog exchanges between characters feel natural and spontaneous as well, giving a sense that the script was little more than a brief outline.

The special effects are also very realistic. As with the first movie, I had a hard time figuring out how many of them were accomplished. Because the grainy, hand-held style conceals the use of computer effects, the final product looks spine-chillingly believable. One botched effect could dispel the suspension of disbelief for the entire movie, but they are all executed with seamless precision. One of the most remarkable aspects of the first "Activity" was how it turned a suburban home - one of the least frightening locations imaginable - into a claustrophobic dungeon. "Activity 2" builds on this concept even further. The movie takes unassuming household items and transforms them into instruments

of terror. In this way, the horror of "Activity 2" will hit close to home for many viewers. Instead of finding comfort when you return from the theater, you may find that your nightmare is just beginning. This kind of horror is the result of a less-is-more philosophy. It is all about the build up and letting your imagination run wild. For every scene in which something paranormal happens, there are twice as many that are red herrings. The doubt and uncertainty the movie instills will have your eyes darting around the screen, frantically looking for a shadow or a sign of movement. It is an exhausting experience, one that will keep you on edge even after the movie is finished. When a sequel is rushed into production as quickly as "Paranormal Activity 2" was, you can almost guarantee a drop in quality. Different director, different writers, bigger scale are all ingredients for disaster. And yet, despite the odds, "Activity 2" is not only a worthy successor, it also surpasses the original in many regards. When it comes to October horror releases, they don't get much better than this.

*Michael Brun is a journalism major with a minor in film studies. When he grows up, Michael would like to be a film critic or RoboCop. Or both.*



## Wausau band creates unique identity



Tom Kallio, John Burgess and Ryan Flannery perform on Sept. 17 at the Arcadia Cafe in Minneapolis. Their classic rock band began its musical journey in Wausau, Wis.

Kevin Duzynski/Student Voice



Jon Lyksett

When discussing music, a "hipster" friend once told me, "nothing is original anymore. It's all just variations on the same old stuff. Every band sounds just like the last one-the only original artists are the ones that start new genres! And any new band sounds just like their influences, and only like their influences."

This statement that there is nothing original in music anymore might be somewhat true. For example, I can name about six different bands that sound exactly like Fall Out Boy. However, for every one band that sounds like one of its influences, there is another that takes those influences and creates a truly unique and beautiful album with their own style and intrigue. Ryan Flannery and the Night Owls is one such band that has the ability to pull elements from their influences and, at the same time, make it truly their own.

Ryan Flannery and the Night Owls started their musical journey in Wausau, Wis. Ryan Flannery, lead singer and pianist, played solo for several years until 2008. He met up with drummer John Burgess and then guitarist Brian Klippel. In 2010, Klippel was subbed out for guitarist Tom Kallio. The band has played gigs in and around Wisconsin, but has now moved out to the Twin Cities. The band lists their influences as The Beatles, Randy Newman and The Kinks among others. Their largest influence is without a doubt, Elton John. Their self titled EP was released in February 2010, and it features six very impressive tracks. Not only does Flannery tickle the ivories beautifully, his voice is soothing and easy to listen to. Beyond that, the guy has completely orchestrated the album, including some cello, saxophone, trumpet, flute, xylophone and clarinet.

Burgess' drumming and Kallio's guitar act as a very important compliment to the already large cast of musicians on the album.

Kallio stands out best on "Black Palms," a easy going and light tune, but the riff that he has comprised for this piece gives the track an island-like feel; even though the song is about being poor, the music gives the lyrics a feeling of "oh well, it is what it is!" Burgess makes solid appearances on all of the tracks in the album, but also plays quite well on "Black Palms," with some simple yet impressive drum fills throughout the piece.

"Look What the Cat Dragged In" has an intro that feels very much like John's "Saturday Night's All Right For Fighting." The album is driven by piano, much like the work of John, but as I have mentioned before, Flannery and his band have done a fantastic job of paying homage to the greats of the past while still making this album their own.

The orchestrations added to the tracks give this album a truly unique feeling, and although you can obviously pull out specific influences, the more you listen, the more this becomes Ryan Flannery and the Night Owls, not Elton John, Randy Newman and others.

Each track has a distinct feeling that goes along with it. For example, "Midnight Run" has a very old school Broadway feel to it. While listening to it, I could picture this piece being performed by a high school theatre troupe for their newest musical production. During "A Whim and a Prayer" I got the distinct feeling of flying while listening to Flannery's insane piano skills. Again, all the influences are still there, but the Night Owls know how to create their own music and emotional response from the listener.

There you have it folks-in a single review, I have been able to both promote a band that I feel has a really bright and exciting future and perhaps more importantly, disprove my hipster pal for the second time (Jon, 2, "Hipster" buddy, 0). It goes to show you that influences on bands are okay; we should embrace and look at influences on our favorite musicians.

We should also realize that the best artists can balance taking cues from their influences and making their music their own. Ryan Flannery and the Night Owls is one such band.

*Jon Lyksett is a political science major and music director for 88.7 FM WRFX. He enjoys updating his Facebook status an obnoxious amount of times daily.*

## Film fails to capture great horserace



Anthony Orlando

The conference championship cross country race is coming up this weekend, so I figured it would do my competitive spirit good to seek out an inspirational film for this week's review. That and my brake line exploded on the freeway last Tuesday, so I pretty much had to see whatever was playing in town. In any case, it almost seemed destined that I see and review Disney's latest "underdog" movie, "Secretariat."

"Secretariat" tells the story of Penny Chenery-Tweedy (Diane Lane), a 1970's housewife and heiress to a horse farm and breeding operation. Consequently, she finds herself in the possession of the single-greatest racehorse to ever urinate like a burst fire hydrant and dump like a backhoe.

The film begins with Penny receiving the news of her mother's death. She flies out to Virginia for the funeral and wake where we are introduced to her brother, Hollis (Dylan Baker), and her aging and mentally clouded father (Scott Glen).

With her mother passed on and her father incapable of running the farm, Penny and her brother are forced to assume the responsibility of maintaining her father's estate. It's not long before Mr. Chenery succumbs to old age, and Penny inherits all the Farm's horses per her father's will.

She quickly gets herself immersed in the world of horseracing and doesn't take no sass from nobody as she re-ignites the farm's triple-crown aspirations when she discovers that one of the mares on the farm might be pregnant with a horse of unusually potent bloodlines. She decides to forgo some

of her housewife duties, which in the 70's, apparently consisted of folding laundry and reassuring your wanna-be hippy daughter that she isn't throwing her future away by hanging out with stupid high school kids in trench coats and berets to focus on her new found passion for horseracing which meets the disapproval of her husband and brother. She never gives up and goes for the gold and all that jazz. Eventually she hires a cooky horse trainer (John Malkovich) and a fearless Jockey (Otto Thorwarth), and they hit the racing circuit. One of the major things that bothered me, about this movie was the notion that Penny's femininity is something she needs to overcome, which is amplified by all of the male characters being presented as sexist.

Frankly, the writing was just bad in general. Much of the dialogue seemed so wholesome and unrealistic that the interactions came off as awkward. Penny offers her son the opportunity to witness a horse giving birth: "Really!? Can I!?" he says with Beaver Cleaver type innocent enthusiasm. Yeah, I don't think so.

Every one of the characters are portrayed as either saintly or incredibly shallow. The thing that upset me most was that Disney owned the rights to one of the most amazing stories of athletic prowess and determination



in history.

They sent it through the Disney movie assembly line, and they cast it out like fishing net to rake in as much profit as possible, rather than using the right resources to make it into the movie I think it could have been. It's not the worst movie ever, but all Disney does is present a polished-up and flashy live-action story book that says, "Here. We warmed your heart. Come to Disney World."

I get goosebumps from watching the 3 minute 1973 Belmont Stakes video on Youtube, and that's how I suggest you experience the story of Secretariat.

*Tony is a math major and physics minor. He currently runs for the UW-River Falls cross country team. He once met Dan Auerbach and is a minor celebrity in Malaysia.*

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# Nov. 2 state, local midterm candidate guide

## Wisconsin Governor's Race

### Democrat-On the Issues:



Tom Barrett

"As governor, Tom will continue to support these successful initiatives, and will fight to make sure that Wisconsin gets its fair share of federal resources so the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act works for Wisconsin working and middle class families."

"As governor, Tom will work to preserve our lakes, rivers, beaches, forests, fields, parks, trails and other natural resources that make Wisconsin a beautiful place to live, work and play."

"To get Wisconsin working again, we must make a commitment to our community colleges, technical schools and four-year universities to educate our children and retrain our workforce for the jobs of tomorrow."

(Taken from barrettforwisconsin.com)

### Republican-On the Issues:



Scott Walker

"I believe government has no higher purpose than protecting its citizens, particularly those that cannot fight for themselves like the unborn and elderly."

"Instead of reacting to each crisis as it comes, I will develop strategies for creating 250,000 new jobs and 10,000 new businesses by 2015."

"Education for the 21st Century: High Standards and Accountability."

"School Choice, Charter schools and Virtual Charter schools are all serving students in innovative and effective ways. These options should be expanded."

(Taken from scottwalker.org)

## Minnesota Governor's Race

### Democrat-On the Issues



Mark Dayton

"As Governor, I will raise taxes on the rich of Minnesota, NOT on the rest of Minnesota."

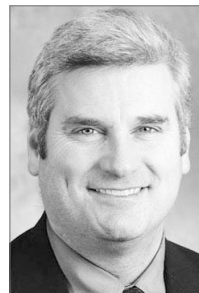
"I will fight for state and federal policies that support parity prices, bio-fuels, and other value-added processes to keep family farmers in business."

"I support full marriage equality with full benefits."

"I favor a national single-payer health care system."

(Taken from Markdayton.org)

### Republican-On the Issues:



Tom Emmer

"We must reduce the size of our bloated government."

"We must continue to protect the right of law abiding citizens and sportsmen to own and carry firearms."

"We need reform to encourage a strong business economy and create jobs."

"Raising taxes only perpetuates the problem and drives the illusion that even higher taxes will fix the problem. We cannot spend our way to prosperity."

(Taken from emmerforgovernor.com)

### Independent-On the Issues



Tom Horner

"My mandate as governor is to create a health care system that is accessible and affordable for Minnesotans."

"We need tax reform – the kind of economic reforms that will generate more investments."

"The Arizona legislation was inappropriate and did nothing to combat illegal immigration issues in the United States."

(Taken from horner2010.com)

## U.S. House of Representatives-Wis. 3rd



Dan Kapanke

### Republican-On the Issues:

"Revisit the unspent portions of the \$787 billion 'stimulus' bill to purge wasteful spending."

"Allow citizens to buy health insurance across state-lines."

(Taken from kapankeforcongress.com)

### Democrat-On the Issues:

"Making farm policies fair and equitable."

"Creating quality jobs"

"Giving every child an opportunity."

"Investing in energy efficiency and technology."

"Protecting our natural resources."

(Taken from kind.house.gov)

Ron Kind

## U.S. Senate-Wisconsin



Russ Feingold

### Democrat-On the Issues:

"Russ, along with Senator John McCain (R-AZ), co-authored the McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform bill."

"Russ voted against going to war with Iraq."

(Taken from russfeingold.com).

### Republican-On the Issues:

"First and foremost the federal government must act to secure our borders."

"The Health Care Bill is the greatest assault on our freedom in my lifetime. It must be repealed."

(Taken from johnsonforsenate.com)

Ron Johnson

## Wisconsin State Assembly 30



Matt Borup

### Democrat-On the Issues:

"Strengthening Wisconsin's economy means supporting and expanding business opportunities...ensuring quality public education, pre-school through college and ensuring a healthy environment."

(Taken from borupforassembly.com)

### Republican-On the Issues:

"My top priority is to cut taxes and implement reform measures that will unleash the innovative, creative power of our free enterprise system."

(Taken from deanknudson.com)

Dean Knudson

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